



International Conference on the Security of Radioactive Material:

The Way Forward for Prevention and Detection

**IAEA Headquarters
Vienna, Austria**

3–7 December 2018

Announcement and Call for Papers

A. Background

The responsibility for Nuclear Security within a State rests entirely with the State. Ensuring the security of radioactive material in use, storage and transport and of associated facilities, as well as implementing nuclear security detection and response systems and measures when this material falls out of regulatory control, are of high interest to Member States and such stakeholders as regulatory bodies, law enforcement authorities, facility operators, and technical and scientific support organizations (TSOs). Consistent with the IAEA Nuclear Security Series (NSS) publications *Objective and Essential Elements of a State's Nuclear Security Regime* (IAEA Nuclear Security Series No. 20), *Nuclear Security Recommendations on Radioactive Material and Associated Facilities* (IAEA Nuclear Security Series No. 14), and *Nuclear Security Recommendations on Nuclear and Other Radioactive Material out of Regulatory Control* (IAEA Nuclear Security Series No. 15), as well as with the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has assisted Member States, upon request, in establishing national nuclear security regimes as they relate to the security of radioactive material and associated facilities, and for material outside of regulatory control.

The most recent IAEA General Conference resolution on nuclear security (GC(61)/RES/9) calls upon all Member States, within their responsibility, “to achieve and maintain highly effective nuclear security, including physical protection, of nuclear and other radioactive material during use, storage and transport and of the associated facilities at all stages in their life cycle”. Resolution GC(61)/RES/9 also calls upon all States “to improve and sustain, based on national security threat assessments, their national capabilities to prevent, detect, deter and respond to illicit trafficking and other unauthorized activities and events involving nuclear and other radioactive material”. The resolution further calls

upon States “to enhance international partnerships and capacity building in this regard” and encourages States to continue efforts “to recover and secure nuclear and other radioactive material that has fallen out of regulatory control”.

The Nuclear Security Plan 2018–2021, approved by the Board of Governors and endorsed by the General Conference in 2017, commits the IAEA to continue its work to assist, upon request, Member States’ efforts to establish effective and sustainable national nuclear security regimes for the security of radioactive material and associated facilities, and to establish national nuclear security infrastructures related to nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control. The plan also instructs the IAEA to facilitate international coordination on nuclear security between States and relevant organizations with a view to reducing duplication of efforts, promote information exchange on nuclear security and strengthen the international legal framework by, inter alia, convening nuclear security conferences, working groups, and other information and technical exchanges.

Further, technical discussions conducted at events organized by the IAEA, including meetings of the Working Group on Radioactive Source Security and the Border Monitoring Working Group, and the International Coordination Meetings for Front Line Officers, as well as within the framework of other international organizations, initiatives and non-governmental organizations have emphasized the need to share experiences and good practices, as well as lessons learned in the establishment of effective regulatory control over radioactive material, and nuclear security systems and measures for the detection of those materials out of regulatory control.

The IAEA will convene an international conference during the week of 3 to 7 December 2018 to provide a forum for Member States to share their experiences, including difficulties encountered, lessons learned and good practices adopted, in the implementation of the abovementioned IAEA Nuclear Security Series publications (NSS-20, NSS-14 and NSS-15) and related international instruments, such as the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources. The conference will also provide an opportunity to collect technical and scientific inputs on the way forward for appropriate considerations.

B. Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the conference is to foster the exchange of practices and experiences related to the security of radioactive material under regulatory control in use, transport and storage, and to the system and measures for detection of this material out of regulatory control.

The conference will provide a forum to:

- Exchange information related to the use of a threat-based, risk-informed approach for the protection of radioactive material in use, transport and storage and for the establishment of nuclear security systems and measures for the detection of this material when out of regulatory control;
- Share experiences in the development of regulatory frameworks, requirements for radioactive material and associated facilities, and nuclear security systems and measures for detection of this material when out of regulatory control;
- Exchange information and experiences regarding the planning, establishment, maintenance and sustaining of nuclear security measures and systems;
- Exchange information and experiences regarding interfaces between competent authorities when radioactive material is lost, stolen, or involved in illicit trafficking;

- Exchange information on methodologies and techniques to assess the effectiveness of nuclear security measures and systems;
- Review technological developments in nuclear security;
- Review the current status of nuclear security efforts and existing approaches, emerging trends and areas that may still need to be addressed;
- Raise awareness of nuclear security amongst all competent authorities and other stakeholders and identify how each can contribute to the sustainability of national nuclear security regimes;
- Facilitate cooperation among all competent authorities and other stakeholders at the national or international levels, as applicable; and
- Promote international nuclear security guidance and its use by States.

The conference will address neither subjects related to the security of nuclear material under regulatory control in use, transport and storage, nor the response to nuclear security events. Further, the conference will not discuss any sensitive nuclear security information and issues of a political nature.

