

Report of the Director RCARO

RCARO 2007 Performance Table

	Target	Activities	Milestone				Performance Indicators
			QT 1	QR 2	QT 3	QT 4	
1	Increasing the RCA's Awareness	1. Publication of RCA Success Stories 2. Publication of the RCA-RCARO Brochure 3. Presentation on the IAEA/RCA and RCARO Programmes to the Target Audiences 4. Participation in Regional/International Conferences to Increase the Awareness of RCA's Capabilities					1. Publicized/distributed the 1 st edition of the 5 Stories (1,000 copies each). Identification and editorial work of the 2 nd edition in progress 2. Publicized and distributed 500 copies of the RCA brochures 3. About 30 presentations and briefing meetings carried out to the target audiences 4. Survey conducted for collecting information regarding regional/international

		5. Enhanced RCA Information Service				conferences. As to the RCA's participation in the 2006 PEMSEA conference, follow-up contacts were reported by the relevant PLCC (Attachment 3). 5. Enhanced operation of the RCARO website and increased RCA information service through emailing
2	Promoting Partnerships for RCA	1. Implementation of the RCA-UNDP Post-tsunami Environment Impact Assessment Project for 2007 2. Promotion of partnerships with regional organizations 2.1 Promotion of Partnerships with the FAO through the Joint FAO/IAEA Office				1. Implementation of 2007 work plan as projected 2.1 The RCARO Future Strategy Workshop discussed the possibility of collaboration in the early detection of trans-boundary animal disease such as avian flu. The promotion of partnership with the FAO may be affected by proposed changes in the Joint Division and the proposal on bird

		2.2 Collaboration with the FNCA				<p>flu was not supported as it was not regarded as a priority for the region.</p> <p>2.2 The relevant PLCC, and three NPCs from SRL, IND, and PAK attended the FNCA meeting on Radiation Processing and Radiotherapy. The Project Leader of the FNCA project on Radiotherapy presented the FNCA protocols on cervical cancer at an RCA Training Course.</p> <p>2.3 RCARO visited UNEP, UNESCAP and UNDP in THA, PEMSEA, CAI-Asia and ADB in PHI</p>
		2.3. New initiation for promoting partnerships				
3	Preservation of Nuclear Knowledge	1. RCA Post-doctoral Fellowship Programme for 2007				1. Four fellows from IND, INS & CPR taking part in the Programme
		2. RCA-KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree Course for 2007				2. Two students from SRL & PHI awarded degrees and presently 3 from CPR, VIE & MON enrolled

		3. RCA-KOICA Regional Training Workshop for 2007				in the RCARO-KAIST Master's Degree Course 3. Sixteen participated in the Workshop
4	Other Activities	1. Participation in RCA Policy Meetings				1. Participated in the 29 th NRM, 36 th GCM and SAC meetings
		2. Participation in RCA Major Stakeholders' Meetings				2. TSLCCs' Meeting was not held. Some RCA stakeholders met at the RCARO Future Strategy Workshop.
		3. Operation of the RCARO Local Steering Committee of the Host Country				3. Meetings of the RCARO Local Steering Committee of the host country were held three times in Jan, Mar & April, respectively
		4. Increased Participation of the Member States in RCARO Activities				4. Three temporary staff invited from PHI, VIE & INS
		5. Workshop on developing programmes using secured RCARO funds				5. RCARO Future Strategy Workshop held in July
		6. Enhancement of the RCARO's Roles and Status				6. 36 th GC adopted the Resolution on RCARO's roles and status
		7. Selection of a New Director of RCARO				7. The Selection Committee constituted and the selection

		8. Extra-Budgetary Contribution of the RCARO to IAEA				<p>process in due operation</p> <p>8. An extra-budgetary contribution of USD 60,000 made to the IAEA for the implementation of the RCA Project on Formulation of Sustainable Paths through Nuclear and other Energy Options (RAS/0/045)</p>
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RCARO 2007 Performance Report

1. Increasing the RCA's awareness

1. 1 Publication of RCA Success Stories

The RCARO published the first round of RCA Success Stories (on tissue banking, air pollution analysis, groundwater contamination analysis, development new materials by radiation processing, and distance assisted training on nuclear medicine and radiation oncology) in leaflet format with a view to promote an understanding of the general public about the RCA achievements and potential benefits of RCA projects to the region. The 5 stories had been drafted by the PLCC, IAEA Focal Person and the RCARO. A professional writer, Mr. Tim Haydon of Australia, re-wrote and edited them under a contract with the RCARO. After a review and confirmation by the SAC and NRM, the five RCA Success Stories were published in April 2007.

A total of 1,000 copies of each story were distributed to RCA NRs for a national distribution and other stakeholders for their use. The Success Stories were also distributed at the TC exhibition corner during the IAEA General Conference held in mid-September 2007. Copies of these success stories, especially those of air pollution analysis, and groundwater contamination analysis, were also handed out to the regional organizations which RCARO visited in search of partnerships during the fourth quarter of 2007.

On the second batch of the RCA Success Stories, the 5th SAC and the 36th GCM reviewed each draft that was received from the PLCC (or TOs) on seven areas and gave recommendations to the RCARO on the preparation of Success Story draft Guidelines and templates, the inclusion of fact sheets, and a clear elucidation on the specific accomplishments or impacts of these stories. In this regard, the RCARO and the RCA Focal Person have communicated with the PLCCs with regard to the other Success Stories to make the drafts suitable for publication after editorial corrections. The four Stories (including *Plant Breeding*, *Marine Pollution*, *Non-Destructive Testing*, *Geothermal Exploration*) are being edited by Mr. Tim Haydon who is under a contract with the RCARO, and will be reviewed by the 6th SAC and the 30th NRM in April 2008 for publication.

1. 2 Publication of the RCA Brochure

The 2007 edition of the RCA Brochure was published with an incorporation of the recent developments of the RCA such as the development of the RCA Medium Term Strategy for 2006-2011, recent publication of the RCA Success Stories, progress in the RCA-UNDP Project, as well as of the RCA projects with valuable input from the SAC and the IAEA RCA Focal Person. Presently, a thousand copies in a booklet

format have been distributed to RCA NRs for their local distribution and to other stakeholders and associated organizations as needed to introduce RCA programmes and RCARO activities. The new brochures have also been handed out to the international organizations visited by the Director of the RCARO to introduce the IAEA/RCA programmes and RCARO activities. The new RCA brochure was also distributed at the TC Exhibition Corner of the IAEA General Conference held in September 2007.

1. 3 Presentation on the IAEA/RCA and RCARO Programmes to the Target Audiences

The RCARO made more than 30 presentations and had briefing meetings on IAEA/RCA and RCARO programmes to the target audiences as well as relevant end-users in order to promote a better understanding about the efforts in strengthening the RCA's activities related to nuclear science, technology and application. Presentations were made at some international conferences, relevant meetings and RCA events in the region. The Director of the RCARO delivered a presentation on the RCA activities at the Special Conference in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the IAEA in the presence of the Director General, Dr. ElBaradei, and over 300 nuclear officials and diplomats from Korea and abroad which was held in July 2007 in Seoul.

Presentations to the potential partners and end-users were also made when the Director of the RCARO visited international organizations such as UNESCAP, UNDP, UNEP in THA, PEMSEA, CAI-Asia, ADB in PHI, and CAEA and CIAE in CPR.

1. 4 Participation in Regional and International Conferences

In 2007 the RCARO encouraged the RCA's participation in regional and international conferences to demonstrate the RCA's capabilities and potentials to the regional and international development communities, as done in 2005 and 2006.

In accordance with the recommendation of the 29th NRM, the RCARO conducted a survey of the international conferences or regional conferences to be held in 2007-2008, which can be utilized by potential participants in the RCA community. The RCARO has, however, only received responses from two MSs, which are not sufficient in developing a strategy for the increasing the RCA's awareness.

The RCARO Future Strategy Workshop in July in Seoul discussed this issue and recommended some criteria and strategies for participation in international conferences. Regarding one of the recommendations of the Workshop and the 36th GCM, which requested a report on the follow-up contacts after the RCA's participation in the PEMSEA conference in 2006, the RCARO asked the relevant PLCC, Dr. Szymczak, to provide a report on his follow-up activities. The report is given in Attachment 1.

1. 5 Enhanced RCA Information Service

The RCARO website continued to be upgraded in 2007 for a more user-friendly access by the public. RCARO had already introduced an intranet type dialogue menu in 2006 to its website, particularly for use by the stakeholders of the RCA-UNDP Post-tsunami Environmental Assessment Project, which has been restructured for an easier access by the public. Some of the website design has been enhanced for a better access and use by both insiders and outsiders. The emailing RCA information service has also been constantly promoted.

2. Promoting Partnerships for the RCA

2.1 Implementation of the RCA-UNDP Post-Tsunami Environment Impact Assessment Project for 2007

The second year activities of the RCA-UNDP Post-Tsunami Environment Impact Assessment Project have been implemented as planned. Emphasis was placed on a capability building of the National Project Teams as well as elaborate interactions with the end-users.

