

**DRAFT**

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 30<sup>TH</sup> RCA  
GENERAL CONFERENCE**

**CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL  
Max Reinhardt II & III**

**15 SEPTEMBER 2001  
0900-1730H**

## INTRODUCTION

The 30<sup>th</sup> RCA GC was attended by (32) delegates from 16 RCA Member States: AUL, BGD, CPR, IND, INS, JPN, ROK, MAL, MON, NZE, PAK, PHI, SIN, SRL,THA and VIE. Myanmar was not represented.

The IAEA was represented by Acting DIR-TCPA (Ms. A. Volkoff), DIR-NAPC (Mr. D. Sood), SH-TCAPS (Mr. M. N. Razley) and RCA Co-ordinator (Mr. C.R. Aleta). Several Agency Technical Officers, Project/Country Officers and support staff were also present. A list of the participants and other attendees are found in Annex 1.

### I. OPENING

The outgoing Chairperson, IND (Mr. K. Raghuraman, National RCA Co-ordinator) gave the welcome remarks; he thanked the MSs for their support to IND during the past year and the RCA Secretariat for its efforts.

The Acting DIR-TCPA, Ms. Volkoff, welcomed the participants on behalf of the DG and DDG-TC and apologized for the absence of DDG-TC. She spoke about the direction of RCA which has supported national priorities for the past 30 years, the 2003/2004 programme and other issues. Some of the points referred to the following:

?? sustainability of nuclear institutes and cited a few examples;

?? substantive areas for future consideration by MSs such as on mutual recognition of NDT certification to help trade; the UN millennium declaration signed by all countries; nutrition related projects or aspects of prevention on a regional basis; and mitigation of greenhouse gases (GHG)

?

?? the central criterion for the proposals for the 2003/2004 and need to look at results of project; the need for continuing umbrella projects; quick services; and building capability and self sustainability

?

?? interesting concept of the Lead country and room for improvement; the establishment of an RCA regional office to increase ownership of the programme and raise profile of RCA in the region; strengthen partnership with other organisations through TCDC, AFRA, and ARCAL; and

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?? evaluation exercise of 9 trained MSs who will do evaluation of RCA training events<sup>1</sup> and sought support and commitment from the national RCA representatives.

A copy of her talk is in Annex (2)

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<sup>1</sup> The joint IAEA/UNDP Training events.

The DIR-NAPC in his talk, traced the brief history of RCA and his earlier involvement, expressed the opinion that RCA has provided resources both financial and expertise to serve national specific needs; recognized that most countries have excellent nuclear and technical base and stressed the importance of nuclear research, which is important for RCA, sustains science and enthusiasm; and presents opportunities for those looking for intellectual challenges. (See Annex 3 for a copy of his talk)

## **II. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**

The ROK delegation, seconded by INS, nominated Prof. Naiyyum Choudhury, RCA National Representative of Bangladesh, as the Chairperson. The nomination was agreed by all delegates.

Prof. Choudhury made a short statement thanking the DIR-TCPA for her remarks and cited examples of successful projects in RCA to solve the problem and needs of the MSs.

*The meeting adopted the Agenda (Annex 4)*

## **III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 23<sup>RD</sup> RCA MEETING OF NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**

*The Meeting report<sup>2</sup> was adopted subject to corrections in entries in Table 14 (see next agenda item) on the follow up action items. A corrected copy of the table was distributed in connection with agenda item IV.*

## **IV. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 23<sup>RD</sup> RCA MEETING REPORT**

The revised Table indicated the status of each of the action items (see Annex 5). Several items were part of the meeting agenda.

Comments were raised, among other things, on the proposed format for the next RCA Annual Report which was to be discussed with AUL (section 3.2); the feedback from MSs regarding the letter sent to UNDP (Section 3.4); and on submitting names of the focal point for the country in Radiation Protection<sup>3</sup> (item 3.5).

## **V. PROGRAMME FOR 2001/2002**

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<sup>2</sup> The draft report was already circulated earlier to RCA MSs and placed in the RCA Homepage, Members only.

