



Technical Meeting on Stakeholder Involvement across the Nuclear Power Plant Life Cycle

**IAEA Headquarters
Vienna, Austria**

3–6 September 2018

Ref. No. EVT1702020

Information Sheet

A. Background

Stakeholder involvement is an essential part of any complete nuclear power programme. When stakeholders are engaged, they can make known their views, work together to ensure those views are addressed and considered, and understand the basis for a decision, which fosters mutually beneficial and constructive relationships at the local, national and international levels.

Public opinion of nuclear power depends on many factors, among them people's knowledge of the benefits and risks associated with nuclear power. In particular, concerns about radiation risks, radioactive waste management, safety, costs and non-proliferation remain the areas that most influence public opinion. Stakeholder involvement in nuclear policy formulation and investment decisions, especially where there are potential safety implications, is a central feature in the successful deployment of nuclear power programmes. It is indispensable for the development of a national position in newcomer countries, and for the siting of new nuclear power plant projects and radioactive waste repositories. It also helps build and maintain trust in regulatory competence and efficiency. Timely communication and public involvement in nuclear power plant projects contribute to better understanding, and are more likely to lead to informed consent by stakeholders. Transparent and

participative processes at all stages of a nuclear power programme are crucial for fair and consistent decision-making, as well as for harnessing the full potential of the nuclear sector.

In 2011, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) published IAEA Nuclear Energy Series No. NG-T-1.4, entitled *Stakeholder Involvement Throughout the Life Cycle of Nuclear Facilities*. This publication defines who stakeholders are in this context and identifies the underlying principles for effective stakeholder involvement. It covers the different decision-making stages: introduction of nuclear power programmes or new nuclear facilities; operation of nuclear facilities; expansion or extension of nuclear facility operation; and planning and implementation of nuclear facility decommissioning. The publication provides general guidance for implementing stakeholder involvement programmes, from the development of a strategy and plan to the implementation and adjustment of the plan.

After several years of Member States' use of the guidance contained in NG-T-1.4 and in the light of the outcomes of expert missions, workshops and Technical Meetings, the IAEA Secretariat has identified some areas for revision in order to strengthen the guidance provided to Member States with regard to stakeholder involvement. Some of the areas identified include how to set up a public information centre, detailed guidelines on how to develop a stakeholder involvement plan, the use of social media, and stakeholder involvement in the long term operation of nuclear power plants.

In addition to a number of other important topics and activities, this Technical Meeting will also address the revision of the above-mentioned publication.

B. Objectives

The purpose of the meeting is to provide practical guidance and share experiences related to stakeholder involvement and communication for nuclear power programmes in both operating and newcomer countries, and to discuss the revised draft of the IAEA publication entitled *Stakeholder Involvement Throughout the Life Cycle of Nuclear Facilities* (IAEA Nuclear Energy Series No. NG-T-1.4).

C. Topics and Format of the Meeting

The meeting will consist of a series of presentations, question and answer sessions, and interactive breakout sessions to discuss common challenges and effective solutions for engaging with stakeholders and the public.

The topics to be discussed at the meeting include:

- Developing and implementing a strategy and plan for stakeholder involvement for a nuclear power programme;
- Case studies on establishing and running a public information centre;
- Stakeholder involvement in the long term operation of nuclear power plants;
- New trends in the use of social media;

- Engaging with women and the next generation of nuclear power professionals; and
- Comments on the new draft revision of *Stakeholder Involvement Throughout the Life Cycle of Nuclear Facilities* (IAEA Nuclear Energy Series No. NG-T-1.4).

D. Participation

The meeting is open to participants from Member States that are considering, planning, implementing, operating or expanding a nuclear power programme, preferably from the main organizations involved in the programme (nuclear energy programme implementing organization, government, regulatory body, utilities). It is aimed at managers and officials responsible for stakeholder involvement, communication, public or institutional relations, media relations, and corporate social responsibility. The meeting is also open to experts from nuclear societies, trade organizations, educational organizations or other institutions involved in public information on nuclear power.

Prior to the meeting, participants are expected to complete the [IAEA e-learning module on Stakeholder Involvement](#) (Module 3 of the IAEA “E-learning for Nuclear Newcomers” series).

Please see also Module 1: [Implementing a Nuclear Power Programme – Introduction](#)

E. Working Language

The working language of the meeting will be English.

F. Administrative and Financial Arrangements

The costs of the meeting are to be borne by the IAEA; no registration fee will be charged to participants. Travel and subsistence expenses of participants will not be borne by the IAEA. Limited funds are, however, available to help cover the cost of participants from certain countries. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one or two participants per country provided that, in the IAEA’s view, the participant(s) will make an important contribution to the meeting and that, where assistance is requested for two participants, they represent different national organizations. **The application for financial support should be made at the time of designating the participant(s).**

The organizers of the meeting do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the meeting, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in designating participants, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.

G. Application Procedure

Designations should be submitted using the attached Participation Form (Form A). Completed forms should be endorsed by the competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or national atomic energy authority) and returned through the established official channels. They must be received by the IAEA not later than **22 June 2018**. Designations received after that date or applications sent directly by individuals or by private institutions cannot be considered. Designating Governments will be informed in due course of the names of the selected candidates and at that time full details will be given on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

H. Visas

Designated participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria as soon as possible.

I. Local Arrangements

The meeting will be held at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna, Austria, specifically in **Meeting Room M5, M Building**, at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), and will start at 9.30 a.m. on **Monday, 3 September 2018**, and end at 12.00 p.m. on **Thursday, 6 September 2018**. Participants are kindly requested to be at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC at least an hour before the meeting starts to allow adequate time for photo badges to be issued. Participants should bring some form of personal identification, such as a national passport, so that they can identify themselves to the Security Officers at Checkpoint 1.

The agenda for the meeting, together with information on local arrangements, will be sent to designated participants when the completed Participation Forms have been received.

J. Organization

Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the **Scientific Secretaries**:

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Official correspondence with regard to administrative issues should be addressed to the **Administrative Secretary**:

Ms Lilly Makil

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