


## RCARO 2016 Work Performance

	Target	Activities	Milestone				Performance Indicators	Status
			QT 1	QT 2	QT 3	QT 4		
1	Increasing the awareness of the RCA	<p>1.1. Publicity activities for increasing the awareness of the RCA</p> <p>1.2. Enhancing RCA information service through the RCA website</p>					<p>1.1.1. Publication of the 6<sup>th</sup> batch of RCA Success Story</p> <p>1.1.2. Updating RCA promotional video</p> <p>1.2.1. Enhanced web service with improved access system</p>	<p>Done</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Two Success Stories were completed and published</li> </ul> <p>Done</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Updated RCA promotional video reflecting changes of NRs and produced a video clip on recent RCA activities</li> </ul> <p>Done</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Received 16 RWA nominations from GPs and the IAEA and developed RWA corner on the RCA website.</li> <li>- Public version of 2015 RCA Annual reports was uploaded.</li> </ul>

					1.2.2. Updating data on RCA and RCA projects	Done - Updated data on RCA meetings and projects
		1.3. Participation in regional/international events and support for the promotion of RCA activities			1.3.1. Presentation and exhibition on RCA/RCARO activities to target audiences	Done - Participated in two conferences and the 60 <sup>th</sup> IAEA GC - Provided NZE and VIE with materials to support their promotional activities
					1.3.2. Supporting RCA experts for increasing awareness of RCA	Done - Supported 2 experts for their promotional activities - 4 experts will be supported in 2017
2	Expanding support for the benefit of the GPs and development of RCA	2.1. Implementing the pilot project (RAS6083)			2.1.1. Implementing a project coordination meeting	Done - Held in conjunction with a regional workshop on 11-15 April 2016 in Gwangju, Korea, inviting 29 participants

					2.1.2. Implementing expert missions	Done - 3 EMs were conducted in CPR, MYA and PAK
					2.1.3. Conducting a regional workshop and progress review meeting	On-going - Regional workshop and progress review meeting will be held on 20-24 Feb. 2017, in Hanoi, Vietnam
					2.1.4 Monitoring and submission of progress report	Done - Received NPC reports and submitted the PPAR to the IAEA
	2.2. Developing new RCARO initiated programmes				2.2.1. Implementing new RCARO initiated programmes	Done -Held an Introductory Workshop for New GPs on RCA Programme and its Policy on 23-25 Nov. 2016 in Fiji
	2.3. Supporting the IAEA for RCA administrative matters				2.3.1. Supporting the IAEA for RCA administrative matters	On-going - Coordinated WG meetings for

							2018-23 MTS in consultation with IAEA and WG Chairs
3	Enhancing and exploring partnerships with regional/international organizations	<p>3.1. Development of a follow-up project of RCA/UNOSSC project on electron beam (EB) applications</p> <p>3.2. RCARO/ARCCNM training workshop</p> <p>3.3. Participation in the 17<sup>th</sup> FNCA Coordinators meeting</p>	█	█	█	<p>3.1.1. Development of a follow-up project of RCA/UNOSSC project on electron beam(EB) applications</p> <p>3.2.1. Holding the RCARO/ARCCNM training workshop</p> <p>3.3.1. Participation in the 17<sup>th</sup> FNCA Coordinators meeting</p>	<p>On-going</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Submitted a project proposal for the follow-up project</li> </ul> <p>Done</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supported the training workshop held on 14-16 July 2016, in Shenyang, China</li> </ul> <p>Done</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participated in the meeting on 8-9 March 2016, in Tokyo, Japan</li> </ul>
4	Assisting the GPs in addressing regional and national needs	<p>4.1. RCARO/KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree Course</p> <p>4.2. RCARO/KAERI regional training workshop</p>	█	█	█	<p>4.1.1. Supporting the RCARO/KAIST Master's Degree Course</p> <p>4.2.1. Holding the RCARO/KAERI regional training workshop</p>	<p>Done</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supported 3 students from INS and VIE</li> </ul> <p>Done</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supported 15 trainees in the</li> </ul>

