



# **International Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Power in the 21st Century**

**Washington, D.C., United States of America**

**26–28 October 2022**

*Organized by the*  
International Atomic Energy Agency

*in partnership with the*  
International Energy Agency

*and in cooperation with the*  
Nuclear Energy Agency of the  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

*Hosted by the*  
Government of the United States of America  
*through the*  
Department of Energy

## **Announcement**

(Update March 2022)

## **A. Introduction**

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is organizing the fifth International Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Power in the 21st Century in Washington, D.C., United States, from 26 to 28 October 2022, following the conferences held in Paris (2005), Beijing (2009), St. Petersburg (2013) and Abu Dhabi (2017).

A growing number of countries see nuclear power playing an essential role in contributing to sustainable development and to the mitigation of climate change. Currently, 32 countries operate some 394 gigawatts of nuclear power capacity, comprising 440 nuclear power reactors, which produce more than a quarter of the world's low-carbon electricity, while about 50 additional countries have expressed interest in the introduction of nuclear power.

The future role of nuclear energy, particularly in the transition toward a sustainable energy mix and in strategies for mitigation of climate change, continues to be discussed at national and international levels. These discussions include fostering policy support and creating favorable conditions for investment in nuclear power.

Creating an enabling environment for wider nuclear development remains a key priority for countries embarking on new and expanding existing nuclear power programmes. The role of government, national key drivers and an appropriate nuclear infrastructure, remain central to achieving this objective.

For the operating fleet, the efforts focus on sustaining and continually improving operational performance in changing economic, political and environmental conditions/settings, as well as effectively using innovation and building stronger partnerships for sustainability. With respect to future commercial deployment of the most advanced reactor designs, market readiness will depend on technical, societal and economic factors.

Finally, global and national efforts to ensure safety, security and non-proliferation continue to be pillars in the operation, expansion and introduction of nuclear power in the 21st century.

## **B. Objectives**

The conference will provide a forum for ministers, policymakers, senior officials and experts to engage in high-level dialogue on the role of nuclear energy in the transition to clean energy sources, contributing to sustainable development and mitigating climate change. Participants will discuss and exchange views on the key issues related to the development and deployment of nuclear energy, including the reliability and flexibility of the nuclear industry during the COVID-19 global crisis and its contribution to the post-pandemic economic recovery.

## **C. Structure, Themes and Topics**

Ministerial level participants are invited to deliver brief national statements related to nuclear energy, including for example, their national energy strategy and vision for the role of nuclear energy; challenges for introducing, maintaining or expanding nuclear power; and the role of international collaboration in the development and deployment of new nuclear power technologies.

The scientific and technical programme of the conference will consist of:

- A plenary session at which ministerial statements will be delivered;
- Panel discussions among internationally recognized experts;
- In Focus and Side Events on thematic topics featuring high level speakers; and
- A concluding plenary session with a Conference President's Statement

Consistent with the objectives set out above, the panel sessions are envisaged to cover the following major topics:

### **1. Fulfilling the Promise: Achieving Net Zero with Low Carbon Nuclear Energy**

Nuclear power is the second largest source of low carbon electricity globally, and most scenarios see nuclear energy continuing to play an essential role in the transition to clean energy systems, essentially in the electricity sector. However, its potential contribution to the decarbonization of the non-electrical sectors is not often acknowledged in decarbonization scenarios. Future deployment and continued operation of nuclear power plants remain challenging. This session will discuss key national drivers and how to shape policy support to address these challenges so that nuclear energy can indeed play its full role in the clean energy transition.

### **2. Enabling Environments: Creating the Conditions for Wider Deployment of Nuclear Energy**

This session will focus on the establishment of an enabling environment for the safe, secure, and sustainable use of nuclear energy. Panellists will discuss the role of the government in setting up nuclear power programmes and appropriate legal frameworks and the importance of effective stakeholder engagement in the development and expansion of these programmes. Discussions will also cover key national drivers and their integration in policies and codification in legal and regulatory frameworks, as well as how business cases are made. Panellists will elaborate on relevant nuclear infrastructure for new nuclear power programmes and their related fuel cycles.

### **3. Strengthening the Fleet: Extending and Expanding the Clean Energy Contribution of Existing Nuclear Power Plants**

This session will focus on the role of currently operating nuclear power plants in coping with current economic, political and market conditions. Discussions will highlight efforts to foster informed, data-driven decision-making by policymakers by ensuring broad awareness of the operating nuclear reactor fleet as a reliable, low emission, non-polluting source of energy. Panellists will also discuss how national policies, strategies and partnerships are helping to improve nuclear power performance and flexibility, increase its utilization for non-electrical applications, and enhance its sustainability.

### **4. Charting the Course: Pursuing Early Deployment of Advanced Nuclear Technologies**

There is an increasing expectation from a wide range of stakeholders about the early deployment of advanced reactors, including small modular reactors which are at different stages of development. Looking at technical, regulatory, societal and economic aspects, this session will discuss the technology maturity and market readiness for near-term, deployable, advanced reactors. Panellists will also discuss related fuel cycles; from fuel engineering to spent fuel and radioactive waste management, roadmaps for their deployment, and their integration in hybrid energy systems to unlock the full potential of flexible nuclear power.

