



REGIONAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

MEETING REPORT OF
THE 17TH RCARO STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

M Building, Rm. MOE79
IAEA Headquarters
Vienna, Austria

12 September 2013
15:30-19:30

Introduction

The 17th RCA Regional Office Standing Advisory Committee Meeting was held at the IAEA Headquarters in Vienna, Austria on 12 September 2013, prior to the 42nd RCA GCM. The participants were Mr. Khin Maung Latt (Current RCA Chair, NR of MYA), Ms. Feng Dongxin (Immediate past RCA Chair), Mr. Chris Daughney (Immediate next RCA Chair, NR of NZE) and Mr. Dae-ki Kim (NR of ROK). Representatives of IAEA, Mr. Ali Boussaha (Director of Division for Asia and the Pacific), Mr. Oscar Acuna, (Section Head of Asia and the Pacific Section 1), and Mr. Kesrat Sukasam (RCA Focal Person) attended as observers.

The RCARO, represented by the Director Mr. Kun-mo Choi, Mr. Jin-kyu Lim, Mr. In-seok Oh and Ms. Hyun-kyoung Jeon, served as the secretariat of the SAC Meeting.

1. Opening Remarks by the RCA Chair (MYA)

Mr. Khin Maung Latt, the current RCA Chair, opened the Meeting and welcomed the participants. He expressed appreciation to the RCARO for its activities for the benefit of Member States.

2. Adoption of the Agenda and Appointment of a Rapporteur

The agenda items were reviewed and Mr. Choi, Dir-RCARO, proposed to add an additional agenda on the future role of RCARO. Ms. Hyun-kyoung Jeon from RCARO was appointed as a rapporteur.

The SAC agreed to adopt the draft agenda with the amendment of adding an additional item on the future role of RCARO.

3. Mid-term Review of the RCARO 2013 Work Plan and Discussion on the Major Issues concerning RCARO Work Plan

3.1. Publication of the RCA Brochures

The SAC was informed of the publication of the RCA Brochures. Pursuant to the recommendation of the 16th SAC, RCARO proceeded to publish brochures for two different types of target audiences; general public and decision makers/end users. The one for decision makers/end users was completed after reflecting comments from Member States. As for the one for general public, RCARO is preparing its draft and expected to be published in the second half of the year.

Comments received from the MSs were informed to the SAC.

Member States need to be encouraged to give comments on the work of RCARO.

The SAC complimented RCARO for the final draft of the RCA Brochure for decision makers and requested the Chair to urge NRs to send comments to RCARO on the draft by 30 September. RCARO will make consolidation with the comments received and propose response and consult with the Chair for finalization and publication by the end of October.

3.2. Implementation of RCA/UNDP Partnership Project on Nuclear Medicine Imaging Technology

The SAC was briefed on the progress made in the RCA/UNDP partnership project on promoting and accelerating nuclear SPECT/PET imaging technologies in the region. Based on the decision from the Annual Review Meeting in 2012, qualified non-physician trainees working in Nuclear Medicine also participated in the training courses. The training courses were held from 17 June to 5 July and the final review meeting will be held on 28-29 Nov. 2013. The SAC was also informed of an expert network created on the RCA website.

The SAC took note of the successful implementation of the RCA/UNDP partnership project and encouraged RCARO to continue to monitor and report on the impact of the project for 2 years after its completion.

3.3. Implementation of RCA/UNDP Partnership Project on Electron Beam Applications

The SAC was informed of the progress made in the RCA/UNDP partnership project on electron beam applications in the fields of food, industry and environment; the kick-off meeting held in May, Thailand, the training course held in August in Korea.

The SAC took note of the successful implementation of the project.

3.4. Participation in Regional and International Conferences to Increase RCA Awareness and Partnership

The RCARO reported to the Meeting on RCARO's participation in the conferences and plan to promote the RCA and RCA/UNDP project. The SAC was also informed of RCARO's activity to support the RCA experts for their promotional activities taking advantage of their participating in the relevant conferences.

The SAC commended RCARO for its efforts to publicize and advocate for RCA and also for supporting the RCA experts for promotional activities and requested RCARO to prepare the set of criteria for participation in the int'l conferences.

RCARO is encouraged to provide feedback to NRs on the proceedings of the attended events including potential areas for cooperation.

For the UNDP GSSD Expo, the SAC encouraged RCARO to participate and to emphasize the contribution of the RCA cooperative projects to the achievement of the MDGs.

3.5. Establishment of ICT infrastructure of the Member States by Providing ICT Equipment

The SAC was informed of the RCARO's effort for initiating a pilot project on establishing ICT infrastructure of the MSs by providing ICT equipment. It was discussed during the RCARO Workshop held in August and the result was reported to the SAC.

The SAC took note of the result of the Workshop on the establishment of ICT infrastructure of the Member States and recommended RCARO to continue to explore the possibility of developing an ICT related project for possible consideration under the IAEA TC programme for the 2016/17 cycle, should this be considered as a priority by the RCA.

3.6. Holding a Workshop on Strengthening the RCA/RCARO Activities and its Efficiency

The SAC was briefed on the results of the workshop which dealt with strengthening the RCA/RCARO activities and its efficiency, such as information exchange, RCA networking, review of the Agreement and activities of RCARO.

The SAC took note of the results of the Workshop and recommended the 42nd GCM to consider the recommendations from the Workshop as inputs to any process aiming at further enhancing overall management of RCA programme.

3.7. Other Activities

The meeting was informed of RCARO's other activities in maintaining and updating the RCA website with increased daily hits, fellowship programme, preservation of nuclear knowledge , participation in the RCA policy meetings.

The SAC took note of the RCARO's other activities regarding the RCA website, fellowship programme, preservation of nuclear knowledge and participation in the RCA policy meetings, and encouraged RCARO to continue its endeavor in such activities.

3.8. Discussion on the future role of RCARO

The SAC was informed of the request by RCARO to consider the future role of RCARO which was annexed to the SAC report. Constitution of a task force was suggested to put forward the request.

The SAC endorsed the request made by RCARO to consider the future role of RCARO including the constitution of a task force and recommended the Chair to submit it to the 42nd GCM for approval. It is advisable that the output be considered within the process of GOR revision.

4. Arrangement for the 18th SAC Meeting

The Meeting was informed that the 18th RCARO SAC Meeting would be held on the day prior to the 36th RCA NRM which is planned to be held in April 2014.

5. Closing

The Chair of the Meeting thanked all the SAC members for their contribution to the advice and recommendations given to the RCARO.