Some of the main regional events in 2007 include, among others, the ‘Regional Training Workshop on the Use of NAT and Interaction with the End-users’ (5-9 February 2007, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia held in cooperation with Malaysia Nuclear Agency) and the Project Review Meeting (22-25 October 2007, Phuket, Thailand, held in cooperation with the Thailand Institute of Nuclear Technology and several other stakeholders in Thailand). The latter meeting was a significant event for project participants who had an opportunity for a comprehensive review of the interim progress since its kick-off, by which the plan for future work was revised.

Initial results in sampling, analyses, and interpretation of data have provided scientific information in relation to the impact of a tsunami on a coastal environment, adjacent agricultural areas and groundwater such as the analysis of five core samples at a low-tide coast area in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand. Interim technical reports, together with the progress report for 2007 are to be submitted by National Project Coordinators by the end of January 2008. The Project provided assistance to the MSs including a supply of equipment, materials, expert missions, and support for field work.

2.2 Promotion of Partnerships with Regional Organizations

2.2.1 Promotion of partnerships with the FAO through the Joint FAO/IAEA Office

The plan to initiate partnerships with the FAO through the Joint FAO/IAEA Division was initiated by inviting the Director of the Division, Dr. Qu Liang to the RCARO Workshop on Future Strategies held in

July 2007 in Seoul, which was an occasion to hear about the programmes of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division and to discuss the possibilities for partnerships.

After the discussion at the RCARO Workshop and later at the 36th GCM, it was noted that the promotion of partnership with the FAO may be affected by proposed changes in the Joint Division and that the proposal on bird flu was not supported as it was not regarded as a priority for the region.

2.2.2 Collaboration with the FNCA

In 2007, RCARO made an effort to create collaborations with the FNCA. As one of the collaborations between the RCA and FNCA, Ms. Lucille Abad, the PLCC in the radiation processing area, and three NPCs from SRL, IND and PAK attended the relevant FNCA meeting held in Hochimin City, VIE in October 2007.

The protocol and the current results of FNCA clinical studies on chemo-radiotherapy treatment of uterine / cervical cancer were introduced by FNCA Project Coordinator for Radiotherapy, Dr. H. Tsujii to the participants of the RCA. Regional Training Course on Optimal Management of Locally Advanced Cervical Cancer.

2.2.3 New initiation for promoting partnerships

A workshop on the RCARO future strategies was held in July 2007 which was an occasion, inter alia, to review and discuss the subject of RCA partnerships with other regional organizations. The Workshop recommended an agenda for the RCARO to contact regional organizations in Bangkok and Manila as summarized in Annex 2 which was reported to and endorsed by the 5th SAC and subsequently by the 36th RCA GCM held in September 2007.

Pursuant to the recommendations, the RCARO visited UNEP, UNESCAP and UNDP in THA, PEMSEA, CAI-Asia and ADB in PHI. The Director of the RCARO briefed them on the RCA projects for 2009-2011 especially on the environmental area and possible applications of NAT to the regional environmental issues, and discussed the possibility of developing joint projects. The result of the visits is given in Attachment 6.

3. Preservation of nuclear knowledge

3.1 2007 RCARO Post-doctoral Fellowship Training Programme

The RCARO has implemented the RCARO Post-doctoral Fellowship Training Programme for RCA Member States, the purpose of which is to preserve and enhance nuclear knowledge in the region for

future needs, hence promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear technology to assist in addressing national needs. Since its inception, the RCARO has accommodated thirty-four fellows from the Member States in the major nuclear research and development projects of Korea. In 2007 four applicants were selected and attached to the relevant R&D organizations in Korea under the programme. They were from CPR (1 in research reactor fuel cladding materials project), IND (2 in nuclear data project), and INS (1 in advanced neutron beam technology project and development of multiple bio-dosimetry system).

3. 2 2007 RCARO/KAIST Master's Degree Programme

Another nuclear knowledge preservation programme that has been initiated by the RCARO is the KAIST (Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology) Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree Course. Two students from SRL and PHI were awarded RCA-KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree in Nuclear and Quantum Engineering in 2007. Presently, three students are enrolled from CPR, VIE and MON, respectively. A total of eighteen students have received their degree since 2002.

In line with the SAC's concern on the alignment of the RCARO/KAIST Master's Degree Programme to the RCA programme, which was expressed at the 4th SAC, the RCARO provided the detailed information on the KAIST courses to the MSs.

3. 3 2007 RCARO/KOICA Joint Regional Training Programme

The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) financially supported the RCARO-KAERI organized Advanced NDT Training Course that was held in October 2007 in Daejeon, Korea. Sixteen trainees from RCA Member States participated in the course.

4. Other Activities

4. 1 Participation in RCA Policy Meetings

As before, the RCARO, as one of the RCA stakeholders, participated in the RCA policy meetings, namely, the 29th RCA NRM in Sydney in March 2007 and the 36th RCA GCM in Vienna in September 2007 and made presentations on the on-going RCARO activities. The RCARO served as the secretariat in supporting an efficient operation of the RCARO SAC meetings.

4. 2 Participation in the RCA Major Stakeholders' Meeting

The planned TSLCC meeting was not held in 2007.

4. 3 Operation of the Local Steering Committee of the RCARO Host Country

The RCARO held the 18th to 20th RCARO Local Steering Committee meetings in January, March, and April of 2007, respectively, in Korea, from which managerial matters of the RCARO were discussed. The RCARO's annual budget, employment of staff members, major activities were also reviewed by the Local Steering Committee.

4. 4 Increased Participation of the Member States in RCARO Activities

Three each from VIE (VAEC), PHI (PNRI) and INS (BATAN) were attached to the RCARO in 2007. They have greatly contributed to promoting RCARO activities and enhancing interactions among the RCA Member States, as well as providing assistant services to the RCA-UNDP Environment Project.

4. 5 Workshop on the RCARO Future Strategies

A brain storming workshop on the RCARO future strategies was held on 24-25 July in Seoul, ROK in accordance with the recommendation by the 29th NRM. Twenty participants from RCA MSs, the IAEA, the host Government of the RCARO, the UNDP Office in Korea and related local organizations attended the Workshop. Various issues were addressed during the Workshop including increasing the RCA's partnerships with other organizations in line with RCA Medium Term Strategies, developing follow-up projects starting from 2009 after a completion of the current RCA/UNDP Environment Project, and the RCA's participation in the 6th International Conference on Isotopes (6ICI) to be held from 12-16 May 2008 in Korea.

The results of the Workshop were reported to the 36th GCM, and its recommendations have been followed up by the RCARO. The Report of the Workshop is given in Attachment 2.

4.6 Enhancement of the Roles and Status of the RCARO

The RCA Working Group Meeting (WGM) on the Roles and Status of the RCARO was held on 26-27 July 2007 in Seoul, ROK as agreed by the 29th NRM in AUL in March 2007 with the participation of AUL, ROK, PHI, CRP and JPN. After a review by WGM and revisiting the outcomes and options of the WGM by the 36th GCM, the GC Resolution was adopted including the following:

- Confirms that the Director of the RCARO has the authority to act on behalf of the RCA in order to fulfill its mandate given by the RCA Member States as set out in the RCA GOR;
- Requests all RCA Member States to provide necessary support for the Director of the RCARO to that effect with their best capacity; and
- Requests the RCA Secretariat to continue extending cooperation to the RCARO.

4.7 Selection of the New Director of the RCARO

The 1st Selection Committee Meeting for the Director of the RCARO was held in Seoul on 23 July 2007 with the participation of the Selection Committee members from AUL, THA, VIE, ROK, and IAEA, which reviewed and revised the guidelines, the job-description, terms and conditions of the appointment, and the vacancy notice, which were prepared for the previous selection and appointment of the Director RCARO.

4.8 RCARO's extra-budgetary contribution to the IAEA

In August of 2007, the RCARO made an extra-budgetary contribution of USD 60,000 to the IAEA for the implementation of the RCA Project on the Formulation of Sustainable Paths through Nuclear and other Energy Options (RAS/0/045), which was one of the ongoing RCA projects that requires EB funds.

Attachment 1.

Report on
Follow-up of the participation of IAEA/RCA Project RAS/8/095 in the PEMSEA 2006 East Asian
Seas Congress, Haikou Dec 2006

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Australia

As reported before, follow-up actions for RAS/8/095 so far include:

- At PEMSEA a number of delegates active in fisheries/aquaculture were particularly interested in our work under this project. I have made contact with the World Fish Centre in Malaysia (formerly ICLARM) and will be attending the 8th Asian Fisheries Forum to be held in Kochi, India in late November 2007. There I will deliver a presentation on the RCA project outcomes/activities (Annex 1) and meet with relevant people to promote application of our nuclear-based risk assessment strategies. Present and past directors of World Fish Centre are Australian, with whom I already have some rapport, so I anticipate a favourable outcome. I will also visit the nuclear institute (BARC) and help to further their contact and promote local interactions with Fisheries/Aquaculture institutes in India.
- Related to contacts made at PEMSEA, I was subsequently invited as plenary speaker and/or session chair at conferences in Malaysia (Ecosystem Sustainability & Health of Threatened Marine Environments, May 2007) and Hong Kong (15th Environmental Bioindicators conference, June 2007) where I also gave presentations on the IAEA/RCA project. Earlier, project outcomes were also included in presentations to the Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference (Sydney 2006), Tracer 06 conference (France 2006) and the Australian Marine Sciences conference (Cairns 2006).