### **5. Enhancing Confidence: Effective Regulatory Oversight for the Future of Nuclear Energy**

This session will focus on global and national efforts to meet expectations for a more harmonized approach and continued effective regulatory regimes enabling safe deployment and utilization of advanced and future nuclear technologies.

A **Side Event** will be organized by the Government of the United States of America, as the host of the Conference.

### **In Focus events**

The conference will feature several **In Focus** events that will address trending topics in the field of nuclear power, such as international cooperation to promote the role of nuclear energy in the clean energy transition, gender and diversity in the nuclear sector, challenges faced by the nuclear industry and solutions to overcome those challenges, as well as engagement of youth and other stakeholders.

**NOTE:** Details of the programme are subject to change before finalization.

## **D. Participation**

The conference is aimed at ministers, senior government officials, high-level staff from agencies involved in policy making for, and management of, nuclear energy, and technical and legal experts working in all areas of nuclear power programmes. The conference is also intended to attract industry and civil society representatives, including non-governmental organizations and academic institutions. The IAEA welcomes and encourages the participation of women, early career professionals and individuals from developing countries.

## **E. Registration**

### **E.1 Pre-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. Pre-registration is aimed at facilitating applications for financial support and provision of visa support letter.

#### **Registration through InTouch+:**

1. Access the InTouch+ web page (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>):

- Participants with an existing NUCLEUS account can [sign in here](#) with their username and password;
- Participants without an existing NUCLEUS account can [register here](#).

2. Once signed in, participants can use the InTouch+ platform to:

- Complete or update their personal details under 'Basic Profile' (if no financial support is requested) or under 'Complete Profile' (if financial support is requested) and upload the relevant supporting documents;
- Search for the relevant event (EVT2001736) under the 'My Eligible Events' tab;
- Select the Member State or invited organization they want to represent from the drop-down menu entitled 'Designating authority' (if an invited organization is not listed, please contact [IAEA.Ministerial-Conference@iaea.org](mailto:IAEA.Ministerial-Conference@iaea.org));
- If applicable, indicate whether financial support is requested and complete the relevant information;
- Submit their application.

Once submitted through the InTouch+ platform, the application together with the auto-generated form(s) will be transmitted automatically to the required authority for approval. If approved, the

application together with the form(s) will automatically be sent to the IAEA through the online platform. Applications submitted and approved via InTouch+ should not additionally be sent via email to the IAEA.

**NOTE:** Should participants wish to request financial support, the application needs to be submitted by the specified deadline (see section F).

For additional information on how to apply for an event, please refer to the [InTouch+ Help page](#). Any other issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be sent to [InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org](mailto:InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org).

If it is not possible to submit your application through the InTouch+ platform, participants are requested to contact the IAEA's Conference Services Section via e-mail: [IAEA.Ministerial-Conference@iaea.org](mailto:IAEA.Ministerial-Conference@iaea.org).

## E.2 Registration of Delegations

To finalize the above-described registration process for participants, registration via InTouch+ will open on **18 July 2022** and should be completed by **19 October 2022**. Delegations are requested to submit their delegation list via InTouch+ under EVT2201785. There is no limit in the number of participants per Member State delegation.

**NOTE:** Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the [Agency's Personal Data and Privacy Policy](#) and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. Further information can be found in the [Data Processing Notice](#) concerning IAEA InTouch+ platform.

## F. Expenditure and Grants

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not able 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. 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 conference.

If participants wish to apply for a grant, they should submit applications to the IAEA using the InTouch+ platform through their competent national authority (see Section E). Participants should ensure that applications for grants are:

Submitted by **15 July 2022**

Accompanied by a Grant Application Form (Form C);

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**.

## **G. Special Information for Permanent Missions**

Ministerial Segment: A Ballot to determine the Speaking Order in the Ministerial Segment will be held at the IAEA headquarters in Vienna, Austria and announced through a Note by the Secretariat. Following the Ballot, further details related to the Ministerial Statements will be made available.

## **H. Distribution of Documents**

A preliminary programme of the conference will be made available on the conference web page (see Section O) and the final programme will be distributed at the conference during on-site registration. Ministerial statements in the original languages, PowerPoint presentations as available, and other relevant documents will be posted on the conference web page and the IAEA Conferences and Meetings app during the conference.

## **I. Exhibitions**

A limited amount of space will be available for displays/exhibits during the conference. Details will be provided on the conference web page in the near future.

## **J. Venue and Accommodation**

The conference will be held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C., USA. Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. 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-booking and no shows.

Detailed information on accommodation and other administrative details will be made available on the conference web page well in advance of the conference (see Section O).

## **K. Working Language**

The working languages of the conference will be all the official IAEA languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish.

The working language of the In Focus and Side Events will be English.

## **L. Visas**

Designated participants who require a visa to enter the United States of America should submit the necessary application(s) to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of the United States as soon as possible. Please keep an eye on the conference web page for further advice/instructions on this.

## M. Key Deadlines and Dates

Pre-registration by the participant to <b>facilitate applications for financial support and provision of visa support letter</b> via InTouch+ (EVT2001736)	<b>Until 15 July 2022</b>
Submission of delegation lists by Permanent Missions via InTouch+ (EVT2201785)	<b>18 July –19 October 2022</b>

## N. IAEA Conference Secretariat

### General postal address and contact details of the IAEA:

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## O. Conference Web Page

Please visit the following web page regularly for new information regarding this conference [Home: International Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Power in the 21st Century | IAEA](#)