Background

The International Conference on the Challenges faced by Technical and Scientific Support Organizations (TSO) in Enhancing Nuclear Safety and Security: Enhancing science and adaptability in a changing world and creating perspective for a young generation to be held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 10-13 October 2022 will continue the tradition established by the four preceding conferences on this subject, which were held, respectively in Brussels, Belgium (2018), Beijing, China (2014), in Tokyo, Japan (2010) and in Aix-en-Provence, France (2007). Like these earlier conferences, the forthcoming one will play a vital part in the national and international efforts made to ensure the effectiveness of nuclear and radiation safety and security regulatory systems and will focus, in particular, on development and strengthening of technical and scientific capabilities to achieve enhanced nuclear and radiation safety and security of facilities and activities, including legacy and emerging challenges as well as exchange and transfer of best practices with embarking countries.

It was already recognized that nuclear safety and security are to a great extent scientific in nature and that a regulatory body with responsibilities for nuclear facilities and other licensed activities involving radioactive material needs to have continuous access to technical and scientific expertise supporting regulatory functions. One of the main conclusions of the last conference in 2018 concerned the need to assist Member States in their strategies to develop their TSO capacities in order to promote TSO’s potential contribution to the independence and sustainable effectiveness of the national nuclear safety and security regulatory infrastructures. This fifth conference on TSOs will, in particular, present achievements that address the recommendations from the previous TSO conferences.
This conference is being organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and will be hosted by the Government of the Russian Federation through ROSTECHNADZOR, supported by the Scientific and Engineering Centre for Nuclear and Radiation Safety (SEC NRS) and in cooperation with the European Technical Safety Organizations Network (ETSON).

Purpose and objectives
The purpose of the conference is to consider how to develop and strengthen technical and scientific capabilities to achieve enhanced nuclear and radiation safety and security of facilities and activities, including legacy and emerging challenges as well as the exchange and transfer of best practices with embarking countries.

The conference will highlight the importance of scientific and technical capabilities to support regulatory decision-making for enhanced nuclear and radiation safety and security. While addressing challenges to the development, maintenance and enhancement of such capacities, the conference will:

- Enhance regulatory infrastructure for safety of existing nuclear facilities;
- Exchange of best practices with embarking countries;
- Enhance technology, science and adaptability in a changing world;
- Promote involvement of young generation in the TSO activities.

Audience
- Conference participants, senior government officials, staff from TSOs, regulators, industry and other stakeholders, as well as technical and scientific experts working in all areas of regulatory functions;
- young professionals, students, youth;
- and general public, media, NGOs, academics.

Main topics
Papers are invited on the following below-mentioned subject areas:

- General Role of Technical and Scientific Support Organizations (TSOs);
- Interaction of TSOs with stakeholders;
- Technical and Scientific Emerging Challenges;
- Human, Scientific and Technical Capacity Building;
- Role of TSOs in an international context and for Embarking Countries;
- Role of TSOs in the holistic approach to risk and hazard.

Key deadlines

3 December 2021: Opening of abstract submission through IAEA-INDICO

21 March 2022: Deadline for submission of abstracts together with the Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B) and the Participation Form (Form A) through the competent national authority using the InTouch+ Platform

21 March 2022: Deadline for submission of the Grant Application Form (Form C), together with Form A, through the competent national authority using the InTouch+ Platform

No deadline: Registration only (no paper submission, no grant request) using Form A through the InTouch+ Platform

Registration
No registration fee is charged.

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.
Language

The working language of the conference will be English.

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Conference web page

Please visit the IAEA conference web page regularly for new information regarding this conference.

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