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LANGUAGE

The working language of the Forum will be English.

CONFERENCE WEB PAGE

Detailed information on administrative procedures including participation and registration is provided on the Forum website: www.iaea.org/scientific-forum



21-22 SEPTEMBER



PREPARING FOR

ZOONOTIC OUTBREAKS:

THE ROLE OF NUCLEAR SCIENCE



VIENNA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
Board Room D / C Building / 4th Floor

IAEA.ORG



BACKGROUND

An estimated 60 per cent of known human infectious diseases come from animals. These zoonotic diseases affect 2.6 billion people every year, claiming 2.2 million lives annually.

The 2021 IAEA Scientific Forum will focus on the emergence of these diseases and explore the importance of research, early detection and monitoring, taking into consideration the role of nuclear and nuclear derived techniques.

IAEA Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi will open the Forum, which will be attended by several high-level speakers. In five sessions over two days, leading experts from around the world will highlight the role of nuclear science in detecting zoonotic diseases and the IAEA's support to its Member States in strengthening their preparedness capabilities and timely response methods to help control outbreaks. Furthermore, the significance of partnerships as well as integrated and concerted global efforts aiming at addressing the emergence and spread of zoonotic diseases will be discussed.

SESSION 1

Techniques for detecting pathogens and monitoring zoonoses

The first session will highlight the key role of scientific research and development in understanding and controlling zoonotic diseases and in detecting them at an early stage before they culminate in an outbreak or a pandemic.

SESSION 2

Understanding the emergence of infectious diseases at the animal-human interface

Human-animal interactions in the context of infectious diseases will be the focus of this session. The pathways through which emerging or re-emerging infections can lead to pandemics will be investigated as well as the role of science in mitigating potential outbreaks of zoonoses.

SESSION 3

The role of radiation techniques in dealing with the impact of zoonoses on human health

This session will showcase the role of radiation techniques, such as medical imaging, for disease characterization in humans affected by zoonotic diseases. The importance of advanced data analysis to support disease management will also be explored.

SESSION 4

From Avian Flu to COVID-19 – the IAEA's support to countries

Speakers from Member States will describe their experience in detecting, identifying and managing zoonoses such as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N1; Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome-SARS-CoV-1; Middle East Respiratory Syndrome-MERS; Ebola, and currently SARS-CoV-2, which causes COVID-19. Through country case examples, the IAEA's active involvement in supporting disease detection will be featured.

SESSION 5

Enhancing global preparedness to control zoonotic diseases: ZODIAC

This high-level panel session will highlight the importance of partnerships and collaborations with national and international initiatives to strengthen the preparedness and capabilities of Member States to respond to the threats of zoonotic diseases. It will look at the IAEA's Zoonotic Disease Integrated Action (ZODIAC) initiative and its systematic and integrated approach to support early detection, and control of outbreaks of zoonotic diseases. Relevant stakeholders will discuss the significance of concerted efforts moving forward and their participation and contribution to ZODIAC.