<sup>3</sup> As of 15 September only 4 countries sent names of their focal persons: BGD,INS, PHI and MON.

The overview of the RCA programme for 2001/2002 project cycle was presented including the budget for each sectoral area for the 2 year-period (see Annex 6).

Extrabudgetary contribution. The status of the extrabudgetary contribution as of July 31 2001 is shown in Annex 7.

## **V.1. ACTIVITIES IN 2001**

? Regional activities in 2001. The updated list of regional events in 2001 was distributed to the representatives (Annex 8). There are 65 events proposed for implementation in 2001. All the scheduled events are planned for implementation.<sup>4</sup>

? Tripartite meeting with AFRA/ARCAL/RCA on 16 September 2001. A draft agenda was circulated to MSs (Annex 9). RCA would be taking over from ARCAL the chairmanship of the meeting in accordance with the agreement for a rotating chairmanship. The meeting will discuss the progress of technologies agreed to be transferred among the regions, and share 2 success stories/projects with each other. <sup>5</sup>The representatives from RCA were the following: outgoing Chair (IND), current chair (BGD), future chair (ROK) TCDC Lead Country (MAL) and a MSs involved in the transfer of RCA technology (AUL)<sup>6</sup> RCA would present successful stories on Health Care and on research reactor utilisation.

? Scientific forum on 18-19 September 2001. The RCA participation included the panel display, brochures on RCA , and continuous electronic display on success stories in RCA. Further participation in the forum would be effected by assigning selected MSs to make interventions at the panel discussions/session. The following were suggested to make interventions: BGD (on science, technology and development, CPR (on food security), INS (on health), ROK (on managing water resources ) and AUL (on matching needs and technologies). A copy of the programme on the forum is in Annex 10.

## **V.2. ACTIVITIES IN 2002**

? The list of regional events for 2002 as well as proposed regional events to be hosted by each MSs, was circulated (See Annex 11). A table showing the comparison of regional events from 1999/2000 and 2001/2002 cycle was presented which indicated the number of events over the years. There were some comments related to the absorptive capacity of the MSs and the agency (Acting DIR-TCPA); on the need to conduct assessment of project objectives, accomplishment of technology transfer (PHI); a

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<sup>4</sup> A few days after the RCA GC one event under RAS8085 has to be postponed to January 2002 due to inability of the lecturer to come.

<sup>5</sup> The tripartite meeting took place on 16 September 2001. A meeting report is available separately and has been circulated to MSs.

<sup>6</sup> AUL is involved in distance learning on nuclear medicine and basic applied sciences on radiation oncology, 2 technologies being transferred among the regions.

suggestion to have cost free consultant to conduct such assessment (SH-TCAPS); interest on successful stories and also project shortcomings (INS) .

?

*MSs were requested to confirm the dates and venues and to offer to host events for which there was still no venue(s)*

## VI. PROGRAMME FOR 2003/2004

The budgetary estimates for the programme (see Annex 11 ) as well as the summary of the various proposals under each sectoral area were presented. A comparison of the agreement in Dhaka (for hard core funding) and the proposals presented is given below.

Thematic Area	Percent of budget, prior agreement (Hardcore only ) <sup>7</sup>	Per cent of total budget, the present proposals
Agriculture	25	18.98
Health	20	17.0
Industry &	35	14.11
Environment		28.56
Energy/	10	8.80
Research Reactor		
Radiation Protection	10	6.27
TCDC		6.21
TOTAL	100	99.93

The meeting was informed that it was difficult to identify which projects would be hardcore and footnote a/ at this stage since the agency review has not taken place. MSs were also expected to indicate which projects they would likely support financially.

*The Meeting agreed to endorse the proposals subject to further prioritization by MSs and further appraisal by the agency.*

IND informed about the results of the CoP-6 meeting ruling out nuclear power as a Clean Development Mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol, but that countries can still consider nuclear power as a sustainable energy supply and an option for mitigating greenhouse gases emissions.

