

Meeting Report

The 3rd RCARO Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting 14 September 2006, IAEA Headquarters, Vienna

1. Introduction

The 3rd RCARO Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting was held at IAEA Headquarters in Vienna on 14th of September 2006 in conjunction with the 35th RCA General Conference Meeting. Members attended were; Mr Manoon Aramrattana (THA) as the current RCA Chair, Mr Ron Cameron (AUL) as the immediate next RCA Chair, Mr Nahrul Khair Alang Md Rashid (MAL) as the immediate past RCA Chair, Mr K P Kim on behalf of Mr Sung-Kwang Yang (ROK) representing the host country of the RCARO, and Mr M Prinath Dias (RCA Focal Person). The RCARO functioned as secretariat for the Meeting. Observers were Ms Jindarom Chvajareernpun (THA) and Mr M. R. Kim and Mr Hiroshi Rikihisa, the cost-free experts assigned to the IAEA RCA Focal Person's office. From RCARO, Mr Kun-Mo Choi (Director), Mr John K Chung (Programme Officer) and Mr Jay Lee (Assisting Programme Officer) attended. The quorum was constituted with all SAC members being in attendance.

2. Opening

The Meeting was opened with remarks by the Chair, Dr Manoon Aramrattana. The Chair expressed appreciation to the RCARO for its dedicated work and the significant activities it had undertaken for the benefit of the RCA in 2006. He particularly appreciated the RCARO initiated RCA-UNDP Environment Project that began from July 2006 for a three-year period. The Meeting adopted the agenda as proposed. The Chair then appointed Mr Jay Lee of RCARO as a rapporteur.

3. General Discussion and Recommendations

There were two items that required advice and recommendations from the SAC, i.e., 'RCA Success Stories' and 'Collaboration with FNCA', and another two items for report to the SAC by the RCARO, i.e., 'RCA/UNDP Post-Tsunami Environment Impact Assessment Project' and 'Participation of the 2006 PEMSEA International Conference'. Other Matters included review of the tentative procedures for evaluation of performance of the Dir. RCARO that was drafted by the RCA Working Group in July 2006.

3-1. RCA Success Stories

With regard to the RCA Success Stories that have been requested to the RCARO for publication in order to increase RCA visibility, the SAC advised RCARO to identify a most appropriate writer among two professional writers; Mr Eduardo Luraschi of IAEA TC Department and Mr Tim Haydon of AUL by the end of September 2006 and to complete the re-writing of the draft success stories by the end of 2006. The SAC also advised the RCARO to publish the first edition of the RCA Success Stories in leaflet format early next year, preferably before the 29th NRM and distribute to NRs for their use in their respective countries for target groups. The SAC suggested that items for the 2nd edition of the RCA Success Stories should be identified before the next SAC meeting.

3-2. Collaboration between FNCA and RCA

With regard to the collaboration between RCA and FNCA, the SAC advised the RCARO to respond to FNCA reiterating the need to develop an efficient mechanism for collaboration on a complementary basis. The SAC held the view that collaboration between RCA and FNCA would primarily be made by exchanging project reports, and mutually present the project results at its

respective major meetings.

As to the proposal by the FNCA to invite experts from the non-FNCA countries among the RCA Member States (MSs) to the FNCA events to be held in the latter part of this year, the SAC advised the RCARO to inform the FNCA of participants from non-FNCA countries after obtaining the recommendations from the relevant PLCCs in each respective areas, i.e., RAS/8/078 Radiation Technology for Development of Advanced Materials (PHI) and RAS/6/040 Improvement in QA for Brachytherapy of Frequent Cancers in the Region (JPN).

4. Reports

4-1. RCA/UNDP Post-Tsunami Environment Impact Assessment Project

With regard to the report by the RCARO on the progress of the RCA-UNDP Post-tsunami Environment Impact Assessment Project, the SAC expressed its satisfaction about the progresses so far the RCARO has made. The SAC particularly noted the recommendations made by the kick-off meeting in late August 2006 in Jakarta and advised to make minor changes of wordings in the recommendations. One of the recommendations from the kick-off meeting that reflected the SAC's advice is;

- *RCARO and PLCC were requested to contact the relevant technical department of IAEA to determine whether they could make available their services for acquisition of the needed materials and other provisions.*

4-2. Participation of the 2006 PEMSEA International Conference

With regard to the report by the RCARO on the progress of the RCA's participation in the PEMSEA International Conference to be held in Hainan Province, China on 13 December 2006, the SAC appreciated the RCARO as well as the PLCC for RAS/8/095 (Ron Szymczak of AUL) for their efforts to organize presentations at the seminar.

5. Other Matters

5-1. Review of the Tentative Procedures for Evaluation of the Performance of Dir. RCARO

The SAC reviewed the draft Tentative Procedures for Evaluation of the Performance of Director of RCARO that has been developed in Vienna by the RCA Working Group in July 2006 as was decided by the 28th RCA NRM. The SAC made some revisions on the items 2) and 6) of the draft procedures as follows and decided to propose the adoption of the revised draft by the 35th RCA GCM.

Tentative procedure 2) The draft work plan should be negotiated, and agreed between the members of SAC and the Dir. RCARO and *presented to the NRM*.

Tentative procedure 6) The SAC will assess the annual report through electronic interactions with the Dir. RCARO, and submit its report to the regional NRM *for consideration*.

The Meeting also took note of the view of the Dir. RCARO on the roles of SAC and NRM with regard to the endorsement of the RCARO annual work plan on which the Director of RCARO had a view that the work plan should be subject to the agreement by the NRM rather than the SAC.

5-2. Next Meeting and Composition of SAC Members

The Meeting was informed that the 4th RCARO SAC meeting would be held on 19th March 2007 in Sydney, Australia, prior to the 29th RCA NRM. VIE would be a new SAC member replacing MAL from that meeting assuming VIE would host the 30th regional NRM.

5-3. Others

The RCA Focal Person stated that the financial contributions of the Government of the Republic of Korea to RCA through RCARO should be appropriately recognized and proposed that such contributions be duly reported in the RCA Annual Report.

The SAC did not support resources being expended on work directly between the RCARO and FAO/IAEA Division on avian flu as this is not an identified or evaluated RCA project.