		4.3. IAEA/RCARO/KINS joint training course on radiation safety for new RCA members			■		4.3.1. Implementing IAEA/RCARO/KINS joint training course on radiation safety for new RCA members	workshop held on 10-21 Oct. 2016, in Daejeon, Korea  Done - Supported 16 trainees in the training course held on 8 Aug. to 2 Sept. 2016, in Daejeon, Korea
5	Increased interaction between the GPs and the RCARO	5.1. RCARO Fellowship Programme  5.2. Workshop on enhancing RCARO interactions with GPs		■			5.1.1. Inviting temporary staff from GPs to RCARO  5.2.1. Holding a workshop on enhancing RCARO interactions with GPs	Done - 3 fellows were invited from PHI, MAL, and THA  Replaced with the IAEA/RCARO/KINS joint training course
6	RCARO's future role	6.1. Working Group Meeting on the RCARO's future role	■				6.1.1. Holding a WG meeting on RCARO's future role	Done - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Working Group on RCARO's Future Role was held on 19-21 Jan. 2016 in Jeju, Korea, inviting 22 participants
7	Other activities	7.1. Participation in the RCA policy related meetings		■	■		7.1.1. Participation in the 38 <sup>th</sup> NRM and 45 <sup>th</sup> GCM	Done - Participated in the 38 <sup>th</sup> NRM and the 45 <sup>th</sup> GCM

	7.2. Participation in expert meetings on the RCA	■	■		7.2.1. Participation in expert meetings on the RCA	Done - Participated in the Meeting of NLOs and NRs for Asia and the Pacific Region held on 22-26 Feb. 2016, in the IAEA and WG meeting on RCA MTS 2018-23 held on 13-15 May 2016, in Mongolia
	7.3. Extra-Budgetary(EB) contribution of the RCARO to the IAEA			■	7.3.1. EB contribution of the RCARO to the IAEA	Done - Contributed USD 40,000 to support RAS6083

# **RCARO 2016 Work Performance**

## **1. Increasing the awareness of RCA**

### **1.1. Publicity activities for increasing the awareness of RCA**

#### **1.1.1. Publication of the 6<sup>th</sup> batch of RCA success stories**

According to the revised guideline approved by the 37<sup>th</sup> RCA NRM, the 38<sup>th</sup> RCA NRM agreed that two success stories be published from projects which had been successfully completed between 2013 and 2014: one success story from RAS 1012 on industry, and one combined success story from RAS 6064 and RAS 6066 on medical sector.

Based on the approved procedure and timeline, RCARO, in cooperation with the LCCs of RAS1012, RAS6064 and RAS 6066, completed the drafts and circulated them to the NRs, LCCs, RCA-FP and relevant experts for their review. Reflecting the comments from the NRs, the drafts were revised and progressed into a full designed version and were circulated at the 38<sup>th</sup> RCA NRM for NRs' approval.

Upon approval of the 38<sup>th</sup> NRM, RCARO published the Success Stories in leaflet form and distributed to relevant stakeholders. Copies will be also handed out at appropriate occasions.

#### **1.1.2 Updating RCA promotional video**

Since its production in 2011, the RCA promotional video has been used effectively at the regional/international events to promote the RCA and its activities and also in the Government Parties (GPs) for their promotional uses at national level.

RCARO updated the video reflecting changes of NRs from BGD, FIJ, INS, ROK, LAO, NEP, PAK, PHI, PLW and SIN.

In addition, RCARO produced a short video clip on recent RCA activities with the support of the IAEA and RCA GPs such as AUL, BGD, CPR, IND, INS, JPN, MAL, NEP, PHI, PAK,

ROK, SRL, THA and VIE. The video contains information on RCA policy meetings (NRM and GCM), RCARO and RCA projects in four thematic areas; Agriculture, Environment, Human Health and Industry.

The RCA promotional video and video clip were demonstrated at the RCA exhibition booth on the occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the IAEA and received much attention of the audiences.

## **1.2 Enhancing RCA information service through the RCA Website**

RCARO has continued to enhance the RCA information service through maintaining and updating the information on RCA and its activities on the RCA website.

### **1.2.1 Enhanced web service with improved access system**

Since its renewal in July 2011, RCARO has provided RCA information service through the RCA website, providing up-to-date information on RCA and a platform for communication and information sharing among users.