I have also made specific liaisons with the following PEMSEA EAS Congress contacts (see full list in Annex 2):

- **Prof Rudolf Wu:** *Director, Centre for Marine Environmental Research and Innovative Technology (MERIT) and Centre for Coastal Pollution and Conservation, City University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong - China).* Dr Wu invited me to chair a session at the Environmental Bioindicators conference (Hong Kong June 07) where I was able to further disseminate our accomplishments to regional & international delegates.
- **Dr Clive Wilkinson:** *Coordinator, Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network, Reef & Rainforest Research Centre; Director, International Marine Projects Activity Centre IMPAC (Townsville –*

Australia) & **Dr Russell Reichelt**: *Managing Director, Reef and Rainforest Research Centre (Townsville -Australia)*. Both these scientists now play an valuable advisory role in the RCA/UNDP Tsunami Impacts Assessment Project coral component.

- **Mr Jean-Claude Sainlos**: *Director, Marine Environment Division, International Maritime organisation IMO (London – UK)*. Suggested liaison with GESAMP which is undergoing review and working group development. Via liaison with him and Dr Scott Fowler (Monaco) I have now been accepted on to the GESAMP Expert Panel which is a valuable strategic networking link for marine pollution-related RCA activities.
- **Dr Won Joon Shim**: *Head, Marine Environment Risk Assessment Research Lab, KORDI (Goeje – ROK)* & **Dr Narayanan Kannan**: *Visiting Prof, Korea Ocean Research & Development Institute, KORDI (Goeje – ROK)*. Both very much appreciated the significance of our activities and expressed interest in sponsoring a similar training course in ROK. RCA will hold an RTC in ROK in Feb 08 and I will try to have them invited as local lecturers.
- **Dr Biliana Cicin-Sain**: *Co-Chair and Head of Secretariat Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands; President, International Coastal and Ocean Organisation (Washington - USA); Director, Gerard J Mangone Centre for Marine Policy; Professor, College of Marine and Earth Studies*. Introduced at the PEMSEA EAS Congress as “the mother of integrated coastal & ocean management”. Although I have not liaised with her since the conference, she expressed great appreciation of our activities at that time. She represents an extremely powerful and valuable international networking contact for our activities and I will strive to meet with her when I next visit the USA and also encourage others to make contact if they are travelling in the USA.

An important part of the follow-up from the PEMSEA 2006 EAS congress will be a meeting of RCARO with PEMSEA in The Philippines, Dec 2007. Whilst in Phuket at the Project Review Meeting I had discussions with Dr Sombrito and Ms Oredina (Philippines Office of the Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, Research and Legislative Affairs) as they are familiar with PEMSEA and its mode of operation. I understand Dr Sombrito will accompany you to the PEMSEA meeting.

Below is a briefing document (Annex 3) prepared to assist RCARO in maximising the outcomes of that meeting.

Annex 1 – Abstract for RCA project seminars in India (Nov 07)

Annex 2 – List of contacts made at PEMSEA EAS congress

Annex 3 – Briefing document for RCARO/PEMSEA meeting Dec 2007

Annex 4 – Our session summary report from PEMSEA EAS congress

Annex 5 – RCA Marine Success Story for RAS/8/095

I hope that these materials will provide sufficient backing to enable the RCARO to have an assured and positive presence at this key meeting with the PEMSEA officials.

Prepared Nov 07

Briefing for RCARO meeting with PEMSEA, Dec 2007

Ron Szymczak

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Leader, ANSTO Marine Systems Analysis Task

Australia

Introduction

As the Lead Country Coordinator for project RAS/8/095, I recognise that it is sometimes difficult to fully convey all the information about the power of the nuclear techniques, their wide application and the ways in which they enhance the effectiveness of marine environmental risk assessment modelling. This is largely due to the multi-disciplinary nature of our applications but it is an area where increasing effort needs to be placed so that wider appreciation and then wider usage of these tools occurs. The recent international conferences that I have attended in the past year have been very important in enabling me to have a very broad overview of the major issues confronting the marine research community and how our nuclear techniques can be applied effectively and make significant contributions and impact in their research.

In the meeting with PEMSEA I believe that there will need to be a focus on “selling” the project and being able to immediately respond to, and capitalise on, probing questions that may come from their officials. To assist in your mission, I have attached some files which can serve as briefing documents and I have also prepared some briefing notes, which I hope might be of value. It is difficult to predict every question that might be raised and so naturally I have had to concentrate on a selected few issues to keep this brief to a manageable size for me to write and for you to read and absorb. I have also consulted the PEMSEA webpage for information and present some excerpts below.

Overview & specific comments on PEMSEA

“PEMSEA is designed to establish/strengthen the necessary capacities among the participating countries and their national and regional partners, which will transform PEMSEA from a donor-sponsored, regional enabling project into a country-owned, self-sustaining regional mechanism for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA). The SDS-SEA is extremely significant as it is the first, and the broadest, partnership agreement in the region on the issue of managing the regional seas”.

- You may remember the SDS-SEA was signed at the 2006 EAS congress Ministerial Forum, for which the summary presentation included profound statements coming out of our special

Radionuclides for Coastal & Ocean Management session professing to the need for radiotracers for model validations, ocean process tracers and nuclear power developments (see Annex 4). This presents a great opportunity for RCA.

“Sustainable development of coastal and marine resources of the region continues to be addressed in a piecemeal fashion. Valuable lessons and good practices in coastal and ocean governance, which are available from country-implemented projects, as well as bilateral and multilateral projects, as well as from outside the region, are largely unknown or inaccessible to countries”.

- Considering the above, PEMSEA & RCARO seem to be sister-like in function and going through a similar stage of evolution – it is a good time to form an alliance with obvious benefits to both organisations. They make a point of stressing “valuable lessons...from national/multinational projects...are largely inaccessible”. The RCA has a wealth of expertise and experience in marine sciences to offer regional countries, so any role by RCARO as a conduit for disseminating information and/or vehicle for self-sustained funding should be considered grounds for a key PEMSEA alliance.
- Very early in the meeting I recommend that RCARO should play the card of sibling “regional NGO host country” and establish dialog with that commonality established. ROK has a strategic interest in the East Asian Seas and the notion of regional harmony in addressing marine environmental issues are also common ideals.
- Prof Rudolf Wu at the University of Hong Kong (see list above) applies the same “best international practice” approach of probabilistic environmental risk assessment as we disseminated in RAS/8/095 and presented at the PEMSEA 2006 EAS congress. As Prof Wu’s MERIT laboratory is a recognised centre of excellence in the region, often hosting international forums, we could promote a strategic regional alliance focussed on common approaches, utilising regional expertise and nuclear technologies. You might remember I recommended we accept the Hong Kong Water Quality Guidelines as most appropriate for the region.
- There is also strong regional support for our RCA risk assessment strategy, outside of our core nuclear group. I came to nuclear science from oceanography so interact well with a broad cross-section of marine-related disciplines – most meetings I attend are non-nuclear. To achieve what’s needed for RCARO we need to connect effectively and manoeuvre strategically with that non-nuclear community and gain their acceptance.
- In the first instance a supportive non-nuclear alliance to support RAS/8/095 outcomes exists very close-by to you. At the 2006 Qingdao Marine Pollution Symposium (see China 06 RTC report) I was able to have extended discussions with, and gain great (potentially strategic) support from;

ROK: Dr Won Joon Shim (Head, Marine Environment Risk Assessment Research Lab, KORDI) and Dr Narayanan Kannan (Visiting Prof, Korea Ocean Research & Development Institute, KORDI). Mr Gi-Hoon Hong (Korea Ocean Research and Development Institute),

already aligned with RCA, is well-linked internationally and should be considered a valuable asset to RCARO. I will endeavour to have Dr Shim and/or Dr Kannan as local lecturers at our Korea RTC.

CPR: Dr Hoi-Soo Jung (Director, China-Korea Joint Ocean Research Centre, Qingdao), Dr Gong-Ke Tan (Director, First Institute of Oceanography, Qingdao). Within our established RCA group we have Dr Zhang Yusheng (Head, Marine Ecological Monitoring Lab, Third Institute of Oceanography, Xiamen) and Dr Xinhong Wang (A/Prof State Key Lab of Marine Environmental Science, Xiamen) as keen supporters.

- Significant non-nuclear support is also available in other RCA countries, but I specifically mention ROK and CPR as a collaborative ROK/CPR alliance already exists under the directorship of Dr Jung (CPR). This project could be well enhanced by our involvement and outcomes used to promote wider interactions.

“Coastal resource management initiatives continue to evolve as improvements in approaches and capacities are driven primarily by bilateral initiatives. Although some countries have developed and adopted integrated coastal management (ICM) policy and legislation, there is limited capacity to scale up and manage national ICM programs”.

- RCA projects are much more than a bilateral initiative and the links we develop within individual countries provide a flow-on of our nuclear-based technologies. However, scaling up the adoption of nuclear technologies to national ICM has only happened in a few countries. The solution to this wider is dissemination of our outcomes to the right audiences, backed-up by strategic discussions – PEMSEA is a great forum and should be continued.
- In my role as LCC I have made a significant effort to present our project outcomes at a wide range of regional conferences (see list above), taking opportunity to utilise ANSTO funding, and have promoted a wider recognition of the utility of nuclear-based techniques. However, the sustainability of the project and the associated transferred technologies requires a broader strategy that does not rely on just one MS’s financial support. In this respect I envisage that direct ANSTO funding support will now be more difficult in the future as the project has now been formally completed as far as Agency and AusAID support is concerned and the responsibility for sustainability shifts to the MSs. This potential reduction in support needs to be recognised and addressed and I have made a recommendation at the end of this briefing on where I see an exciting emerging opportunity for the RCARO.