## VII. ESTABLISHMENT OF RCA REGIONAL OFFICE

The paper from the task force was already circulated earlier to MSs and is in Annex 12. ROK presented the main concepts and progress in this proposal. The office was

<sup>7</sup> Pls. refer to 23<sup>rd</sup> RCA Meeting of National Representatives report, (RCA/IAEA/2001/003) p10.

needed to increase RCA ownership, increase awareness in the region on RCA, create partnership with other regional organisations and vehicle for reflecting regional needs. AUL expressed support to the creation of the office in an interim measure. Other MSs also support the office and commended ROK for the offer.

?? ROK is prepared to open the regional office in March 2002 if the MSs agree to its establishment. JPN suggested an interim period of 2 years instead of 3 years. IND did not wish to open the candidates to other regions.

Several issues were still to be resolved such as on the following:

?? salary of the representative when not from Korea (CPR) and studying salary package which is not nationality dependent (IND)

?

?? qualifications and selection process of the candidates (INS, AUL,);

?

?? legal aspects - Korean laws and MSs laws should be considered also; liability and confidentiality (MAL)

?

?? if some of the staff need not be from Korea

?

?? diplomatic status to be clarified, and issues on immunities and privileges (PHI,THA. MAL)

?

?? composition of advisory committee (CPR)

?

?? office should be self-supporting (AUL)

?

?? having a non-RCA person is not acceptable (IND)

***The Meeting agreed in principle on the establishment of the regional office for an interim period of 2 years; required ROK to prepare for its opening in March 2002 during the 24<sup>th</sup> RCA Meeting of National Representatives which ROK will host; and asked again a revision of the working paper incorporating the several comments made therein.***

ROK will revise the paper with assistance from the task force<sup>8</sup> which prepared the earlier version, will revise the paper.

## **VIII. EXTENSION OF RCA AGREEMENT**

The RCA Co-ordinator informed that 7 countries had already agreed to the revised text (with proposed revision from JPN) of the extension of the 1987 RCA Agreement as of

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<sup>8</sup> The 7 task force members are AUL, ROK, IND, PAK, CPR, PHI, and JPN.

15 September 2001 (see Annex 13). He explained that the Agency will wait until end of September 2001 for other comments, after which a final version of the text of the extension will be prepared by the Agency. The MSs will be asked subsequently to notify their agreement to this final text **in writing** on or before 11 June 2002, when the present agreement expires.

MAL expressed its agreement to the revised text and will send its formal agreement soon.

***Member States are requested to submit their agreement in writing to the revised text by 30 September 2001 and subsequently to the final text before 11 June 2002.***

## **IX. OUTSOURCING POLICY**

The Acting DIR-TCPA informed that the agency policy on outsourcing is being finalized and it will be distributed to MSs for comments as soon as this is ready.

## **X. ROLE OF RESEARCH IN RCA PROGRAMME**

The paper was tabled at the 23<sup>rd</sup> RCA Meeting in Dhaka in March 2001 and MSs were asked to submit comments for discussion at this 30<sup>th</sup> RCA GC. IND appreciated the effort of JPN in preparing this paper together with AUL.

***The Meeting agreed to give more time for MSs to make their comments and that they should submit these to JPN/RCA office by the end of this year (i.e. December 2001).***

## **XI. MANAGEMENT OF RCA**

The paper from JPN was distributed to MSs prior to the meeting (Annex 14). JPN explained that in its view RCA is doing well and did not intend to change current rules and guidelines but only proposing fine tuning. He drew attention of MS to the important points in the paper to improve transparency, monitoring and evaluation of RCA activities. PHI suggested to receive the feedback from the TOs. THA and AUL suggested to adopt the paper and JPN will provide revised version based on comments received.