Aiming to enhancing RCA web information service, RCARO presented a working paper to review and identify means to improve the current RCA information service at the 37th NRM for consideration of the NRs. Upon approval of the 37th NRM, RCARO held an expert meeting on establishment of guidelines for enhancement of the RCA information service on 15-16 June 2015 Busan, Korea and the meeting made recommendations and developed guideline on designation of RCA Web Administrator (RWA) in each GP, efficient provision of RCA information by the IAEA and GPs and making a public version of the RCA annual Report to be uploaded on the RCA website. As the recommendations and guidelines were approved by the 44th GCM, RCARO carried out the follow-up actions as follows.

For designation of RWAs, RCARO received nominations from 16 GPs and the IAEA. To facilitate the activities of the RWAs, RCARO developed a platform named 'RWA Corner' on the RCA website and a manual to guide the RWAs for their management of the corner.

IDs and PWs together with the manual were distributed to the RWAs for their access to the



corner and creation of accounts for national stakeholders.

RCARO also published the 2015 RCA Annual Report for public according to the guideline and uploaded it on the RCA website where it can be viewed or downloaded by the public freely.

### **1.2.2 Updating data on the RCA and RCA projects**

RCARO has updated information on the RCA and RCA projects; policy meetings (NRM, GCM), RCA projects, news of the Government Parties and related policy documents on the website.

### **1.3 Participation in regional/international events and support for the promotion of RCA activities**

RCARO continued its efforts to fulfill its mandate by promoting RCA to target audiences at appropriate occasions through presentations and exhibitions as well as providing support to RCA experts participating in such promotional activities.

#### **1.3.1 Presentation and exhibition on RCA/RCARO activities to target audiences**

Upon approval of the 44th GCM, RCARO participated in the following events in 2016;

- The 20th Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference on 5-9 April 2016, Beijing, China
- International Conference on Nuclear Science and Technology in August 2016, Bangkok, Thailand

In those events, RCARO set up a booth displaying banners on the RCA and its activities, distributed RCA brochures, Success Stories and demonstrated RCA promotional video for promotion of the RCA.

RCARO also supported RCA Government Party's promotional activities by providing relevant materials: the 46th Scientific Meeting of the ANZSNM in April 2016, Rotorua, New Zealand; National Conference on Nuclear Science & Technology and Atomic Energy Applications and the 2nd National Conference on Medical Physics held in October 2016, Vietnam.

To commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the IAEA, the 38th NRM recommended RCARO to seek opportunities to promote the RCA during the 60<sup>th</sup> IAEA General Conference, taking note of

the successful exhibition of the 40th Anniversary of the RCA by the RCARO in 2012. In this regard, RCARO made a proposal for an exhibition and submitted an official request for the space to the IAEA in consultation with the RCA FP and RCA Chair.

A space of 10 square meters (2mx5m) in the hallway to the C building was allotted by the IAEA. RCARO set up a booth and displayed 4 posters on overall RCA, RCA activities in four thematic sectors: agriculture and environment, human health and industry and Success Stories and Partnership projects respectively.

A short video clip on the recent RCA activities was also produced based on the data provided by the RCA GPs and presented at the booth.

With the support of the GPs, RCARO showcased sample products resulted from the past RCA projects and distributed RCA brochures and Success Stories as well as some souvenirs to visitors.

For 2017 plan, RCARO conducted a survey of NRs and IAEA and collected information on 6 conferences. Amongst the 6 events, the 45th GCM approved the following two conferences for RCARO's participation in 2017:

- International Conference on the IAEA Technical Cooperation Programme: Sixty Years and Beyond – Contributing to Development, 30 May – 1 June 2017, IAEA, Austria
- World Nuclear & Radiation Expo, September 2017, Seoul, Korea

In consideration of its budget availability and schedule, RCARO will make necessary arrangements for its participation to the conferences listed above.

### **1.3.2 Supporting RCA experts for increasing awareness of RCA**

RCARO has provided support for RCA experts in their activities which could enhance awareness of the RCA and its activities.

For the cycle from September 2015 to August 2016, RCARO successfully supported selectees from VIE and INS for their participation and RCA promotional activities at the international conferences held in May and July 2016 respectively.

With regards to the cycle from September 2016 to August 2017, RCARO invited the Government Parties for nominations of appropriate RCA experts and received a total of 9 nominations from 5 countries (BGD, INS, PHI, THA and VIE). According to the guideline, RCARO selected 4 selectees from BGD, INS, THA and VIE in consultation with the SAC. RCARO will make necessary arrangements to support the selectees for their RCA promotional activities in 2017.