C. Structure, Themes and Topics

The conference programme will consist of an opening session, plenary sessions, technical sessions, poster and interactive content sessions, exhibitions, and a closing session. The opening session will include welcoming addresses by representatives of the IAEA, cooperating organizations and other relevant organizations. The plenary sessions will continue with a combination of invited keynote presentations and submitted papers addressing the main themes and topics of the conference. Each topical session will include presentations and/or panel discussions delivered by participants which will be selected on the basis of the synopses submitted. The conference will also include poster and interactive content sessions, and sufficient time will be provided for discussion and interaction with colleagues. The final plenary session on the last day of the conference will be dedicated to technical and scientific comments or suggestions for future discussions on the way forward.

Consistent with the objectives set out above, the overall themes for the conference will be:

- Securing radioactive material from cradle to grave;
- Detecting radioactive material involved in criminal/unauthorized acts;
- Strengthening domestic interfaces and leveraging existing capabilities for keeping material under control and for detecting such material when out of regulatory control;
- Facilitating international cooperation in supporting the efforts of states to fulfil their responsibilities to ensure the security of radioactive material;
- Strengthening sustainability and effectiveness of nuclear security regimes related to security of radioactive material and nuclear security detection architecture.

While the number and scope of the topical sessions will be based on the nature and number of synopses received, it is anticipated that the topical sessions may deal with the subjects listed in Appendix I to this announcement.

D. Target Audience

The conference is aimed at participants with responsibility for policy, technical and legal aspects of nuclear security. This includes officials, policymakers and operational stakeholders responsible for nuclear security and experts and representatives from a wide range of technical disciplines and specialist organizations that contribute to the security of radioactive material under and out of regulatory control, including: international and regional organizations with relevant competencies, national governmental authorities, national security entities, regulatory bodies, TSOs and law enforcement and border control agencies.

It is expected that the participants in the conference will also include industry and civil society representatives, including from non-governmental organizations and academic institutions.

The IAEA welcomes and encourages the participation of women, early career professionals and individuals from developing countries.

E. Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the conference have to be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be members of organizations that have been invited to attend.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State, participants are requested to send the following form(s) (as applicable) to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority):

- Participation Form (Form A): participation only; no deadline if only Form A is submitted.
- Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B): participants submitting a paper through INDICO (deadline **30 April 2018**), have to send the completed and signed Form B together with Form A to their competent national authority for onward transmission to the IAEA (Official.Mail@iaea.org) by **30 April 2018**.
- Grant Application Form (Form C): participants requesting financial support from the IAEA, have to complete Form C and send it together with Form A (and Form B, if applicable) to the competent national authority for onward transmission to the IAEA (Official.Mail@iaea.org) by **30 April 2018**. Form C has to be stamped and signed by the competent national authority.

Participants who are members of an organization invited to attend are requested to send the above form(s) through their organization to the IAEA (Official.Mail@iaea.org).

In addition, participants are requested to pre-register online through the IAEA web page for the conference: <https://www.iaea.org/events/security-of-radioactive-material-conference-2018>.

Participants who registered in accordance with the above procedure will receive from the IAEA further information approximately three months before the opening of the conference.

Please note that the IAEA is in a transition phase to manage the entire registration process for all regular programme meetings electronically through the new InTouch+ (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>) facility, which is the improved and expanded successor to the InTouch platform that has been used in recent years for the IAEA's technical cooperation events. Through InTouch+, prospective participants will be able to apply for meetings and submit all required documents online. National authorities will

be able to use InTouch+ to review and approve these applications. Interested parties that would like to use this new facility should write to: InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

F. Synopses, Poster Presentations and Proceedings

All papers submitted — other than invited keynote papers — must present original work and should not have been published elsewhere.

Persons who wish to present a paper at the conference — either orally or in the form of a poster — must submit a synopsis of between 400 and 800 words on one of the topics listed under Section C. The synopsis should give enough information on the contents of the proposed paper to enable its evaluation. Unnecessary introductory and general matters should be avoided. The accepted synopses will be available to all participants at the conference.

F.1. Submission of Synopses

Persons who wish to present a paper, interactive content presentation or poster at the conference must submit it **in electronic format** (no paper copies) through the conference's web browser-based file submission system (INDICO), which will be accessible through the IAEA web page for the conference (see Section O). Synopses must be submitted through this system between **1 February 2018** and **30 April 2018** (European time zone). No other form of submission will be accepted.

In addition, authors must submit the following two forms to their competent national authority (see Section E) for transmission to the IAEA:

- Participation Form (Form A); and
- Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B).

These forms must be received by the IAEA no later than **30 April 2018**.

IMPORTANT: The electronically received synopses will be considered by the Programme Committee only if these two forms have been received by the IAEA through the competent national authority.

F.2. Acceptance of Synopses for Oral Presentation, Interactive Content Presentation or Poster Presentation

Given the number of synopses anticipated and the need to provide ample time for discussion, the number of papers that can be accepted for oral presentation is limited. Authors who prefer to present their papers as posters or interactive content presentations are requested to indicate this preference on Form A and through INDICO.

Authors will be notified by **30 June 2018** as to whether their papers have been accepted.