***The Meeting generally agreed in principle with the content of the paper. Member States were requested to submit their comments to JPN/RCA office by end of the year for incorporation in a final version.***

## **XII. CRITERIA FOR HOLDING EVENTS OUTSIDE THE REGION.**

A draft criteria was circulated in May 2001 by the secretariat. Comments were received from SRL and AUL and a revised criteria was circulated in August 2001 to MSs for their comments (See Annex 15). There were some discussions on RCA MSs concern on receiving funding and the need to decide on a case by case and ensuring the no-commercial interests aspects of the event.

***The Meeting agreed to adopt the set of criteria after a modification of the first criterion to state that the decision to hold the event outside the region should be left to Lead countries in consultation with the RCA Co-ordinator and Technical Officers, and deleting the phrase on the percentage ( 50%)***

### **XIII. THE 24<sup>TH</sup> RCA MEETING OF NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES.**

ROK confirmed it will host the next meeting of the RCA tentatively on the last week of March 2002 and described some proposed activities to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> RCA Anniversary. Some of the activities proposed were panel discussion and exhibition by each MSs, and forum for presentation of achievements such as a “nuclear congress”.

### **XIV. OTHER BUSINESS**

?? **30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.**

?

? ROK already explained this above in item XIII.

?

?? **Regional and non-regional agreement projects**

The agency position on this is still under study. However the RCA Co-ordinator and SH-TCAPS explained how the two types of projects work and its mechanism, and that they are complementary.

? **Evaluation of RCA project activities**

The Acting DIR-TCPA explained the process for conducting the evaluation of RCA training activities involving 9 countries - CPR, IND, INS, MAL, PAK, PHI, ROK, THA and VIE - which participated in a training workshop on evaluation. She again requested support and commitment of the RCA representatives to allow their personnel to conduct this evaluation, which would be expected to be reported at the next RCA Meeting of National Representatives.

***The Meeting endorsed this evaluation exercise.***

The Meeting ended at 1730hrs.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The Extrabudgetary support of the INS Mission in the form of providing sound system services is much appreciated.

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Saturday, 15 SEPTEMBER 2000  
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**ANNEX 2**  
**ACTING DIR-TCPA REMARKS (will follow)**

**ANNEX 3**  
**DIR-NAPC REMARKS (will follow)**

## REGIONAL CO-OPERATIVE AGREEMENT

## INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Provisional Agenda for the 30<sup>th</sup> RCA General Conference

Venue: Meeting Room - Max Reinhardt II &amp; III,

Crowne Plaza Hotel Vienna,

Wagramer Strasse 21, A-1220 Vienna

Saturday, 15 September 2001, 0900-1330Hrs (*possible extension until 1800hrs*)

0830 - 0900		Registration of Participants
0900	I.	Opening
0900		I.1 Welcome Remarks by INDIA Representative, outgoing chairperson
		I.2 Message from the IAEA
0905		<i>DDG-TC and DDG-NA</i>
		<i>Acting DIR-TCPA and DIR-NAPC</i>
0930	II.	Election of Chairperson/Designation of Rapporteur(s)
0935		<i>II.1 Statement of Chairperson</i>
0940		<i>II.2 Adoption of the Agenda</i>
0945	III.	Adoption of the 23 <sup>rd</sup> RCA Meeting of the National Representatives
		<i>MSs are expected to adopt the meeting report</i>
0950	IV.	Matters arising from the 23 <sup>rd</sup> RCA Meeting report
		<i>MSs will be informed of the status of the action items</i>
1000		<b>BREAK</b>
1030	V.	Programme for 2001/2002
		<i>MSs will be informed of the updates in the RCA programme;</i>
		<i>extrabudgetary contributions</i>
1040		V.1 Activities in 2001
		?? <i>MSs will be informed of the major events in RCA in 2001</i>
		?? <i>Tripartite Meeting with AFRA/ARCAL/RCA on 16 Sept 2001</i>
		?? <i>Scientific Forum on 18-19 September 2001</i>
		V.2 Programme activities in 2002
		<i>MSs will be informed of the schedule of events; venues/dates;</i>
		<i>confirmation of costs and budget</i>
1100	VI.	Programme for 2003/2004