## **2. Expanding support for the benefit of the Government Parties and development of RCA**

### **2.1 Implementing the pilot project**

Upon approval of the 43<sup>rd</sup> GCM on developing a pilot project, RCARO, as the LCC of the project, developed and finalized a project proposal entitled “Improving patient care and enhancing Government Parties capacity in nuclear medicine programs in RCA region”. The project was approved and classified as RAS6083 and is to be implemented for 3 years from 2016 funded by the Korean Government.

#### **2.1.1. Implementing project coordination meeting**

With the support of the Korean Government, RCARO hosted the First Coordination Meeting held on 11-15 April 2016 in Gwangju, Korea inviting 29 participants from 16 participating GPs, PMO and TO from the IAEA. The meeting reviewed the current status of Nuclear Medicine in participating countries and set detailed work plan for 2016-2018. A total of 13 expert missions to 11 countries by 25 experts in the areas of oncology, cardiology and neurology and 3 regional meetings combined with technical workshops are to be implemented under the project.

According to the decision of the meeting, RCARO established a corner on the RCA website for the project to share information and facilitate communication and expert networking amongst project participants (<http://www.rcaro.org/RAS6083>).

Meeting documents were uploaded on the corner and RCARO will continue uploading project related materials used during expert missions, training courses and workshops. Access

information to the corner is given to all related stakeholders for their utilization of the project materials.

### **2.1.2. Implementing expert missions**

According to the work plan, 3 expert missions (EMs) focusing on the requested areas were implemented in 2016; CPR in October, MYA in November and PAK in December. The EMs were conducted in conjunction with national conferences and experts transferred skills and knowledge to local nuclear medicine practitioners and related experts in the field. There were also discussions and scientific meetings with referring doctors to facilitate appropriate use of diagnostic and therapeutic nuclear medicine for treatment of cancer.

### **2.1.3. Conducting regional workshop and progress review meeting**

Progress review meeting and regional workshop will be held on 20 – 24 February 2017 in Hanoi, Vietnam based on the work plan and decision of the project coordination meeting.

### **2.1.4. Monitoring and submission of progress report**

In line with the guidelines and operating rules of the RCA, RCARO, as the LCC, received NPC reports from participating countries and submitted Project Progress Assessment Report (PPAR) to the IAEA. Summary of the 2016 activities will be presented at the 39th NRM in 2017.

## **2.2. Developing new RCARO initiated programme**

Aiming to benefit the GPs and development of the RCA, RCARO submitted a strategic paper to the 36<sup>th</sup> NRM in 2014, proposing new initiatives to meet the needs of the GPs and supplement the RCA Programme.

A Working Group on the RCARO' future role was established to discuss on this initiatives and through discussions and deliberations, the WG established detailed procedures and guidelines on the possible options for the RCARO's future role such as Supplementary Projects, Research Projects and Training Projects under the framework of the RCARO Managed Projects.

The 38th NRM endorsed the integrated approach, procedures and implementation of the

RCARO Managed Projects for 2016-17 recommended by the WG.

### **2.2.1 Developing new RCARO initiated programme**

As it was endorsed at the 38<sup>th</sup> RCA NRM that in 2016 the RCARO Managed Projects commence with a Training Project (TP), specifically on the topic of informing the new RCA GPs about RCA Programme, policy, procedures and related matters, an Introductory Workshop for new RCA GPs on RCA Programme and its Policy was held on 23-25 November 2016 in Coral Coast, Fiji. The Workshop was attended by 23 participants from new RCA GPs, RCA-FP, representatives from Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Fiji, and representatives from international organizations based in Fiji.

The Workshop provided comprehensive information on IAEA/RCA Programme and its policy for new RCA GPs. The Workshop also provided a forum for the participants to discuss on the development of possible future projects.

### **2.3. Supporting the IAEA for RCA administrative matters**

The lack of financial and human resources in the IAEA for RCA related matters has been noted in recent years. At the 44<sup>th</sup> GCM, IAEA again presented its challenges in staffing and after discussions, the meeting suggested to discuss this issue at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Working Group Meeting in connection with the RCARO's future role.

