

Report of the RCA 2024-2029 Medium-Term Strategy Drafting Working Group
4th Meeting, 1-2 May 2023
Held Virtually

1. Introduction

Upon approval of the 49th RCA General Conference Meeting (GCM) held virtually on 18 September 2020, the 4th Meeting of the RCA 2024-2029 Medium-Term Strategy Drafting Working Group ('the Drafting WG') was held from 1 to 2 May 2023 using a virtual format. The adopted Agenda of the Meeting included as **Annex 1**.

The meeting of the Drafting WG had six (6) participants comprising representatives from CPR, JPN, ROK, SGP, and THA (Chair). The Chairs of PAC and MTSC WG also participated as observers. The meeting was chaired by a representative from THA (Yutthana Tumnoi). The List of Participants is in **Annex 2**.

The meeting was officially opened by Yutthana Tumnoi (THA) the Chair of the Drafting WG. The Chair welcomed Dr Cheonkyeong Park (Ph.D.), Director of Department of Global Cooperation Korea Nuclear International Cooperation Foundation (KONICOF) who replaces Ms Seoyeong Jeong. He also expressed his sincere appreciation to those who already provided inputs for the MTS as assigned. The Chair then gave brief summary on the achievements so far and went through all recommendations from RCA PAC and MTSC WG.

The stated purpose of the meeting was to:

- Review and discuss on proposed texts in some sections of the draft 2024-2029 MTS, to be put forward to the 45th Regional Meeting of RCA National Representative Meeting for update and comment
- Discuss and agree on any additional section(s) of the draft, if any
- Identify responsible officer(s) for newly added section(s) of the 2024-2029 MTS, if any
- Update the MTS Drafting WG Work Plan, to be put forward to the 45th Regional Meeting of RCA National Representative Meeting for update

It was expected that the meeting would produce the following documents for consideration by the 45th RCA National Representative Meeting (NRM):

- A Draft of the 2024-2029 MTS;
- Updated MTS Drafting WG Work Plan; and
- MTS Drafting WG Meeting Report

2. A Draft of the 2024-2029 MTS

The Chair updated the participating WG member and the MTSC-Chair of the inputs provided so far including Section A: Background, Section B: RCA Strategic Context, Section C.2: Strategic Priorities consisting of C.2.2 Human Health, C.2.4 Environment, C.2.5 Radiation Safety, and C.2.6 Energy Planning, and Section D: Critical Implementation Enablers. Inputs for the remaining sections would soon be provided for compilation. After a thorough discussion, Funding and Resource Mobilization has become a new area of expansion in Section B aiming to overcome an issue of limited/declining RCA funds. More emphasis would be put on this area in future discussion and meeting.

MTSC-Chair kindly informed the meeting that it was agreed by the NRs to have one high level document in the region. The 2024-2029 RPF would therefore be integrated into the new MTS as an Annex for reference. There was a careful discussion on the structure and details to be written in Section C.2: Strategic Priorities and each thematic sector for consistency across this Section. The meeting agreed that each sector would contain brief introduction and future directions extracted from the RPF. PAC-Chair recommended that it was not necessary to have great details, especially the development of the RPF, here cause it can be found in the Annex. Short introduction for Section C.2: Strategic Priorities will therefore be written before the thematic areas.

The Drafting WG also agreed that Performance Indicators would later be drafted in close collaboration with the MTSC WG and RCA PAC once the Strategic Directions and Priorities are well written. PAC-Chair and MTSC-Chair kindly advised the WG to clearly identify target groups of the MTS being developed and to seek possible means of delivery to the identified targets. Moving forward, the WG agreed to compile all available inputs and to circulate to all members for a review process. This is to ensure that the MTS is not developed by the personal views of the persons drafting the MTS. The 1st draft is planned to be available shortly after the 45th RCA NRM for the NRs' review and comment.

Recommendation 1

The Drafting WG recommends that the 45th RCA NRM *note* the progress of the Draft 2024-2029 MTS.

3. Replacement of the Drafting MTS WG

The Drafting WG discussed on possible replacement of the representatives from AUL and MAL. The Chair would be in contact with the NRs from those countries requesting for nominations of a qualified representative. With their new ideas and contribution, they would help us to be able to finalize the MTS as planned or even sooner.

Recommendation 2

The Drafting WG recommends that the 45th RCA NRM *note* possible replacements of the previous representatives from AUL and MAL in the WG members.

4. Review of Work Plan

The Chair presented a updated Work Plan with new timelines of identified important milestones for development of the 2024-2029 MTS. It was discussed for a possibility to have the MTS virtually endorsed by NRs before the end of 2023. The MTS would then become effective for the 2024-2029 cycle. PAC-Chair however recommended that the MTS is an official regional document therefore it has to be endorsed by NRs either at NRM or GCM. In addition, it was agreed at the 51st General Conference Meeting that the 2018-2023 MTS will be used until the 2024-2029 MTS is finalized and endorsed. This was agreed by MTSC-Chair and the participating Drafting MTS WG. The Work Plan was further revised aiming for the finalization and endorsement of the 2024-2029 MTS at 46th National Representative Meeting. The revised Work Plan is included as **Annex 3**. The Chair noted that several online and in-person, if possible, meetings are planned after the 45th NRM to review feedback/comments, if any, to discuss, and to complete this important task. Continuous discussion on-line among the Drafting WG members could be carried out between meetings.

Recommendation 3

The Drafting WG recommends that the 45th RCA NRM *note* the revised Work Plan for drafting the 2024-2029 MTS.

5. Closing

The next meeting of the Drafting MTS WG is scheduled to be held online between 22nd and 23rd May to review inputs and feedbacks from NRs at the 45th RCA NRM and to continue drafting the MTS. The Drafting MTS WG agreed that in-person meetings are needed to complete this important task. The Chair would discuss with IAEA for financial support in organising such meetings.

The Chair thanked the Drafting WG members and the Chairs of PAC and MTSC WG for their active participation and contribution to the Meeting.