

Opening remarks by chair of RCA to the 49th RCA General Conference Meeting, 18 September 2020 by Video Conferencing using Microsoft Teams

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My esteem colleagues and RCA National Representatives, Director of RCARO, secretariat from Malaysia, RCARO and all associates and assistants to the NRs.

Good morning or good afternoon, depending on your time zones and welcome to the 49th RCA General Conference Meeting (GCM) which is being conducted using video conferencing platform Microsoft Teams, hosted by IAEA. This is a new norm which is becoming more familiar by the days as the battle against Covid-19 pandemic continues with no real end in sight.

First and foremost, I would like to thank all of you for making time to join this meeting despite the different time zones and the difficult time we all are going through due to the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic. In light of the Movement Restriction Order or lockdown in many places a physical meeting is still not possible and so that we do not lose sight of managing the organizations in an orderly and timely manner, this meeting has to be conducted in this manner as to keep with our schedule and tradition. The GCM is an important event for RCA as part of the management system of the organization in which many strategic decisions are made.

Many events have taken place since the 42nd NRM in April to implement the decisions that has been taken during the meeting. I would like to highlights some of the key milestones achieved, namely

- Project concepts submitted and approved and project implementation has entered the design stage
- The Special Task Force (STF) for the 50th RCA Anniversary Celebration meeting was convened on 13 August and a report on the more detailed workplan and the budget implication is ready to be considered by this GCM
- The report on the formation of working group for Medium Term Strategy (MTS) 2024-29 is ready after a consultation meeting with RCA FP, PAC Chair and chair of the MTS 2018-23 on 18 August 2020
- The RCA Chairs meeting and the SAC meeting was conducted one day prior to this GCM, as per tradition
- All meetings was done by virtual means as restricted movement order is still in place

On that note I would like to thank my secretariat, the RCA Focal Person, the RCARO, all NRs for their hard works and support to make this meeting possible and to our organization, Malaysian Nuclear Agency and IAEA-TCAP for all the support and encouragement and it is my pleasure to open up this meeting and wish all of you a smooth, productive and fruitful meeting.

Thank you.