The Working Group Meeting recommended that in order to reduce the workload regarding secretariat duties for the RCA carried out by IAEA, outsourcing to individual experts or organizations including the RCARO could be used to address specific needs such as preparation of documents and further recommended the IAEA to consider defining for consideration of the NRs those secretariat duties for the RCA which must be kept in house and those that might be outsourced.

At the 38<sup>th</sup> NRM, IAEA clarified its secretariat duties related to RCA and presented that duties related to RCA policy meetings i.e. RCA GCMs and NRMs, are possible to be outsourced, while duties on RCA programme and project management have some limitations in outsourcing.

Among duties under RCA programme and project management, management of RCA Projects must be kept in-house.

Based on the clarification by the IAEA at the 38<sup>th</sup> NRM and recommendation of the WG on the future role of the RCARO, RCARO presented on its possible support to the IAEA related to its RCA secretariat functions at the 45<sup>th</sup> GCM and it was agreed that IAEA be assisted by RCARO in administrative duties that can be outsourced, specifically preparations for policy meetings, and that the IAEA will continue to be responsible for the management of the RCA projects. It was also agreed that RCARO coordinate administrative and logistical arrangements for the RCA WGs in close consultation with the IAEA.

According to the recommendation, RCARO has put its efforts to coordinate meetings of WGs to be held in February 2017 in consultation with the RCA-FP and respective Chairs of the WGs.

### **3. Enhancing and exploring partnerships with regional/international organizations**

#### **3.1 Development of a follow-up project of RCA/UNOSSC project on Electron Beam (EB) applications**

The RCA/UNOSSC project on Electron Beam applications has been completed in 2015 with successful implementation of the final progress meeting in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

In the meeting, the outcomes have shown a high interest in the use of EB at national level and a follow-up project was recommended in view of the increased demand for distribution and sharing of EB technology and increased establishment of EB facility in the next few years in the participating countries.

Based on the result of the project and the recommendation of the 21st SAC to explore the possibility of continuation of the project and seeing the need to continue the development and utilize the achievements made during this project, RCARO submitted a proposal for a follow-up project to the UNOSSC and received a positive response by the latter.

Upon approval by the UNOSSC, the follow-up project is expected to commence in the first half of 2017. RCARO will carry out necessary arrangements for continuation of the project.

### **3.2. RCARO/ARCCNM training workshop**

Since 2008, RCARO has been supporting the RCARO/ARCCNM training workshop to educate nuclear medicine physicians and scientists in developing and less developed Asian countries and further to foster regional cooperation to promote nuclear medicine in those countries.

In 2016, RCARO continued to support the training course held from 14 to 16 July in Shenyang, China.

### **3.3. Participation in the 17<sup>th</sup> FNCA Coordinators meeting**

On behalf of RCA, Director of RCARO participated in the 17<sup>th</sup> FNCA Coordinators Meeting held on 8-9 March in Tokyo, Japan, and presented achievements of the RCA and cooperative activities with the FNCA done in 2015.

## **4. Assisting the Government Parties in addressing regional and national needs**

### **4.1 RCARO/KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree Course**

With the aim of assisting the Government Parties in capacity building related to nuclear science and technology, Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree Course was initiated by the RCARO in cooperation with the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST). As carried out in the past years, RCARO continued its support to three students in 2016; two from INS and one from VIE.

### **4.2 RCARO/KAERI regional training workshop**

Since 2008, RCARO has been hosting a regional training workshop in cooperation with the Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute (KAERI). In 2016, an introductory workshop on radiation technology and its applications was held from 10 to 21 October, inviting 15 trainees from 13 RCA GPs.

### **4.3 IAEA/RCARO/KINS joint training course on radiation safety for countries with no radiation safety infrastructure in the region**

In recent years, a few countries including Cambodia, Nepal, Fiji, Palau, and Laos that are at the beginner stage in applying nuclear technology have become new members of the RCA. Towards supporting these countries in better participating in RCA programmes and further harmonized development of the RCA, an introductory training course could be useful and needed, considering no radiation safety infrastructure and policy in place in those countries.

Taking these circumstances into consideration, a training course on radiation safety was initiated by the IAEA under the framework of RAS9073. IAEA suggested RCARO to co-host the training course which would focus on building up the competence and expertise needed by national regulatory bodies in the region for the establishment and operation of an adequate regulatory programme for the safety and security of radiation sources.

