

Interoffice Memorandum

To: The Director General

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Reference: TA#07ET082655

Date: 2007-07-09

Subject: Subject: Travel Report: RCA Project Planning Meeting on "Development and Application of Advanced Industrial Radiography and Tomography Techniques" under RAS8105 at Goa, India, 02-06 July 2007.

MEETING REPORT

Purpose of travel:

- To coordinate and to attend National Coordinators Meeting of RCA project RAS/8/105 on "Development and Application of Advanced Industrial Radiography and Tomography Techniques".

Background:

The RCA project RAS/8/100 on "Development and Application of Advanced Industrial Radiography and Tomography Techniques" has contributed to Advanced NDT technology and Industrial radiography, as well as to the harmonization of NDT training and certification schemes in the RCA region. During the meeting of the national Project-Coordination in Colombo, Sri Lanka in August 2005, a very important document on "Agreement for Mutual Recognition [MRA] for Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) Personnel Certification Schemes in the RCA Member States, according to ISO 9712:2005 and ISO/IEC 17024:2003", was drafted and with the agreement of all participants. All 21 participants from 14 RCA Member States expressed their willingness to join the MRA. This meeting in Sri Lanka was a milestone for MRA development in the RCA region. The achievements and successes of the NDT project RAS/8/100 on "Advanced Industrial Radiography" subsequently led to a new project, RAS/8/105 "Development and Application of Advanced Industrial Radiography and

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Tomography Techniques" which was extended to the applications of advanced technologies and the continuation of the MRA process.

Work done and results achieved:

All the participants (Annex 1) presented their country reports for the project activities for the cycle 2005-2006, including the achievements on Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA). Discussions were held for reviewing the action plan for 2007-8 and MRA implementation in each MS as per the Colombo meeting in Sri Lanka, in May 2005 and NCM in New Zealand NCM, Nov. 2006.

Some of the activities from originally planned proposals were modified and updated and presented in a work plan (Annex 2)

One outstanding result from our activities is the achievement of third-party accreditation by China to ISO17024. Other member states such as Singapore are making excellent progress towards achieving harmonisation in accordance with ISO17024 and will soon become accredited. All other MS are proceeding towards MRA in accordance to agreed timeframe.

A full understanding of the relative positions of member states with respect to advanced radiographic techniques was obtained. Malaysia, one of the participants of coordinated research project on DIR has agreed to act as a regional centre on development of low-cost system to be used by MSs.

The proposal for the future project for 2009-11 cycle was fully discussed and accepted by all Member States.

The full meeting report including updated workplan is available in the office of Mr. I. Einav (Technical Officer) and Mr P. Dias (RCA CO).

Recommendations of the meeting:

- IAEA will provide NC interactive training materials (CD).
- Member states will organize regional NDT newsletter with Mr. Yong-M Cheong (RDC) as editor. This will be issued every three months.
- Development of a question database to be given priority. Issue to be raised with the APCNDT at the World Conference for NDT at Shanghai in August 2008. T.O will contact Mr. R. Murphy and Mr. D. Marshall with respect to assistance in obtaining access to the question database.
- Copies of the report of the meeting in Auckland, NZ in November 2006 to be distributed to all the Member States.
- The participants of the National Coordinator's Meeting have accepted the proposed project to be named "Application of Advanced Industrial Radiography in Industry and Civil Engineering" for the project cycle 2009-2011.