F.3. Submission of Full Papers and Presentations

Only authors of papers selected for oral presentation are requested to submit a full paper. Full papers must be submitted through the IAEA-INDICO file submission system. Specifications for the layout and electronic format of the full papers will be made available on IAEA-INDICO. The deadline for electronic submission of the full papers as both PDF and Word files is **15 October 2018**.

Authors of papers selected for oral presentation, interactive content presentation and poster presentation are requested to submit their presentation through the IAEA-INDICO file submission system. Specifications for the layout and electronic format of presentations will be made available on IAEA-INDICO. The deadline for electronic submission of presentations as both PDF and PowerPoint files is **15 November 2018**.

IMPORTANT: The system for electronic submission of papers, IAEA-INDICO, is the sole mechanism for submission of regular papers. Authors are encouraged to submit papers and presentations as early as possible.

F.4. Conference Proceedings

The proceedings containing summaries of the plenary and topical sessions as well as full papers presented at the conference will be published by the IAEA as soon as possible after the conference. Copies of the proceedings can be ordered, at a special discounted price, during or after the conference.

G. Expenditures and Grants

No registration fee will be charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the conference. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help meet the cost of attendance of certain participants. Such assistance may be offered upon specific request to normally one participant per country provided that, in the IAEA's view, the participant on whose behalf assistance is requested will make an important contribution to the conference.

If participants wish to apply for a grant, they should submit applications to the IAEA to this effect through their competent national authority. Participants should ensure that applications for grants are:

1. Submitted through the competent national authority by **30 April 2018**;
2. Accompanied by a completed and signed Grant Application Form (Form C); and
3. Accompanied by a completed Participation Form (Form A).

Applications that do not comply with the above conditions cannot be considered.

Approved grants will be issued in the form of a lump sum payment that usually **covers only part of the cost of attendance**.

H. Distribution of Documents

A preliminary programme will be posted on the IAEA web page for the conference (see Section O) as soon as possible. The final programme and the *Book of Extended Synopses* will be made available on the conference web page and the IAEA Conferences and Meetings app.

I. Exhibitions

A limited amount of space will be available for displays/exhibits during the conference. Interested parties should contact the Scientific Secretaries (see Section N) by email at CN269@iaea.org by **15 April 2018**.

J. Working Language

The working language of the conference will be English. No interpretation will be provided.

K. Conference Venue and Accommodation

The conference will be held at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna, Austria. Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. Hotels which are offering a reduced rate for conference participants will be listed on the conference web page (see Section O). Please note that the IAEA is not in a position to assist participants with hotel bookings, nor can the IAEA assume responsibility for paying cancellation fees or for re-bookings and no shows.

Detailed information on accommodation and other relevant matters will be made available on the conference web page as soon as possible.

L. Visas

Designated participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria at least eight weeks before they travel to Austria. Designated participants will be required to submit a letter of invitation in support of their visa application.

M. Key Dates and Deadlines

Opening of synopsis submission through IAEA-INDICO	1 February 2018
Deadline for submission of synopses through IAEA-INDICO	30 April 2018
Deadline for submission of Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B) (together with Form A) through the competent national authority	30 April 2018

Deadline for submission of Grant Application Form C (together with Form A) through the competent national authority or through InTouch+	30 April 2018
Notification of acceptance of synopsis	30 June 2018
Deadline for submission of full papers (10 pages maximum)	15 October 2018
Deadline for submission of oral presentations, interactive content presentations and posters	15 November 2018
Registration only (no paper submission, no grant request)	No deadline

N. Conference Secretariat

General contact details:

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretaries of the conference and correspondence on administrative matters to the IAEA Conference Services Section.

O. Conference Web Page

Please visit the following web page regularly for new information regarding this conference:

<https://www.iaea.org/events/security-of-radioactive-material-conference-2018>

Appendix I: List of Possible Subjects for Topical Sessions

- International instruments
- Deterrence and criminalization of unauthorized use of radioactive material
- Threat and risk assessment
- Coordinating bodies and mechanisms
- Regulatory functions/capacities
- Regulatory requirements for security of radioactive material and associated facilities and for detection of such material
- Security systems and measures at facilities
- Interface between facility mitigation/response and detection of a nuclear security event
- Security during transport of radioactive material
- Radioactive material security by design
- Designing detection architecture
- Detection by information
- Implementation of detection operation
- Disposition of material out of regulatory control following detection
- Communication between regulatory body and law enforcement agency regarding lost, missing or stolen material
- Exercises and evaluation
- Self-assessment tools
- IAEA advisory missions, e.g. International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS) and International Nuclear Security Advisory Service (INSServ)
- Insider threats
- Defence in depth
- Secure management of disused radioactive sources
- Human resource development
- Technical support
- Current and emerging technologies
- Information exchange
- Industry engagement in nuclear security
- Information security
- Interface between regulatory body and customs in relation to imports and exports
- Sustainability and effectiveness of nuclear security systems and measures
- Nuclear security culture
- Public engagement in nuclear security
- Facilitate international cooperation