*Lead Country and/or RCA Co-ordinator will present the sectoral program and estimated budgets*

- 1200 VII Establishment of RCA Regional Office  
*The RCA MSs will discuss and decide on the proposals, after the presentation of the latest version of the proposal*
- 1230 VIII. Extension of RCA Agreement  
*The MSs will be informed on the status of this.*
- 1240 IX. Outsourcing Policy  
*The MSS will be informed on the progress of the Agency's effort to develop/harmonize outsourcing policy.*
- 1300 X. Role of Research in the RCA Programme  
*A revised paper will be circulated/tabled for discussion*
- 1310 XI. Management of RCA  
*The MSs will take note of the suggested changes in the RCA Operating Rules and Guidelines as proposed by Japan*
- 1320 XII. Criteria for holding events outside  
*The MSs will be informed of the suggested criterion for comments and/or agreement*
- 1325 XIII. Venue for the next 24<sup>th</sup> RCA Meeting of National Representatives  
*The next venue will be ROK in March 2002. Exact dates will be confirmed and agenda will be proposed*
- 1330 XIV. Any other Business  
*?? Celebration of RCA 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary*  
*?? Regional Projects with and outside Regional Agreements*  
*?? Evaluation of RCA project activities*

## Matters arising for the 23<sup>rd</sup> RCA Meeting of National Representatives

Follow-up action items arising from the 23<sup>rd</sup> RCA Meeting of National Representatives,  
18-20 March 2001, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

No.	Report Item	Action items	By	Deadline/Remarks	Status
1.	Section 3.2	Alteration to Part-III of Annual Report to be made on the TCDC contribution.	AUL	Before next Annual Report	Awaiting AUL proposed alterations
		Missing information for Part-III of Annual Report to be supplied.	RCA MSs	Within 2 weeks	3 countries have not submitted
		Annual Report to be prepared in two documents.	RCA and RCA MSs	For next Annual Report	to be observed in preparing the next RCA Annual Report
2.	Section 3.4	Letter to UNDP should be sent regarding the project achievements	RCA Chairman	Asap; letter to be copied to RCA NRs.	Done
3.	Section 3.5	Recommendations on radiation protection programme:	RCA National Representatives & RCA office	Asap; RCA NRs to send contact persons to RCA office	Awaiting inputs from RCA MSs.
4.	Section 3.6	a) Confirmation of venues/dates/hostings RCA to develop criteria for holding events outside the region	a) RCA MSs b) RCA MSs	a) Asap b) Before next RCA GC meeting	a) done for 2001 ongoing b) done for comments by MS

No.	Report Item	Action items	By	Deadline/Remarks	Status
5.	Section 4.1	<p>a) Review and/or prepare, then prioritize project proposals specially those to be proposed for 2003/2004</p> <p>b) Budget percentages to be reviewed before each programming cycle</p> <p>c) guidelines for Intellectual Property to be developed</p> <p>d) The Agency to consider the recommendations based on Mr. Peter Airey's paper.</p>	<p>a) RCA Office to send letters to Project committees through lead countries on these recommendations; AUL and NZE to assist in this writing;</p> <p>b) RCA MSs</p> <p>c) RCA MSs &amp; the Agency</p> <p>d) RCA Office and RCA MSs</p>	<p>a) Letter to be sent asap. LCs to submit prioritized list by end of May 2001; pre project assistance may be needed.</p> <p>b) Before each programming cycle</p> <p>c) No deadline set.</p> <p>d) No deadline set but preferably the MSs to consider during the preparation of 2003/2004 programming cycle.</p>	<p>a) DONE</p> <p>b) ongoing (Agenda item VI)</p> <p>c) No action to date Proposed task force: AUL, IND, MAL, JPN</p> <p>d) DONE</p>
6.	Section 4.2	Further information on outsourcing to RCA MS	RCA Co-ordinator	Before the next meeting (i.e. 30 <sup>th</sup> RCA GC in September 2001)	ongoing (Agenda item IX) for the next 24 <sup>th</sup> RCA Meeting of National Representatives)
7.	Section 4.3	Review of RRUs	Project Committee	As soon as possible	ongoing
8.	Section 5.1	Working paper on Korean proposal to be prepared	AUL, KOR, CPR, IND, JPN, PAK, PHI, RCA Co-ordinator	One month prior to GC meeting (in September 2001); the group targeted to submit a paper by end of May 2001 to RCA office. The working paper to be submitted to RCA MSs one month before the next RCA GC (i.e. by mid-August 2001)	Done Circulated to RCA MS for comments  (Agenda item VII)

