



**REGIONAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**



MEETING REPORT OF
THE 20TH RCARO STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Hunza Hall, Serena Hotel
Islamabad, Pakistan

15 March 2015
14:00-17:00h

Introduction

The 20th RCA Regional Office Standing Advisory Committee Meeting was held at the Hunza Hall, Serene Hotel in Islamabad, Pakistan on 15 March 2015, prior to the 37th RCA NRM. The participants were Mr. Syed Shaukat Hasan (Current RCA Chair, NR of PAK), Mr. Waqar Ahmad (Minister of the Permanent Mission of PAK and former NR of PAK), Mr. Seung Ho HONG (NR of ROK) and Ms Youmee BAEK (Deputy Director, Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning of ROK). Mr. Chris Daughney (Past RCA Chair, NR of NZE) participated in the meeting electronically and Mr. Tamir Nyambayar on behalf of Mr. Zuzaan Damdinsuren (Next RCA Chair, NR of MON) could not participate in the meeting due to administrative difficulties in travelling to Pakistan. Representatives of the IAEA, Ms Najat Mokhtar (Director of the Technical Cooperation Division for Asia and the Pacific, IAEA) and Mr. Sinh Van Hoang (RCA Focal Person, IAEA) attended the meeting as observers.

The RCARO, represented by Director Mr. Kun-mo Choi, Ms. Hyun-kyoung Jeon, Ms. Soo-youn Hwang, served as the secretariat of the SAC Meeting.

1. Opening Remarks

Mr. Syed Shaukat Hasan opened the Meeting and welcomed the participants.

1.1 Remarks of the Outgoing Chair, NZE

Mr. Chris Daughney valued the work successfully done by RCARO and wished best for a successful meeting. He invited Mr. Syed Shaukat Hasan to deliver the opening remarks as the Incoming Chair.

1.2 Remarks of the Incoming Chair, PAK

Mr. Syed Shaukat Hasan expressed his appreciation to the RCARO for its contribution to the RCA.

2. Adoption of the Agenda and Appointment of Rapporteur

The provisional Agenda was adopted with no amendment and Dr. Ishtiaq Hussain Bokhari from the PAEC and Ms. Soo-youn Hwang from RCARO were appointed as rapporteurs.

The SAC agreed to adopt the draft agenda with no amendment.

3. RCARO 2014 Work Performance

The SAC noted the 2014 Work Performance circulated before the Meeting and complimented its successful achievements. The RCARO briefed on the activities undertaken in 2014 such as publication of the RCA brochure for public, RCA information service through the RCA website, participation to the International Conferences, RCA expert support programme, holding the 1st working group meeting on future role of the RCARO, progress of RCA/UNDP partnership project on nuclear imaging technologies and on electron beam applications.

The SAC took note of the 2014 Work Performance and complimented RCARO on its high

level of completion and comprehensive and detailed work programme for the year, and expressed its appreciation to the RCARO for its activities in supporting the Government Parties and the RCA.

4. RCARO 2015 Work Plan

The 2015 Work Plan of the RCARO has already been endorsed by the SAC. The SAC agreed to focus on the major issues of the 2015 Work Plan of RCARO as the Plan had been circulated to all members of SAC in advance.

The SAC reconfirmed the 2015 RCARO Work Plan which had already been endorsed electronically in January, subject to discussion on new initiatives and related details under Agenda 5.

5. Discussions on the Major Activities of the 2015 Work Plan

The SAC decided to review the 2015 Work Plan focusing on the main issues.

5.1. Publication of the 6th batch of RCA Success Stories

The SAC was briefed on the RCARO's plan to publish the 6th batch of RCA Success Stories to promote RCA activities and publicise the benefits of nuclear science and technology. RCARO presented the existing guideline and procedure for RCA Success Stories to the SAC.

To make the procedure more efficient and reflect changes of RCA framework, the SAC suggested revision of the procedure and the guideline for publication of RCA Success Stories.

The SAC agreed with the RCARO's plan to publish the 6th batch of RCA Success Stories. However, for better implementation, the SAC suggested revision of the current procedure as follows, which will be reflected in "The Guidelines for RCA Success Stories" accordingly when approved at the 37th NRM.

- 1) RCA FP provides RCA project information to the SAC
- 2) The SAC prioritises a list of candidate projects in cooperation with the RCA FP
- 3) The SAC Chair circulates the prioritised list to the NRs as recommendation
- 4) NRs reply to the SAC chair on their priorities of the candidate projects
- 5) The SAC Chair and the RCARO consolidate the NRs' prioritisation and report it to the 44th GCM
- 6) Selection of the projects will be made at the 44th GCM
- 7) LCC of the selected project makes a draft based on the Guidelines for RCA Success Stories and submits it to RCARO.
- 8) RCARO makes a revised draft based on the draft submitted by the LCC.
- 9) The revised draft will be reviewed by NRs, RCA-FP/IAEA TO and the LCC.
- 10) Reflecting opinions and comments from these experts, RCARO will draft a final version.
- 11) RCARO submits the final version to the 38th NRM for review and approval.
- 12) Reflecting comments and views by the NRs, RCARO publishes the new batch of RCA Success Stories.

5.2. Enhanced RCA information service through the RCA Website

RCARO presented a draft of working paper on enhancement of the RCA web information service to review and improve the current RCA information service through the RCA website for its maximised utilisation and benefit for all users.

The working paper reviews current RCA web information service and identifies some issues related to sharing ID/PW in GPs, provision of information to potential partners, and level and quality of information from the IAEA and GPs. To address the issues, it recommends opening some parts of the RCA Annual Report to public, systemic information provision of the IAEA and GPs and designation of a RCA Web Administrator (RWA) in GPs. In this regard, RCARO may develop guidelines in cooperation with experts.