“Ecosystem-based management projects in Bohai Sea, Manila Bay, Gulf of Thailand and Jakarta Bay operate in isolation. They and their partners fail to either capitalize on others’ wisdom or to replicate their successful activities. Without access to valuable information and good practices generated by others, these projects continue to re-invent the wheel and do not contribute to global learning to strengthen

transboundary waters management. Governments, donors, and UN and other international organizations implement numerous country and sub-regional capacity enhancement projects covering areas/issues such as environmental research, development of strategic plans, transferring skills, and building awareness and understanding. While contributing to the overall regional capacity, such projects remain short-term, sector specific and relatively isolated from mainstream management programs. Capacity disparity remains a challenge of governments in implementation, including ineffective transfer and sharing of knowledge that strengthens management programs. Project managers and stakeholders at different levels must discover and actively seek out intellectual capital within their own country, or within the region, to learn lessons and access technical support and assistance. This results in further reliance on donors and international agencies and organizations to ‘provide’ the required expertise”.

- PEMSEA reveals strategic disparity and poor communication in the region. This may be due, in part, to a colonial history and the continued flow of politically-driven aid. Specific donor/recipient country relationships are often long-standing and scientific strategies, techniques and instrumentation (eg. ships, samplers, software) become unique and endemic – albeit often fundamentally different and producing non-comparable data.
- Spreading developed wisdom between countries is certainly a function of RCARO – we strive to establish regional benchmarks and commonality in approach to marine environment risk assessment methodologies. The success story on the Jakarta Bay project (Annex 5) is an example where a (largely) bilateral partnership activity (AUL-INS) has established an “expert” capability within the region which can be exported and utilised within other parts of the region.
- In Phuket, and at prior meetings, we have identified the utility of a regional database of intellectual capital within the region, to disseminate lessons and provide access to technical support and assistance – exactly what is mentioned above by PEMSEA. Here lies another commonality for RCARO & PEMSEA.

Conclusion

I would like to suggest that there is a great degree of commonality between RCARO & PEMSEA. I have identified several specific areas of strategic institutional overlap which could be capitalised on when you have your planned meeting with PEMSEA in Dec 07. These include;

- Both organisations represent a broad regional partnership agreement.
- Both have a mandate to establish/strengthen the capacities among participating countries and their national and regional partners, to move from a donor-sponsored, regional enabling entity into a self-sustaining regional mechanism.
- Both identify a need for a regional database of intellectual capital, to disseminate lessons and provide access to technical support and assistance.
- Both have strategic interest in the East Asian region which includes the seas.

- Both profess regional coordination and harmony in addressing marine environmental issues.

As well as these strategic priorities, relating to regional commitments, technical support, knowledge sharing, development & implementation of regional strategies and capacity development, there exists a number of scientific/environmental issues specifically identified by PEMSEA to which RCARO (nuclear techniques) could make valuable contributions. These include;

- Natural & man-made disaster prevention and response management.
- Natural coastal habitat protection, restoration & management.
- Water use & supply management.
- Pollution & waste reduction management.
- Food security & livelihood management.

Recommendations

1. RCARO should strive to gain support from PEMSEA to include RCA its mandate of fostering regional coordination and harmony in addressing marine environmental issues. RCA can contribute well to development of a regional database of intellectual capital, to disseminate lessons and provide access to technical support and assistance. In the first instance this can best be accomplished by our participation in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA) in provision of nuclear technologies for coastal/ocean transport model validations, ocean biogeochemical process tracers and monitoring of nuclear power developments, as prescribed at the 2006 EAS Congress.
2. RCARO should consider as part of its mandate an important an emerging role in supporting sustainability initiatives that incorporate promotion of the RCA and present opportunities for new partnerships and funding. RCARO should consider budgeting funding to support activities where the presence of a senior RCA technical expert with international credentials could add significantly to the likelihood of breakthrough outcomes such as are being consider for a RCARO/PEMSEA partnership

Report of the Workshop on RCARO Future Strategies

Seoul, Korea, 24–26 July 2007

1. Introduction

As agreed by the 29th Meeting of RCA National Representatives in Sydney, Australia in March 2007, the Workshop on the RCARO Future Strategies was held 24-26 July 2007 at Sheraton Grande Walkerhill, Seoul, Korea. The Workshop was attended by 20 participants from RCA Member States (MSs), the IAEA, the host Government of the RCA Regional Office (RCARO), the UNDP Office in Korea and related local organizations. The RCARO provided the secretariat for the Workshop.

The participants from the Member States include Mr. Ron Cameron (RCA Chair, Australia), Ms. Alumanda Dela Rosa (RCA NR, the Philippines), Mr. Long Maoxiong (on behalf of Mr. Yang Dazhu, the RCA NR of China), and Mr. Jae-Yong Hur (RCA NR, the Republic of Korea). From the IAEA, Mr. Prinath Dias (RCA Focal Person) and Mr. Qu Liang (Director, Joint FAO/IAEA Division) participated. From the RCARO host Government, Mr. Young-Shik Kim (Director General, Ministry of Science and Technology) attended. Experts in various fields also attended to provide advice on RCARO future strategies.

The list of participants is given in Annex 1.

2. Opening Session

2.1 Welcome Remarks of the Dir. RCARO

Mr. Kun-Mo Choi, Director of the RCARO, warmly welcomed all the participants and thanked them for attending the Workshop in spite of their busy schedule. He noted that the Workshop had been convened as an effort to enhance partnerships for the RCA and to find ways and means for implementing and achieving the RCARO strategies. He noted that the RCARO had a lot of challenges in the future and that this Workshop was valued as a good opportunity for sharing experience and exchanging views on the future strategies for the RCARO to further enhance the visibility of the RCA Programme and to attract new partners and donor funding. This Workshop was seen as an important strategic planning exercise and one way by which the participants could share their experience. It was noted that the conclusions and recommendations from this Workshop would further strengthen the operation of the RCARO. He

highlighted that this week was especially important for the RCARO since the Selection Committee was held on Monday and the Working Group Meeting would be held on Thursday and Friday. He reminded the participants that the main objectives of this Workshop were:

- To seek ways to increase RCA's partnership with other organizations in line with RCA Medium Term Strategy
- To develop follow-up projects starting in 2009 after the completion of the current RCA/UNDP Environment Project,
- To discuss the RCA's participation in the 6th International Conference on Isotopes (6ICI) to be held from 12-16 May 2008 in Korea
- To enhance RCA's leadership in the region through brainstorming, and
- To discuss any other issues relating to the future development strategies for the RCARO.

In conclusion, he expressed his great appreciation for the RCA Member States' cooperation with and support to the RCARO and hoped that this Workshop would undertake substantial discussions on future development strategies.

2.2 Remarks of the Director General, Atomic Energy Bureau, MOST on behalf of the host Government of RCARO

Mr. Young-Shik Kim, DG, Atomic Energy Bureau of MOST, in his congratulatory remarks welcomed all the participants who attended the Workshop (Annex 2). Referring to the development of human resources on nuclear activities supported by the RCARO, he emphasized that the RCA Regional Office had carried out a pivotal role for 5 years in maintaining nuclear cooperation in Asia and Pacific since its establishment. He noted that as part of its role in promoting partnerships and enhancing ownership, the RCARO had been conducting a three-year joint study with the UNDP since last year. He added that the RCARO had set up an information system, which enabled the MSs to share RCA success stories with other MSs. Various other achievements of the RCARO in the field of nuclear cooperation development were also noted.

He detailed the significant nuclear energy developments made in Korea during the past 10 years, and commented that Korea now had achieved self-reliant nuclear power technology. He informed the Workshop that under the 3rd comprehensive nuclear energy promotion plan, which was formulated by the Korean Government to use nuclear energy as the national driving force in the future. He further outlined other development achievements of Korea during the past 10 years.

With respect to non-nuclear power applications, He said that Korea had laid the foundation for modernization of nuclear medicine through diagnosis of disease using positron emission tomography. Korea's cooperation with the RCA MSs would be strengthened so that nuclear technology could contribute to improving the quality of human life by means of nuclear such as the development of medical cyclotron use and radiopharmaceuticals for diagnosis and treatment of cancer, the world's leading cause of death. He expressed his view that the quality of people's life could be enhanced through the use of nuclear energy, and more importantly, synergism under mutual cooperation should be created. He hoped that the RCA

would continue to play its vital role as the pioneer of regional cooperation, and further create many more success stories through the RCARO. It was hoped that the RCARO could further play a pivotal role in the region.

In closing he expressed the view that the Workshop would be a good opportunity to develop new directions for development, by sharing experiences and to exchange opinions about how to promote partnerships among the MSs. He drew the attention of the Workshop to the need to strengthen the function and status of the RCARO so that an appropriate framework for the RCARO could be set up in near future. Further he highlighted that the NRs need to make additional efforts in the area of cooperation so that opinions could well be readily exchanged and experiences shared. He invited the participants to freely share their views and provide their advice to help direct the RCARO towards the right path for the future and have it equipped with the most appropriate strategies to take on the challenges. He expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the Director of the RCARO. He went on to thank the Member States for the cooperation and enthusiasm of all of the participants in the review process, which was a clear demonstration of ownership of the RCA by the Member States.

