

# Technical Meeting on Topical Issues in the Development of Nuclear Power Infrastructure

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria

28–31 January 2020 Ref. No.: EVT1901561

### **Information Sheet**

#### Introduction

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) provides technical support to Member States that are introducing or expanding nuclear power programmes. As the General Conference has recognized that "the development, implementation and maintenance of an appropriate infrastructure to support the successful introduction of nuclear power and its safe, secure and efficient use is an issue of great importance, especially for countries that are considering and planning for the introduction of nuclear power, as well as for countries expanding their nuclear power programme", it is essential for Member States to have the opportunity to discuss lessons learned and identify best practices to support the development of their national nuclear power infrastructure.

First organized in 2006, the IAEA's annual Technical Meeting on Topical Issues in the Development of Nuclear Power Infrastructure provides the main forum for Member States to share good practices and lessons learned in establishing the infrastructure required for a safe and successful nuclear power programme.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Resolution GC(62)/RES/9.B.5, preambular para. (a).

### **Objectives**

This meeting will provide a platform for senior officials and managers from nuclear energy programme implementing organizations (NEPIOs), regulatory bodies and nuclear power plant owner/operators to meet and discuss nuclear power infrastructure development issues. The meeting will focus on challenges faced by Member States in prioritizing and sequencing activities that must be addressed in nuclear infrastructure development, as outlined in the revised IAEA publication *Milestones in the Development of a National Infrastructure for Nuclear Power* (IAEA Nuclear Energy Series No. NG-G-3.1 (Rev. 1)).

### **Target Audience**

The meeting is open to participants from Member States that are considering, planning or expanding a nuclear power programme, preferably from the key players in different nuclear power organizations (NEPIO/government, regulatory body, owner/operator and national competent authorities in the field of safeguards, security and emergency planning).

The meeting is also open to Member States with operating experience, representatives of the nuclear industry who are willing to share their experience and lessons learned, and donors to IAEA infrastructure development activities.

Participants are expected to be at a senior level in the government, future owner/operator, regulatory body or other institutions involved in the nuclear infrastructure programme. They should be knowledgeable about the details of their country's national strategy and specific plans for nuclear power implementation, and authorized to describe and discuss in depth the experience and lessons learned in the infrastructure implementation processes. Participants should have a good working knowledge of English to enable them to actively contribute to the discussions.

## **Working Language**

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

#### **Structure**

An interactive exchange on challenges and experiences among all participants will identify practical solutions to common issues. Speakers with direct experience of implementing infrastructure development activities for the national nuclear power programme will highlight the challenges they have faced and the lessons learned. Short presentations on specific topics will aim to stimulate ideas and discussions. Individual experiences of certain aspects of infrastructure development in Member States may be presented during panel discussion sessions, allowing for intense discussion of those specific challenges. The topics for panel discussions will be determined by participants' interest. Breakout sessions and tabletop exercises may be organized depending on the nature of the selected topics for panel discussions.

### **Topics**

The meeting will focus on the strategic management of new or expanding nuclear power development programmes, with an emphasis on the following topics:

- Case studies: pre-feasibility studies and comprehensive reports supporting the decision-making process;
- Different contracting approaches: open bid, partnering, intergovernmental agreements;
- Funding, financing and resources required for infrastructure development;
- Stakeholder involvement;
- Human resource development and competency management;
- Specific infrastructure considerations for owner/operators;
- Specific infrastructure considerations for regulatory bodies;
- Infrastructure development issues for small and medium sized or modular reactors; and
- Infrastructure development issues faced by expanding countries/established programmes.

The meeting will include a global outlook on nuclear power and updates on the status of nuclear infrastructure development activities in embarking countries, including developments in different infrastructure issues, such as legal and regulatory frameworks, management, radioactive waste and spent fuel management, and environmental protection.

The meeting will also be used to receive participants' feedback on the draft documents that are developed by the IAEA in the area of infrastructure development.

As one of the main objectives of the meeting is the exchange of information among participants, in particular among those embarking on nuclear power for the first time or expanding their nuclear power programme, participants are expected to prepare and submit a report on the status of nuclear power infrastructure and project(s) in their countries. The participants from some Member States will be selected to present their reports during the meeting. A sample of the report format will be sent to the candidates selected to participate in the meeting.

### **Participation and Registration**

All persons wishing to participate in the event 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 **Participation Form** (Form A) to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) for onward transmission to the IAEA by **29 November 2019**. Participants who are members of an organization invited to attend are requested to send the **Participation Form** (Form A) through their organization to the IAEA by the above deadline.

Selected participants will be informed in due course on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Please note that the IAEA is in a transition phase to manage the entire registration process for all regular programme events 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 events 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.

### **Expenditure and Grants**

No registration fee is charged to participants.

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

The application for financial support should be made using the **Grant Application Form (Form C)**, which has to be stamped, signed and submitted by the competent national authority to the IAEA together with the **Participation Form (Form A)** by **29 November 2019**.

#### Venue

The event will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), where the IAEA's Headquarters are located, specifically in Board Room A on the first floor of the M Building, and will start at 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 28 January 2020, and end at 1 p.m. on Friday, 31 January 2020. Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

General information on the VIC and other practical details, such as a list of hotels offering a reduced rate for IAEA participants, are listed on the following IAEA web page: http://www-pub.iaea.org/iaeaevents/GeneralInfo/Guide/VIC.

Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC one hour before the start of the event on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

#### Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria at least four weeks before they travel to Austria. Since Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.

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