In cooperation with the KINS (Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety), the training course was held from 8 August to 2 September 2016 for 4 weeks in Daejeon, Korea. 16 participants from 8 countries including new RCA Government Parties such as Cambodia, Fiji, Laos, and Nepal attended the training course.

Divided into three major parts, core training, industrial practices and medical practices, the course covered various subjects related to the safety issues and also provided technical visits to related institutes in Korea. Lecturers, not only from KINS but also from Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute (KAERI) and Korea Institute of Radiological and Medical Sciences (KIRAMS), participated in the training course to give lectures in specified fields.

According to the course questionnaire taken after the course, 91% of the participants showed satisfaction with the source. Evaluation tests taken after each major project showed an average of 85% of achievements, indicating that the course has contributed to acquiring of adequate knowledge and expertise of trainees.

## **5. Increased Interaction between the Government Parties and the RCARO**

### **5.1 RCARO Fellowship Programme**

Three fellows from PHI, MAL and THA were selected for the 2016 RCARO Fellowship



Programme and PHI and MAL fellows completed their programme successfully. Fellow from THA is currently involved in the programme until February. Fellows have contributed to updating stakeholder/end-user database on RCA website; collecting information on regional and international events; and assisting the implementation of joint training courses with KAERI and KINS.

## **5.2 Holding a workshop on enhancing RCARO interactions with the Government Parties**

With a view to increasing interaction with the GPs, RCARO hosts a workshop to discuss ways to increase interaction with the Government Parties and accommodate the needs of the Government Parties and the RCARO, inviting relevant stakeholders.

This year, the workshop was replaced with the IAEA/RCARO/KINS Joint Training Course on Radiation Safety for countries with no Radiation safety Infrastructure in the Asia-Pacific Region held from 8 August to 2 September 2016 in Daejeon, Korea.

## **6. RCARO's Future Role**

### **6.1 Holding a Working Group Meeting on the RCARO's future role**

The Working Group (WG) for the RCARO's future role was formed to consider the future role of the RCARO, including the issues raised in the Strategic Paper reported by the Director of the RCARO at the 36th NRM. The eight WG members are Dr. John Easey (Chair), Dir-RCARO and appointees from CPR, JPN, NZE, PAK, PHI and ROK.

Following the 1st WGM in June 2014, the 2nd WGM was held in Jan. 2015 to discuss issues raised in the Strategic Paper reported by the Director RCARO. Through discussions and deliberations, the WG established detailed procedures and guidelines on the possible options for the RCARO's future role such as Supplementary Projects (SPs), Research Projects (RPs) and Training Projects (TPs). Concerns were also raised on adequate resources and IAEA's role in the RCA in implementing these initiatives by the RCARO during the 2nd WGM.

The report of the 2nd WGM was presented to the 44th GCM and the meeting endorsed the 3rd

WGM to discuss issues related to the RCARO's future role, taking consideration of several issues in the subject and the advice from the Office of Legal Affairs of the IAEA regarding the IAEA's role in the RCA. In addition, taking note of the challenges in staffing faced by the IAEA, the 44th GCM agreed to discuss this issue in connection with the RCARO's future role at the WGM, inviting representatives from the IAEA.

The 3rd WGM was held on 19-21 January in Jeju, Korea inviting 22 participants including WG members, RCA FP and other relevant stakeholders. It consisted of the following three sessions;

- Session I: The RCARO's Future Role I: RCARO Managed Projects
  - Presentations on the SP, RP, and TP procedures established at the 2nd WGM
  - IAEA's analysis on its role under the RCA
  - RCA MTS 2018-2023
  - Presentation on integrated approach to the future role of the RCARO in support of the RCA Programme
- Session II: The RCARO's Future Role II: 2016 Action Plan on RCARO Managed Projects
  - Presentation on the 2016 Action Plan
- Session III: The RCARO's Future Role III: Support to IAEA and Other Matters
  - IAEA's challenges in staffing related to the RCA administration
  - Other matters on the RCARO's future role

Prior to Session I, the term 'RCARO Initiated Programme' which had been introduced and used during the previous meetings was agreed to be changed to 'RCARO Managed Projects' to more appropriately reflect that the projects are proposed by the GPs and the processes involved.