2.3 Remarks of the RCA Chair on behalf of RCA Member States

Mr. Ron Cameron, RCA Chair, thanked the RCARO Secretariat for the good arrangements made in preparation for the Workshop and hoped to see the Workshop provide a stimulating environment for good ideas to aid the RCARO in moving forward.

He briefly reviewed the tasks ahead for the Workshop. He noted that the MSs had been assuming an increased role in the ownership of the RCA and that enhancing the framework for the operation of the RCARO would be a valuable step in progressing such endeavors. He mentioned that the RCARO would need to ensure that its progress was in line with the RCA Medium Term Strategy (MTS) as well as the IAEA TC Strategy as it searched for partnership or collaborative opportunities with funding agencies. He addressed that any RCARO strategy would need to be consistent with a priority for regional projects. He remarked that the results from this Workshop be a good preparation for discussions at the upcoming GCM.

2.4 Election of the Moderator and the Rapporteur / Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. John Chung moderated the Workshop and Mr. Jeong-Hoon Lee was appointed as the rapporteur. The provisional Workshop Programme was adopted after minor changes based on the comments from some participants. The Programme of the Workshop and the Terms of Reference are given in Annex 3 and Annex 4, respectively.

2.5 Introduction to the Workshop by the Director RCARO

Mr. Kun-Mo Choi, Director, RCARO, made a presentation (Annex 5) to outline the background,

objectives, and agenda of the Workshop, together with a summary of the four session topics:

- Strategies to Enhance RCA Partnership;
- RCA's Participation in International Conferences;
- Partnership with UNDP to Develop the Next RCA-UNDP Project; and,
- RCA and Leadership.

It was noted that the objectives of the Workshop were:

- to formulate new projects to start in 2009 after the completion of the current three year (2006-2008) RCA-UNDP Environment Project;
- to discuss the RCA's participation in the 6th International Conference on Isotopes (6ICI) to be held 12-16 May 2008 in Korea;
- to seek out ways to increase RCA's partnership with other organizations in line with the RCA Medium Term Strategy;
- to enhance RCA's leadership in the region through brainstorming; and,
- to discuss any other issues relating to the future development strategies for the RCARO.

3. (Session 1) Strategies to Enhance RCA Partnerships

3.1. Potential Partnership Organizations for RCA and their Programmes

Mr. Carlito Aleta gave a presentation (Annex 6) under the title "Opportunities for Partnerships", which summarized the results of the mission he conducted in 2005 as part of his assignment to help the RCARO undertake its role of increasing the visibility and enhancing the viability of the RCA Programme. He touched upon the feasibility and potential development areas that might be considered as suitable for forging partnerships with other international organizations. He noted that recommendations in his reports had been presented on the basis of the feasibility of establishing partnerships to set up proposals for project in the 2007-08 cycle. He also noted that the missions had been carried out before the RCA had adopted its MTS. Although some revisions were required because of these factors, he suggested that the majority of the conclusions and recommendations were still valid.

Referring to the conclusions on feasibility for enhancing RCA partnerships, he proposed that dialogue should be pursued with selected organizations that had indicated that they were ready for partnerships with the RCA and RCARO. Further he suggested that it was important to consider exchanging information with nationally-focused organizations, e.g., FAO and UNDP, to facilitate co-project development.

In closing he invited views from the participants on several matters for consideration, namely:

- possible roles of the RCARO in addressing regional and national needs;
- future roles of the RCARO for medium-and long-term sustainability of the RCA; and,
- modalities on how to proceed with the next project cooperated with other international organizations.

After Mr. Aleta's presentation, there were a number of comments from the participants. It was noted that criteria for selecting partnerships would be:

- regional involvement;
- consistency with RCA MTS;
- compatibility and similar planning cycles to RCA; and,
- where nuclear techniques play a large role.

It was noted that the UN agencies in MSs were embarked on a policy of integration so that a 'one house' approach could be achieved. While this might make it easier to work with them in the future, the process was only just beginning and would take some time to be established. However it was suggested that the NRs should follow up with appropriate UN agencies in their respective countries to keep them informed of what RCA was doing and assist in the general upgrading of the information about RCA with this important constituency.

3.2. Philippines Experience in Collaborating with International Development Organizations

Ms. Alumanda dela Rosa delivered a presentation on the Philippines Experience in Collaborating with International Development Organizations (Annex 7). She described the partnership with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on air pollution, which had worked well and resulted in the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) now having good relationships with the ADB. However this project was part of a national programme. She explained that in this partnership the PNRI received no funds directly from ADB. These went to the Department of ENR.

It was pointed out that the PNRI also collaborated with PEMSEA for a risk assessment and monitoring programme for Manila Bay. She suggested that a new project for Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia initiative could be developed. Collaboration had been undertaken with the UNDP on natural hazards, e.g., seismic, typhoons. As part of this radon monitoring of the Marikina valley fault system was used as a seismic precursor.

3.3 Promotion of RCA Partnership in Connection with the RCA Medium Term Strategy

Mr. John Easey gave a presentation regarding the Promotion of RCA Partnership in Connection with the RCA MTS, focusing on enhancing the uptake of nuclear technologies and increasing the visibility of the RCA (Annex 8). He proposed that enhanced uptake of nuclear technologies relied on nuclear technology which would be value adding and address ongoing needs.

With regard to developments to facilitate increased RCA visibility, he suggested that it would be necessary to make better and more focused use of brochures, success stories, technological data, further development of the RCARO website as well as embarking on enhanced strategies for engaging stakeholders including the science community, technological decision makers and funding agencies. He proposed that a comprehensive collection of all key RCA documentation should be established on the RCA Website. He

added that through electronic networking, MSs should make increased use of sharing information including technical data, lessons learned, meeting schedule, contact details, etc.

In closing he observed that the further promotions of the RCA and the development and achievement of future regional partnership would require the MSs to engage in heightened level of cooperation, strategic planning and thinking. He added that to promote RCA partnership and make a significant regional impact, the RCA would need to make concerted efforts to:

- increase awareness in the wider regional communities of the capabilities and capacity of the RCA to contribute in a meaningful way to these socially important sectors;
- forge productive alliances with key partners and donors to demonstrate and reinforce the strengths of nuclear science and technology when applied to these areas; and,
- emphasize the unique strengths of the RCA

3.4 General Discussion for the 1st Session

Mr. Manoon suggested that in taking account of contacts made and interests shown by various international organizations, there were opportunities to establish large regional projects with those organizations and have arrangements similar to those established in the past RCA Regional Industrial Project with UNDP. He foresaw two possible projects: 1) One regional project on Stable Isotopes Application for Sustainable Development, which would contain activities related usage of stable isotopes for solving water resource management, nutrition and food safety, marine environment, plant/soil optimization and soil erosion, and 2) another as a regional project on nuclear and radiation safety and security which would contain activities related national/regional infrastructure for nuclear and radiation safety and security. These projects would contribute to regional sustainable development in line with the U. N. Millennium Development Goal.

Mr. Kun-Mo Choi, Director of the RCARO, noted that it would be beneficial to provide information on the RCA projects through the RCARO website, which currently avails only for the purpose of the public access on the RCA activities.

In reply it was suggested that such integration was possible, however that might require substantial efforts to put those documents into the public-friendly form. It was suggested that the RCARO should develop and maintain a database of contact people in the identified potential partner organizations.

The main points of the discussions are reflected in the Conclusions and Recommendations from the Workshop, which is attached at the end of this report.

4. (Session 2) RCA's Participation in International Conferences

4.1 Lessons Learned from Co-convening an RCA Seminar during PEMSEA International Conference

Mr. John K Chung, RCARO, made a presentation on Lessons Learned from Co-convening an RCA Seminar during PEMSEA International Conference (Annex 9). It was noted in his presentation that lessons drawn from co-convening an RCA seminar during PEMSEA International Conference in December 2006 in China were:

- the advantages of using nuclear techniques compared to conventional techniques should be emphasized as a means of solving currently problems;
- presentations have to be explained in a readily understandable manner especially for a non-nuclear audience;
- topics need to focus on the conference theme;
- wider communication with participants from other scientific communities needs to be pursued;
- sharing information among the associated RCA stakeholders on the results of conferences should be undertaken,
- networking with other communities should be continued; and,
- logistics arrangements for the RCA participants should be well made.

4.2 Introduction to the 6th International Conference on Isotopes

Mr. Byung-Jin Jun, KAERI, provided the Meeting with the update on the Introduction to the 6th International Conference on Isotopes (6ICI). His presentation is given in Annex 10. In his presentation, he informed the Workshop that the 6ICI would be held 12-16 May 2008 at Sheraton Grande Walkerhill Hotel in Seoul, Korea with the theme of Global Wellbeing with Isotopes. The Workshop took note of his presentation, which contained useful information detailing the purpose, history, organization, committee and programme of the 6ICI. Additional information was provided on the conference topics and a description of who would give the plenary lectures, together with the information regarding the registration and accommodation.

