Operation of RCARO Host Government's View

7-9 June 2005

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RCA and Korea

○ **Korea's Joining in RCA as a MS : 1974**

- Korea participated in the 1st RCA Representatives Meeting (now GCM) in 1973 in Vienna as an observer

○ **National RCA Representatives**

- 1974-1985   KAERI (RCA under DDG-RI)
- 1985- Present   MOST (RCA under DDG-TC)

○ **Present National RCA Representative:**

- Director, Atomic Energy Cooperation Division

  Ministry of Science and Technology

Chronology of NRM in Korea

- 8th RCA Working Group Meeting (WGM) in 1986 in Seoul

- 24th Meeting of National RCA Representatives (NRM) in 2002 in Seoul and Daejeon

Korea's Contributions to IAEA/RCA Office

○ **Attachment of Cost-Free Experts**
- 1998-2001: Mr. Pyung-Hoon Choi (KAERI)
- 2001-2004: Mr. Kyung-Pyo Kim (KAERI)
- 2004-2006: Mr. Myung-Ro Kim (KAERI)

○ **UNDP Jakarta Office (1998-2001)**
- Dr. Joon-Ha Jin of KAERI as a Technical Expert

○ **Contribution of Extra Budget**

○ **Hosting of RCA Events**

○ **Hosting of RCARO**

RCA Events hosted in Korea

- **2002 : RCA 7 events (Non-RCA 8 events)**

- **2003 : RCA 14 events (Non-RCA 5 events)**
  - SARS impact

- **2004 : RCA 5 events (Non-RCA 2 events)**

- **2005 : RCA 6 events planned, Non-RCA 7 planned**

Government's Study Projects

○ **Research Contract between MOST and KAERI on Effective Participation in RCA Program**

- Nuclear Policy Research Team and International Cooperation Office at KAERI

- Survey on RCA activities

- Study on effective participation in RCA projects

- US$ 30,000-50,000 per contract
  (Including logistic support for RCA events hosted in Korea)

Current Contributions to RCA

- **Lead Country for RCA Thematic Sectors in Energy Planning and Research Reactor Utilization since 1999**
  - Also PLC for Low-level Radioactive Waste Management during 1998-2000

- **RRU**
  - To provide hosting for trainings on isotopic analysis and hydrological data interpretation: Geo-environmental Sciences Section, KAERI

- **Hosting RCARO**
  - To fully provide operational budget

Hosting of RCARO

- Korea offered hosting of RCARO in 2000 at 22nd NRM in Mumbai.

- RCARO opened in March 2002 in Daejeon in celebrating 30th Anniversary of RCA Agreement.

- In March 2005, RCARO went into full operation after 3 years of interim operation. (Appointment of a new Director, RCARO)

Purpose of Hosting of RCARO

- **To demonstrate Korea's strong intention to contribute to the RCA MS's and the region**

- **To support IAEA in its technical cooperation endeavors**
    - From recipient country to donor country

- **To exhibit Korea's firm belief that nuclear technology can contribute achieving development goals in the region**

Operational Aspects

○ **RCARO Steering Committee : To give advice and make decisions on major operational and management issues of RCARO on behalf of the host country**

- Chair : Director General, Atomic Energy Bureau, MOST

- Members :11 Experts including Director of RCARO

○ **Financial Support for RCARO Operation**

- US$ 0.4M ('02) → 0.48M ('03) → 0.57M ('04) → 0.68M ('05)

Some Comments by MS's

- **Salary of the Director when Director is not a Korean national**

  - No change in its policy

  - Director's salary from originating country is considered as the country's contribution to RCA and RCARO.

Some Comments by MS's (cont'd)

○ **Qualifications and selection process of the Director candidates**

  - Selection Committee was composed by Advisory Committee.

  - Selection criteria and qualifications approved at 27th NRM

Some Comments by MS's (cont'd)

○ **RCARO staff need not be from Korea**

- According to the current Working Paper that was adopted by Member States, RCARO Director is responsible for hiring RCARO staff locally.

- However, MOST encourages temp recruitment of RCARO staff from Member States. Cost-free experts would be most welcomed.

Some Comments by MS's (cont'd)

○ **Composition of RCARO Advisory Committee**

- 27th NRM in Malaysia composed RCARO Standing Advisory Committee.

- All Member States have right to address on RCARO matters.

Some Comments by MS's (cont'd)

○ **Possible influence on the operation of RCARO by Korean government**

  - Korean government, through the RCARO Steering Committee, reviews and provides advice mainly on operational budget of RCARO.

  - Daily operation of RCARO is autonomous.

Some Comments by MS's (cont'd)

- **RCARO only initiated projects related with Korea.**

  - Due to fund sources

  - Projects initiated by RCARO can be considered as a model or a pilot scheme towards the future partnerships. Experience with Korean fund sources would be good lessons when seeking other fund sources in the future.

  - Try to seek additional fund sources from other MS's and/or international organizations, which is one of the missions of RCARO.

For Better RCARO Operation

- **MS's should recognize RCARO as its own organization.**
  - No more Koreans
  - MS's support for RCARO to represent RCA in the future

- **Ms's active participation in RCARO activities and contribution to RCARO**
  - Sharing of operational fund of RCARO
  - Dispatch of MS's CFE to RCARO

For Better RCARO Operation (cont'd)

- **Korea's full support for operation of RCARO**

  - Continue to support operational fund

    When RCARO is an international level organization, it would be much efficient for Korean government to support with optimum process.

- **Korea takes a leading role so that RCARO will be an international organization.**

  - Continue negotiation with Foreign Ministry of Korea for RCARO to function in Korea as an international level organization

Future RCARO

- **RCARO as RCA secretariat.**

  - Center of RCA activities

  - Need a road map for the future RCARO made by MS's

- **RCARO's legal basis in RCA.**

  - Necessary back-up measures by the MS and IAEA such as Amendment of RCA Agreement

Thank you very much for your attention !