The SAC appreciated RCARO's endeavour on maintaining the RCA website for the RCA. The SAC took note of the draft of working paper on enhancement of the RCA web information service and recommended to present it to the 37th NRM for consideration of NRs. In particular, 1) publication of an Annual Report for public 2) designation of RWA in GPs and 3) establishment of a more robust communication procedures from the IAEA and GPs to the RCARO to ensure robust information provision on the RCA.

5.3 Participation in regional and international conferences and exhibitions to increase the RCA awareness and partnership

According to the recommendation of 18th SAC Meeting, RCARO conducted a survey of NRs and IAEA and presented its results on 13 possible conferences in 2015 at the 19th SAC before the 43rd GCM in 2014. Amongst the events, the 43rd GCM approved RCARO's participation to the below conferences in 2015:

- 15th International Congress of Radiation Research, 25-29 May 2015, Kyoto, Japan
- Applied Isotope Geochemistry Conference, 21- 25 September 2015, Orléans, France
- International NDT Conference and Exhibition, 23-25 November 2015, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

RCARO will participate in the conferences approved by the 43rd GCM to promote the RCA and its activities within its budget availability. To make the best use of the promotional activities, RCARO will engage RCA experts of relevant thematic areas for their technical contribution.

The SAC agreed with the RCARO's plan to participate in the three conferences which had already been approved at the 43rd GCM and endorsed to proceed with the plan. The SAC encouraged NRs to actively interact with the RCARO for provision of information on possible international conferences at which RCA could be promoted.

5.4. Support of the RCA experts for increasing the awareness and promotion of the RCA

The SAC was briefed on the status of the on-going RCA expert support programme of the

four selected experts from CPR, BGD, INS, and PHI. RCARO successfully supported two selectees from PHI and BGD in 2014 and will support the other two selectees within the first half of 2015 for their RCA promotional activities at the participating conferences.

For the next cycle from September 2015 to August 2016, RCARO will invite the GPs for nominations of appropriate RCA experts and carry out the programme according to the established guidelines.

The SAC complimented the RCARO for operation of this programme and also noted the importance of the Programme and agreed on the RCARO's plan to continue carrying out the programme. The SAC agreed with RCARO's plan to expand the programme and forwarded its recommendation to the 37th NRM for consideration of NRs.

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

The SAC was informed of the progress made in RCA/UNDP project on electron beam applications in the fields of food, industry and environment; two regional training courses held on industrial and food EB applications in April and June respectively in Korea and annual review meeting held in Myanmar in November in 2014.

RCARO will hold a regional training course on EB applications on basic to advanced knowledge and hands-on experiment for environmental remediation on 11-22 May 2015 in Korea. Final review meeting will be held on 28-29 October in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

The SAC appreciated the successful implementation and outcome of the project. As the project is to be completed in 2015, the SAC encouraged RCARO to explore possibility of continuation of the project in partnerships with the UNDP.

5.6. Report on the 2nd Working Group Meeting on the RCARO's Future Role

RCARO reported the results of the 2nd working group meeting on the RCARO's future role held on 20-22 January 2015 in Korea. The meeting was held as a follow up of the decision of the 43rd GCM and was attended by 20 participants including WG members, representative of the IAEA and related stakeholders from the ROK. Major topics of the meeting were;

Session I: Implementation of Supplementary Projects (SPs)

Session II: Implementation of Research Projects (RPs)

Session III: Implementation of ad hoc Training Programmes (TPs)

Session IV: Funding Model and Resources

Session V: Revision of the RCARO Mandate and other matters

Session VI: Action Plans and Future Activities of the WG

The SAC took note of the result of the Meeting and recommended the 37th NRM to consider the Meeting's recommendations and conclusions including established guidelines and mechanisms for implementing the SPs, RPs and TPs.

5.7. Holding a RCARO Annual Workshop to meet the Needs of the Government Parties and the RCARO

The SAC was briefed of RCARO's consideration on holding an annual workshop subject to the decision of the 37th NRM and needs of the RCA GPs.

The SAC agreed with the RCARO's proposal on the workshop subject to the 37th NRM's decision.

5.8. Updating RCA Promotional Video

RCARO reported the overall update and upgrade of RCA promotional video reflecting changes of RCA GPs and projects; narration, background sound, change of computer graphics, new GPs, change of NRs, activities of RCA projects and so on.

The SAC complimented the quality and contents of the updated RCA promotional video and encouraged GPs to make active utilisation of the video for promotional use of the RCA. The SAC also recommended to receive comments of NRs at the 37th NRM and upload the video on the RCA website for GPs.

The SAC also suggested RCARO to consider producing a 3 minutes long video and upload it on the website of the GPs and IAEA as well as social network websites such as YouTube which allows greater exposure to a larger number of audience and also enables tracking record of its viewing.

5.9. Other Matters

The meeting was informed of RCARO's other activities regarding implementation of the pilot project, follow-up activities of RCA/UNDP project on nuclear imaging technology, participation to the expert meeting of the RCA, participation to the PEMSEA meeting, fellowship programme, participation in the 16th FNCA coordinators meeting and nuclear knowledge preservation.

The SAC took note of the RCARO's other activities regarding implementation of the pilot project, follow-up activities of RCA/UNDP project on nuclear imaging technology, participation to the expert meeting of the RCA and PEMSEA meeting, fellowship programme and nuclear knowledge preservation and encouraged RCARO to continue its endeavour in such activities.

6. Arrangement for the next 21st SAC Meeting

The Meeting agreed to hold the 21st RCARO SAC Meeting on the day prior to the 44th RCA GCM which is planned to be held in September 2015.

7. Closing

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