4.3 Possible RCA's Participation in the International Conferences

Mr. M P Dias, IAEA, gave a brief overview on the possible RCA's participation in international conferences (Annex 11)

He stated that objectives of participation in international conferences in conjunction with scheduled RCA events are to create awareness of RCA activities among international or regional organizations by presenting the work carried out by the RCA in certain project areas, and to enable participants to acquire knowledge in the relevant RCA project area. He suggested that 1) the RCA's participation in international conferences should be a part of the strategy for improving visibility and establishment of collaboration, and 2) the mechanism for identification of the most appropriate conferences and of the persons who should participate, together with follow-up activities after participation, need to be clarified. He also talked about issue of cost effectiveness of the RCA's participation in international conferences.

4.4 General Discussion for the 2nd Session

There were discussions, especially on the follow-up activities of the recent PEMSEA conference, and the guidelines for the RCA's participation in the 6ICI. The main points of the discussions are reflected in the Conclusions and Recommendations from the Workshop, which is attached at the end of this report.

5. (Session 3) RCA and Leadership

5.1 Roles and Responsibilities of the Major RCA Stakeholders

Mr. Prinath Dias gave a presentation on the Roles and Responsibilities of the Major RCA Stakeholders (Annex 12). The presentation provided information on the stakeholders including NRs, RCA Chair, RCARO, TSLCC, PLCC, NPCs, and Project Team Members and identified their roles and responsibilities with a view to enhancing leadership for the RCA.

5.2 Member State's View on Enhancing RCA Leadership in the Region by Major RCA Stakeholders

Mr. Long Maoxiong, CAEA, China, gave a presentation on China's View on Enhancing RCA Leadership in the Region by Major RCA Stakeholders (Annex 13). He highlighted the contributions made by RCA activities in China with significant outcomes. He noted that a national RCA web site has recently been inaugurated in China in response to the growing need for coordination. He also made some suggestions to improve RCA leadership in the region in the perspective of China as a beneficiary of the RCA programme.

6. (Session 4) Partnerships with UNDP, in particular to develop next RCA-UNDP Project

6.1 Status of the RCA-UNDP (K) Project

Mr. Jae Sol Lee gave a presentation on the Status and Implementation of the RCA-UNDP (Korea) Project. The presentation put in perspective some of the major issues pertaining to planning, implementation, and management of the Project (Annex 14). It was noted that, in addition to technical-management assistance, the participating RCA MSs active participation, in kind contributions and dedication to the Project represented important contributions towards the successful completion of the 3 year RCA-UNDP Environment Project. He reported that the project is in its full track now with the sampling in 8 participating countries entailed by various stages of implementation of having been underway. He also noted that more details of the progress and necessary interactions with the stakeholder are to be reviewed at the project review meeting in plan to be held in October 2007 in Phuket, Thailand.

The presentation was followed by several questions and statements. A question was raised about the

outcome of the project in terms of technical significance, to which he replied that more information would be compiled from the project review meeting in plan. The participating countries involved in the project made supportive comments on the value of the project, such sectors as tourism (Thailand) and environment (Philippines).

6.2 Experiences from the IAEA/RCA/UNDP Industrial Project

Mr. Manoon Aramrattana gave a presentation on the Experiences from the IAEA/RCA/UNDP Industrial Project (Annex 15). It was noted during his presentation that the Project was the biggest project implemented by the IAEA, and high level management support for the RCA acted as an essential element to steer the Project to meeting its objectives. He explained that the then Regional Office played a liaison role between the Project and the UNDP office in Jakarta, Indonesia and the other UNDP offices in the MSs. He highlighted that the Project benefited both government and private sectors in financial terms.

In conclusion, he commented that the UN had rated this as the most successful of 10 regional projects evaluated by them and much was due to the high spirit of cooperation among the MSs and with the IAEA. He said this underlined the message that that RCA MSs had capability of being good and effective partner with other international organizations.

6.3 Future UNDP-RCA Partnership

Ms. Hyun Shin Lee provided a general overview in respect of the Future UNDP-RCA Partnership (Annex 16). She gave a summary on the background of the partnership surrounding UNDP in general and UNDP Korea in particular, which provided information on the RCA-UNDP project complementary to the previous presentation by Mr. Jae-Sol Lee. She addressed that the UNDP regional offices in the participating countries would be informed on the progress and outcomes of the project. Regarding the development of new projects as a follow-up of the current UNDP project, she advised some areas like drinking water and air pollution would be prospective. She added that the UNDP network in the Member States could be utilized for such discussion.

The presentation was followed by several questions and answers such as the possibility for participation in the Yellow Sea project. The Workshop discussed possible areas for the next UNDP project based on the advice given by the UNDP Office in Korea and the RCA's priority for the next cycle project, and suggested drinking water and air pollution as the topics for the follow-up project.

6.4 Cooperative Partnership with FAO/IAEA

Mr. Qu Liang gave a presentation titled "Application of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture" on the Cooperative Partnership with FAO/IAEA (Annex 17). He gave an overview of the activities of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division which covers 5 areas of specialization which includes pathogen of animals

involved in the early detection of the pandemics such as Avian Flu. He provided the Workshop with the information regarding the Research Coordination Meeting held in March 2007 and the list of 14 countries and coordinators involved in the Coordinated Research Programme titled the Early and Rapid Diagnosis of Transboundary Animal Diseases such as Avian Flu.

The presentation was followed by several questions regarding the mechanism involved in the activities of the Joint Division. He explained how the funding is done and noted the only type of activities related to research is the CRP which is funded by the regular budget of IAEA. There were also several other questions regarding the possibilities for partnership and cooperation with the RCARO.

The suggestion of the Workshop on a possible partnership with the Joint FAO/IAEA Division is reflected in the Conclusions and Recommendations from the Workshop, which is attached at the end of this report.

7. (Session 5) Roles of the RCARO for Nuclear Cooperation

7.1 Nuclear Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific Region and RCARO's Contribution

Mr. Ron Cameron, the RCA Chair, made a presentation on the Nuclear Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific Region and RCARO's Contribution (Annex 18).

He noted that the RCA had evolved through a number of stages since its inception due to changing circumstances and evolving needs, and further said that the RCA has a high degree of self management and takes the lead in strategy and promotion to stakeholders.

Referring to the role of the RCARO, he observed that the RCARO had provided good support in promoting RCA and showed its willingness to take on additional tasks. He noted that the development of success stories and the RCA promotion session at PEMSEA were good outcomes for the RCA. He added that other opportunities through educational courses that are of high value.

Comparing with MTS Objective 4, he highlighted that the Workshop would 1) increase the focus on developing collaborative arrangements with other programmes, 2) emphasize the need for better publications with wider dissemination, 3) make suggestions for better electronic networking and information delivery, 4) set a course to actively promote RCA to funding agencies, 5) emphasize the need for flexible mechanisms for working with donors, and 6) recommend an overall promotion plan to incorporate these elements.

7.2 Member State's View on the RCARO Future Strategy

Mr. Tran Huu Phat, Chairman, Vietnam Atomic Energy Commission, gave a presentation under the title Vietnam's View on the Future Strategy of RCARO Program (Annex 19). He gave a view of Vietnam on the benefits of RCA with an emphasis on the demand in nuclear technology applications, in particular nuclear power programme which is in plan in Vietnam. He expressed a view on the positive aspects of

RCARO as a regional actor on behalf of RCA and welcomed its initiative such as the RCA-UNDP (K) project.

8 Wrap-up of the Workshop

Comprehensive discussions were made on each issue. The conclusions and recommendations of the Workshop were formulated based on the outcomes of the discussions, which are attached at the end of this report.

9. Closing

9.1 Remarks of the RCA Chair

Mr. Cameron, in his closing remarks, thanked all the participants for their cooperation that he received to bring the Workshop to a successful conclusion. He also thanked the RCARO for its dedicated secretariat service.

9.2 Remarks of the RCA Focal Person

Mr. Dias congratulated the RCARO for the excellent arrangements and thanked the Director and the staff of the RCARO. He thanked all the participants for their cooperation and assistance during the Workshop. He noted the importance of good communication among the NRs and their close interaction with the RCARO for effective follow-up of the outcomes of the Workshop.

9.3 Remarks by Director, RCARO

Mr. Choi thanked all the participants for their contributions to the Workshop both in terms of their presentations and their active participation in the discussions. He remarked that the recommendations and suggestions were very valuable for future activities of the RCARO and they would be presented to the SAC and then the GCM for consideration.

Conclusions and Recommendations from the Workshop on RCARO Future Strategies

24-26 July 2007 Seoul, Korea

1. Conclusions

The participants agreed that the meeting provided an opportunity for in-depth discussions on various aspects of the RCA and RCARO strategies and came out with some useful conclusions and recommendations for the future. The participants agreed that the conclusions and recommendations should be presented to the upcoming GCM for consideration.