No.	Report Item	Action items	By	Deadline/Remarks	Status
9.	Section 8.4	Revise Paper on RCA Management	JPN to revise the paper with AUL	Revised paper to be presented at the next RCA GC meeting	Done (Agenda item XI)
10.	Section 8.5	Comments on the Paper on role of research in RCA Paper	a) RCA MSs b) JPN	a) within 2 weeks b) To finalize the paper afterwards	a) done (Agenda item X) b) to be revised c) Ongoing. To be requested, to be reported at next RCA Meeting (2002)
11	Section 8.6	Comments to be provided on draft evaluation of the possible follow-up actions to the Regional Seminar on sustainability of nuclear institutions	All RCA MSs	Asap	Done comments provided by MS (SAGTAC meeting report will be provided at the 30 <sup>th</sup> RCA GC.
12.	Section 8.8	Scientific Forum. a) Programme for scientific forum at the IAEA GC to be developed	IND, PHI and MAL	Presentation at the next GC meeting; The items on brochure, exhibition panels and electronic display of RCA are accepted by the organisers. The oral presentation is still under negotiations.	Done for brochures, panels, electronic displays.  No oral presentation possible.  (Agenda item V.I)
		b) The DIR-TCPA will raise with Scientific Forum for RCA participation	DIR TCPA	DONE.	
		30 <sup>th</sup> RCA GC on Friday before IAEA GC	All RCA MSs and RCA	as schedule	done
		Propose to other regional co-ordinators about Tripartite ARCAL/AFRA/RCA meeting for Saturday, before IAEA GC.	RCA Co-ordinator	After consultation with AFRA/ARCAL Co-ordinator, the meeting is agreed on Sunday, 16 September 2001	Re-scheduled on 16 September 2001. (Agenda item V.1)
13.	Section 8.11	Extension of RCA Agreement	All MSs	Before 11 June 2002. For follow-up, several MSs agreed already to revise text.	Ongoing

## Overview of RCA 2001 - 2002 Budget

Thematic Area	Number of Project	Adjusted Budget (\$)					
		2001		2002		Total	
		H*	a/	H	a/	H	a/
1. Agriculture	7	633,709.90	446,160.00	561,020.00	339,360.00	1,194,729.90	785,520.00
2. Health	6	1,072,156.81	521,770.00	239,140.00	437,980.00	1,311,296.81	959,750.00
3. Environment	9	1,470,392.00	408,210.00	917,830.00	195,940.00	2,388,222.00	04,150.00
4. Industry	6	776,672.89	389,330.00	337,260.00	161,980.00	1,113,932.80	551,310.00
5. Energy & Research Reactor	5	366,879.12	155,850.00	234,360.00	133,180.00	601,239.12	289,030.00
6. Radiation Protection	2	652,153.56	186,270.00	234,000.00	123,400.00	886,153.56	309,670.00
7. TCDC/General	1	135,932.87	-	46,760.00	-	182,692.87	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>5,107,897.15</b>	<b>2,107,590.00</b>	<b>2,570,370.00</b>	<b>1,391,840.00</b>	<b>7,678,267.06</b>	<b>3,499,430.00</b>

H - Hardcore

a/ - Footnote A

\* Source - Adjusted budget from TCPIMS as of 10 September 2001

**ANNEX 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15**  
**(will follow)**