The radiological protection of man and the environment is to be the central theme of a regional study group meeting organized by the IAEA in collaboration with the Turkish Atomic Energy Commission, to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, in late November this year (1972). Member States of the Agency in the Mediterranean, the Middle East and some neighbouring countries having programmes in atomic energy have been invited to send participants.

The purpose of the meeting is to bring together specialists in the region experienced in radiological and environmental protection, specialists from advanced countries and Agency staff members to discuss: recent advances in selected radiological health topics; radiological and environmental problems arising from the peaceful uses of atomic energy; relevant researches in the region; possible regional co-operation, such as the establishment of common services in radiological and environmental protection; and the adequacy of the Agency's programme in providing radiological protection of man and the environment. Lectures will be given by invited speakers and a staff member of the Agency, followed by the presentation of papers submitted by participants.

The topics to be discussed include the organization of radiological protection and training; operational regulations and procedures; laboratory design and monitoring equipment; radiological protection instrumentation, calibration, service and maintenance; personnel dosimetry; area, air and environmental monitoring; problems for radiation protection specialists in safety evaluations (for example, of laboratories, reactors, laboratory and reactor experiments); radiation safety aspects of nuclear power programmes; radiological protection aspects of radioactive waste management; emergency planning, and the safe transport of radioactive material; and radiological protection problems in atomic energy applications in agriculture, industry, medicine and other work.

It is expected that discussions will also be held on subjects of special topical interest in the region, possible regional co-operation, and the Agency's programme.