They concluded among others:

- a) The mission sponsored by RCARO to provide advice on international organizations had been valuable in informing the meeting.
- b) The partnership with UNDP-Korea has been successful and serves as a good model for other interactions. Further opportunities to work with UNDP-Korea should be sought.
- c) Table 1 summarizes the initial suggestions for interaction with international organizations.
- d) The participants agreed that the RCA should target 2010-2011 for the next joint project with the international organizations.
- e) Regarding a possible partnership with the Joint FAO/IAEA Division, it was suggested that technical assistance could be provided if RCA MSs want assistance on the early detection of trans-boundary animal disease such as avian flu using nuclear technology. Some participants supported the need for such activities in the region considering the threat of avian flu. However, some others raised concerns that this was not one of the priority areas selected at the 29th NRM for the next cycle of the RCA projects.
- f) The participants agreed that some targeted promotion through conferences could add value to activities enhancing the visibility of the RCA. This would be unlikely to be more than one per year.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Developing Partnerships

- a) The criteria for selecting partnerships should be 1) regional involvement, 2) consistent with MTS goals specifically the criteria for RCA projects, 3) having compatible and similar planning cycles, and projects where nuclear techniques have a leading role to play.
- b) The RCA should pursue regional collaborations with those organizations identified in Table 1. The RCARO should provide a report to the next NRM on the first round of interactions.
- c) The preferred process is to have projects approved through the normal IAEA/RCA framework. However, the requirements of the partnership programme with other organizations may mean that the fast track mechanism may be applied, if appropriate.
- d) With regard to the follow-up of the current RCA/UNDP project, suggested topics were drinking water and air pollution based on the relevant Concept Paper when confirmed by the upcoming GCM and the existing project document.

2.2 Promotion

- a) A promotion plan for each year should be developed by the RCARO in cooperation with the RCA Focal Person describing the promotion activities and indicating the responsibilities between RCARO and the NRs. This should include promotional activities at conferences.
- b) It is necessary to follow up the contacts made at the recent PEMSEA conference. It is suggested that the relevant PLCC in cooperation with the RCARO follow-up technical contacts made at PEMSEA and report back on outcomes to the NRs.
- c) It is recommended that RCARO should investigate having an exhibition stand at the 6th International Conference on Isotopes (the 6ICI), www.ri.or.kr. Efforts should be made to have more success stories available for the conference.
- d) Individual RCA participants should be encouraged to submit papers, particularly in the areas of use of isotopes in agriculture and the environment, but participation should be at no cost to the RCA.
- e) A process should also be developed to follow-up relevant contacts made at the 6th ICI. A contact information form should be developed. The RCARO should then bring forward a list of contacts and a suggestion for follow up of these contacts to the 2008 GCM.
- f) The RCARO should investigate whether funding could be made available to support the exhibition and some limited participation.

2.3 Publicity

a) It is recommended that the RCARO seek to increase awareness of the RCA, especially among country-based international organizations, by sending their success stories, publications and information on a regular basis.

b) The RCARO web page should be used as a vehicle for providing information to the public on key aspects of the RCA programme. The information should include project objectives, working plan, activities, end-users, contact people in each MS, and major achievements. The RCA Secretariat should provide this information.

c) RCARO should develop and maintain a database of contact people in the identified potential partner organizations.

3. Regional Cooperation

Organization	Major focus	Method of Contact	Who should contact	When	Expected outcomes	Report back	Priority
UNDP	Environment	UNDP regional office in THA	NR of THA with the RCARO official (relevant PLCC)	Short term (2009-10) following 2007 GCM	Joint project	2008 NRM	1
FAO	Food, agriculture	FAO/IAEA joint division in Vienna	RCA Focal Person, and relevant PLCC	Short term (2009-10) following 2007 GCM	Joint project	2008 NRM	1
UNESCAP	Environment (air pollution, water resources), energy	UNESCAP head office in THA	NR of THA with the RCARO official (relevant PLCC)	Short term (2009-10) following 2007 GCM	Joint project	2008 NRM	2

PEMSEA	Marine environment	PEMSEA office in PHI	NR of PHI with the RCARO official (relevant PLCC)	Short term (2009-10) following 2007 GCM	Joint project	2008 NRM	2
ADB	Environment, industry	ADB head office in PHI	NR of PHI with the RCARO official (relevant PLCCs)	Short term (2009-10) following 2007 GCM	Joint project	2008 NRM	3
UNEP	Environment	UNEP regional office in THA	NR of THA with the RCARO official (relevant PLCC)	Short term (2009-10) following 2007 GCM	Joint project	2008 NRM	2

List of Annexes

- Annex 1. List of Participants
- Annex 2. Opening Address on behalf of the Host Government of the RCARO
- Annex 3. Provisional Programme
- Annex 4. Terms of Reference
- Annex 5. Introduction to the Workshop by the Director of the RCARO
- Annex 6. Presentation by Mr. Carlito Aleta, the Former RCA Coordinator
- Annex 7. Presentation by Ms. Alumanda dela Rosa, the Philippines
- Annex 8. Presentation by Mr. John Easey, Australia
- Annex 9. Presentation by Mr. John K. Chung, RCARO
- Annex 10. Presentation by Mr. Byung-Jin Jun, KAERI, Republic of Korea
- Annex 11. Presentation on RCA's Participation in Int'l Conferences by Mr. P. Dias
- Annex 12. Presentation on Roles and Responsibilities of RCA Stakeholders by Mr. P. Dias
- Annex 13. Presentation by Mr. Long Maoxiong, China
- Annex 14. Presentation by Mr. Jae-Sol Lee, RCARO
- Annex 15. Presentation by Mr. Manoon Aramrattana, Thailand
- Annex 16. Presentation by Ms. Hyun-Shin Lee, UNDP(K)
- Annex 17. Presentation by Mr. Qu Liang, Joint FAO/IAEA Division
- Annex 18. Presentation by Mr. Ron Cameron, Australia
- Annex 19. Presentation by Mr. Tran Huu Phat, Vietnam

Note: These annexes and the report of the Workshop can be accessed from the menu bar “Meetings” at the top of the page on the RCARO website at www.rcaro.org

RCARO 2008 Work Plan

	Target	Activities	Milestone				Performance Indicators
			QT 1	QR 2	QT 3	QT 4	
1	Increasing Awareness of RCA	1. Publication and distribution of a second round of RCA Success Stories (4 stories) 2. Presentation on the IAEA/RCA and RCARO Programme to the Target Audiences 3. Participation in Regional/International Conferences to Increase the Awareness of the RCA Capabilities (6ICI and 16 th PBNC) 4. Enhanced RCA Information Service (through RCARO Website Upgrade and Emailing Service) 5. Assistance to host a workshop for enhancing RCA's capabilities 6. Development of database for contacts to increase the awareness of RCA's capabilities	█	█	█	█	1. Publication and distribution of a second round of Success Stories 2. Presentation and briefing meetings to the target audiences 3. Successful participation of the RCA community in the 6ICI and 16 th PBNC (incl. RCA Success Stories and Brochure) 4. Effective operation of the RCARO website and RCA emailing information service 5. Holding a workshop 6. Establishment of database
2	Promoting Partnerships for RCA	1. Implementation of RCA-UNDP Post-tsunami Environment Impact Assessment Project for 2008	█	█	█	█	1. Successful implementation of 2008 work plan for RCA-UNDP Project (including the Final Meeting, Project Report, Interactions with Stakeholders).

		<p>2. Promotion of Partnerships with Regional Organizations</p> <p>3. Joint Training Programme with ARCCNM</p>					<p>2. Development of major partnership projects with the Regional Organizations</p> <p>3. Organization of the training programme with ARCCNM</p>
3	Preservation of Nuclear Knowledge	<p>1. RCARO Post-doctoral Fellowship Programme for 2008</p> <p>2. RCARO-KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree Course for 2008</p> <p>3. RCARO-KOICA Joint Training Workshop for 2008</p>					<p>1. Implementation of 7~8 Post-doctoral Fellowships</p> <p>2. Implementation of the RCA-KAIST Master's Degree Course</p> <p>3. Holding a Regional Training Workshop on Advanced NDT</p>
4	Other Activities	<p>1. Participation in RCA Policy Meetings</p> <p>2. Operation of the Committee for the Selection and Appointment of the RCARO Director</p> <p>3. Operation of the RCARO Local Steering Committee of the Host Country</p> <p>4. Increased Participation of Member States in RCARO Activities</p>					<p>1. Participation in the 30th NRM, 37th GCM (+RCARO SAC)</p> <p>2. Appointment of the RCARO Director as planned (and assistance to start of duty)</p> <p>3. Operation of the RCARO Local Steering Committee of the host country</p> <p>4. Inviting 2-3 temporary staff from MSs</p>

5	Extra-Budgetary Contribution	1. Extra-Budgetary Contribution of the RCARO to IAEA					1. EB Contribution of the RCARO to the IAEA
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RCARO 2008 Work Plan

1. Increasing awareness of RCA

1.1. Publication of RCA Success Stories (Second Round)

RCARO will publish a second round of RCA Success Stories on 4 areas (*Plant Breeding, Marine Pollution, Non-Destructive Testing, Geothermal Exploration*) which were selected by the 5th SAC and approved by the 36th GCM in the same way as the first batch of 5 Success Stories which were published in 2007.

The 4 stories have been contracted to a professional writer (Mr. Tim Haydon of Australia who provided editorial service for the first batch) for editorial work. Each 1,000 copies of the story will be published. RCARO will distribute the leaflets to NRs for a national distribution and other stakeholders for their use, when published.

The RCARO plans to discuss a third round of RCA Success Stories at the 6th SAC meeting.