During Session I, based on the presentations on SP, RP, and TP procedures, IAEA's Analysis on its role under the RCA Agreement, RCA MTS 2018-2023 and Integrated Approach to the Future Role of the RCARO in Support of the RCA Programme, there were extensive discussions on RCARO Managed Projects. It was agreed that RCARO Managed Projects should comprise SPs, RPs and TPs and the selection of projects will depend on the decision of the NRs and availability of fund. The meeting also agreed that it was important for an integrated approach to

be taken with regard to the processes and procedures for the selection and implementation of activities proposed for the RCARO Managed Projects in support of the RCA Programme under the existing Agreement. The meeting finalized the criteria and guidelines for SPs, RPs, and TPs and recognized that it is preferable to have SPs, RPs and TPs under the umbrella of RCA. Noting the report of the OLA, the majority of WG members were of the opinion that the RCARO Managed Projects could be properly delivered within the current RCA Agreement.

However, the JPN member of the WG raised several legal concerns on the proposed SPs, RPs, and TPs, while the CPR member of the WG stated that RCA Programme should be planned and conducted under the RCA Agreement and strict enforcement of the RCA Agreement and IAEA's involvement in RCA activities should be required.

It was recommended that the 38th NRM endorse this integrated approach and procedures for the RCARO Managed Projects and concerns raised by JPN and CPR may be shared with the NRs during the 38th NRM.

In Session II, RCARO presented on its 2016 Action Plan and progress on funding issues. With the opinion provided by the IAEA Office of Legal Affairs on the involvement of the IAEA and the fund secured to initiate RCARO Managed Projects, it was concluded that it would be possible to commence RCARO Managed Projects in 2016, if approved by the 38th NRM. It was recommended that in 2016 a TP be implemented for the new RCA GPs on RCA programme, policy, procedures, and related matters.

During Session III, IAEA's challenges in staffing related to the RCA administration and other matters were discussed. IAEA's challenges in RCA secretariat duties were recognized and it was recommended that outsourcing to individual experts or organizations including RCARO could be used. In this regard, it was further recommended that the TC department may consider defining for consideration of the NRs those secretariat duties for the RCA which must be kept in house and those that might be outsourced. In addition, the NRs are encouraged to come to a consensus on an acceptable position under which the RCARO can provide secretariat support.

Lastly, the meeting recommended that the RCARO participate in the working group for the MTS 2018-2023 on the financial gap analysis and resource mobilization and also expressed its

high appreciation to the RCARO in fund raising and promotion of the RCA.

In line with the conclusions and recommendations of each session, the meeting set up an action plan with timeline. The report of the 3<sup>rd</sup> WGM of RCARO's future role was reported to the 38<sup>th</sup> NRM for consideration of NRs.

The 38<sup>th</sup> NRM endorsed the integrated approach, procedures and implementation of the RCARO Managed Projects for 2016-17 recommended by the WG on RCARO's Future Role.

## **7. Other activities**

### **7.1 Participation in the RCA policy related meetings**

RCARO participated in the 38<sup>th</sup> NRM held on 17-20 May in Mongolia and the 45<sup>th</sup> GCM in September. The Director of the RCARO delivered presentations on RCARO activities. RCARO also served as a secretariat for the RCARO SAC meetings prior to the meetings above.

### **7.2 Participation in expert meetings on the RCA**

In relation to the Regional Programme Framework (RPF) for Asia and the Pacific for 2018-2028, IAEA organized a meeting on 22-26 February 2016, Vienna, Austria, inviting National Liaison Officers (NLOs) and National Representatives (NRs) for Asia and the Pacific Region. RCARO participated in the meeting as an observer and shared views on the issues discussed.

Decided by the 44<sup>th</sup> GCM, the WG on MTS 2018-2023 hosted a meeting on execution of the RCA MTS, specifically on the preparation of proposed WGs in the MTS 2018-2023. Requested by the Chair of WG, RCARO participated in the meeting on 13-15 May prior to the 38<sup>th</sup> NRM in Mongolia and made a presentation on TOR of the WG on resource mobilization.

### **7.3 Extra-Budgetary (EB) contribution of the RCARO to the IAEA**

RCARO made an extra-budgetary contribution of US \$40,000 to support RAS6083 in which the RCARO takes the role of LCC.