1. 2 Presentation on IAEA/RCA and RCARO Programme to the Target Audiences

The RCARO will continue to present and brief target audiences on the IAEA/RCA and RCARO programmes including relevant end-users in order to promote a better understanding about the efforts in strengthening the RCA's activities related to nuclear science, technology and application. Presentations will be made at some international conferences, relevant meetings and RCA events in the region.

1.3. Participation in Regional and International Conferences

In 2008, RCARO will also encourage the RCA's participation in regional and international conferences to demonstrate the RCA's capabilities and potentials to the regional and international development communities, as done in 2006 and 2007, respectively. As discussed in the 36th GCM, the RCARO is to actively engage in the 6th International Conference on Isotopes to be held in Seoul in May 2008 and in the 16th Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference to be held in October 2008 in Rokkasho-mura, Japan.

The 6ICI is a major international gathering in many of the areas of the RCA projects, so active participation of the RCA community was strongly recommended by SAC and GCM. RCARO has taken some preparatory actions for an active participation of the RCA by the following activities among others:

- Installation of an RCA booth: a booth of 3X2 square meter floor surface area for promoting RCA activities during the Conference through such media as posters, RCA brochures and RCA leaflets on Success Stories, etc.
- Encouragement of RCA experts participation in the 6ICI Conference: by financial support to a couple of outstanding papers promoting RCA activities
- Others: Negotiating with the organizers of the Conference for a waiving of the registration fee in favor of a group of participants from some professional society associated with RCA projects.

Some other preparatory actions and participation of the RCA are predicted for the 16th PBNC, which is a major international event in the nuclear sector in the Pacific Rim.

1.4 Enhanced the RCA Information Service

RCARO will continue to renew its efforts to further upgrade and enhance its website operation in 2008, with a view to make it a hub for an information flow within the RCA community and to and from outside stakeholders.

RCARO will enhance, among others, its interactions with participating Member States on matters regarding RCARO initiated projects, in addition to the service provided for RCA projects. RCARO has already introduced an intranet type dialogue menu in 2007 to its website, particularly for use by the stakeholders of the RCA-UNDP Environment Project. A good example is the public accessibility of the RCA-UNDP Project menu which was newly provided.

The website of RCARO is providing various services including enriched knowledge on the RCA projects from 2007 to the general public, one of which is the newsletter service on a non-destructive testing (NDT) area. This effort will continue to be made in 2008.

The size of the database for contact points of both the RCA community and outsiders will grow by a continuous addition of them, which will be updated continuously.

The RCA emailing information service will continue to be promoted. The number of emailing service recipient is expected to increase.

1.5 Assistance to host a workshop for enhancing the RCA's capabilities

The RCARO plans to provide assistance to MSs for hosting a workshop, once a year on a rotational basis, with a view to discussing the topics for enhancing the RCA's ownership, for instance, the interests of the RCA and RCARO, such as developing RCARO initiated programmes, strengthening the RCA network and promoting partnerships with other international organizations.

The details of the workshop will be developed at the 6th SAC. The workshop will possibly be attended by RCA stakeholders including some relevant NRs, SAC members, the RCARO Director and staff, international organizations staff members and local experts. The RCARO will share part of the expenses for the workshop.

1.6 Development of database for contacts to increase the awareness of RCA's capabilities

With the vested mandate of RCARO to increase awareness of RCA, there has been a continuing effort to enlarge network and outreach by such means as RCARO web site which contains now a number of lists of contact points collected by various RCA business, including international conferences such as PEMSEA-EAS Congress 2006.

The RCARO will reinforce its effort to develop a database in its website that could enhance networking between stakeholders. The web site will incorporate the various contact points collected hitherto, as well as those to be collected in the future, into a user-friendly database with easy access / search (using My SQL).

2. Promoting Partnerships for the RCA

2.1. Implementation of the RCA-UNDP Post-Tsunami Environment Impact Assessment Project for 2008

The third year activities of the RCA-UNDP Post-Tsunami Environment Impact Assessment Project for 2006-2008 will be implemented based on the contract concluded among the

RCARO-MOST-UNDP and endorsed by the Member States.

The plan for 2008, which was initially set up at the beginning of the Project, was revised by the interim Project Review Meeting which was held for 22-25 October 2007, in Phuket, Thailand. The revision of the 2008 plan at the Phuket Meeting was based on a review of the progress made until the time of the meeting by identifying some issues and finding solutions for a satisfactory implementation of the Project.

Aside from the main activities for implementing the Project, including sampling, laboratory analysis of samples and interpretation of the analytical results which will continue as required by the participating MSs, interactions with stakeholders and end-users will be strengthened to enhance the outcomes of the Project, to be concluded by the end of 2008. In addition to the activities already taken at the Phuket Meeting to reinforce the interactions with local stakeholders and end-users from regional organizations, such as UNDP-Asia Centre and PEMSEA, are to be invited to the Final Meeting planned for early November 2008 in Xiamen, China.

The Project will be concluded by the Final Meeting where a comprehensive review of the overall implementation of the Project will be made. The Meeting will also review the Project Report which will be the outcome of the Project to be delivered to the end-users and stakeholders.

An effort to identify a sequel project to the on-going RCA-UNDP project to be wrapped up at the end of 2008 is to continue in 2008 with priorities on the air pollution and drinking water areas as discussed at the 5th SAC and the 36th GCM.

2.2. Promotion of Partnerships with Regional Organizations

The promotion of partnerships with regional organizations has been an axis of the RCARO mandates from the start of the RCARO's operation. The RCARO efforts for enhancing partnerships in 2008 will mainly focus on developing frameworks for partnerships in line with the outcomes of the RCARO's initial contacts with the international organizations in the region, which were made in 2007.

The detailed frameworks for developing partnerships will be discussed at the 6th SAC and 30th NRM based on the RCARO's report from visits to six organizations, namely, UNESCAP,

UNDP, UNEP, PEMSEA, CAI-Asia, and ADB.

2.3. Joint Training Programme in cooperation with ARCCNM

As one of the partnership programmes, a cooperative action will be pursued through discussions with the Asian Regional Cooperation for Nuclear Medicine (ARCCNM) for jointly hosting a training course on use of some advanced nuclear medicine which is expected to contribute to the regional capability for a cancer diagnosis such as the Programme of action for Cancer Therapy (PACT).

The 21st RCARO Steering Committee meeting in the host country of the RCARO strongly recommended this programme as one of the 2008 RCARO programmes. The details of the programmes will be discussed during the first half of this year with the SAC and the relevant institutions in the region.

3. Nuclear knowledge preservation activities

3.1. RCARO Post-doctoral Fellowship Training Programme for 2008

The RCARO will continue the implementation of the Post-doctoral Fellowship Training Programme for RCA Member States in 2008. The purpose of this programme is to preserve and enhancing nuclear knowledge in the region for future need. The announcement for the 2008 fellowship training programme will be circulated to the Member States in January 2008.

3.2. RCARO/KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree Course for 2008

Another nuclear knowledge preservation programme that has been initiated by RCARO is the KAIST (Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology) Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree Course in which 3 students are currently enrolled. As has been carried out in the past years, recruiting students from the Member States for the 2008 spring and fall semesters will be implemented in due time.

3.3. RCARO/KOICA Regional Training Workshop for 2008

The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) has been a good partner for the RCARO in the past for hosting training programmes on several areas. The KOICA has

financially supported the RCARO initiated training courses in a few areas including nuclear medicine and an advanced use of nuclear technology in the industry. In 2008, RCARO and KOICA plan to organize a regional training course on an advanced non-destructive testing (NDT) in Korea in September 2008, as done in 2007.

4. Other Activities

4.1 Participation in RCA Policy Meetings

The RCARO, as one of the RCA stakeholders, will participate in the RCA policy meetings, namely the 30th NRM in Vietnam in April 2008 and the 37th GCM in Vienna in September 2008 and make presentations on the on-going RCARO activities. The RCARO will also support the operation of the RCARO SAC meetings (normally, prior to the RCA policy meetings) to serve as the secretariat.

4.2. Operation of the Committee for the Selection and Appointment of the RCARO Director

The RCARO has provided secretariat support throughout 2007 to the Selection Committee for the RCARO Director as the term of the current Director is to be terminated in early April 2008. The vacancy announcement will remain open till mid-January 2008 from which the appointment process will commence as required by the Committee.

4.3 Operation of the Local Steering Committee of the RCARO Host Country

The RCARO supports the operation of the RCARO Local Steering Committee that has been established within the Korean government to give advice and supervise on managerial matters of the RCARO as the host country of the RCARO. RCARO's annual budget, employment of staff members, and major activities are controlled by the Local Steering Committee. The RCARO Steering Committee meetings will be held three or four times in Korea in 2008.

4.4 Increased Participation of Member States in the RCARO Activities

The RCARO will invite 2-3 temporary staff (3-6 months) from MSs to work at the RCARO in 2008 as done in the past years. At the same time, attachment of a cost-free expert (1 year) from CPR to work at the RCARO is also expected in 2008. This attachment programme

demonstrates the MSs' in-kind contribution to the RCARO activities.

5. Extra-Budgetary Contribution of the RCARO to the IAEA

As seen in 2007, an EB contribution by the RCARO and the Korean Government is expected to continue in 2008 in a bid to support the RCA projects that are in need of financial support.