



Medium Term Strategy Coordination (MTSC) Working Group Activities

2024-2029 RCA Medium Term Strategy Drafting Working Group

10 November 2020



Overview

- History of the MTSC
- Terms of reference
- Major activities of the MTSC
- Major outputs of the MTSC
- Future work of the MTSC
- Considerations for the MTS Drafting WG



History of the MTSC WG

- Established at 38th NRM (2016) along with two other supporting working groups
 - Working Group on Financial Gap Analysis and Resource Mobilization (FGA&RM WG)
 - Working Group on Human Resource Development (HRD WG)
- Seven meetings of the MTSC WG held approx. every six months since Feb 2017
- Work of two other WG folded into MTSC WG from 3rd Meeting (March 2018)



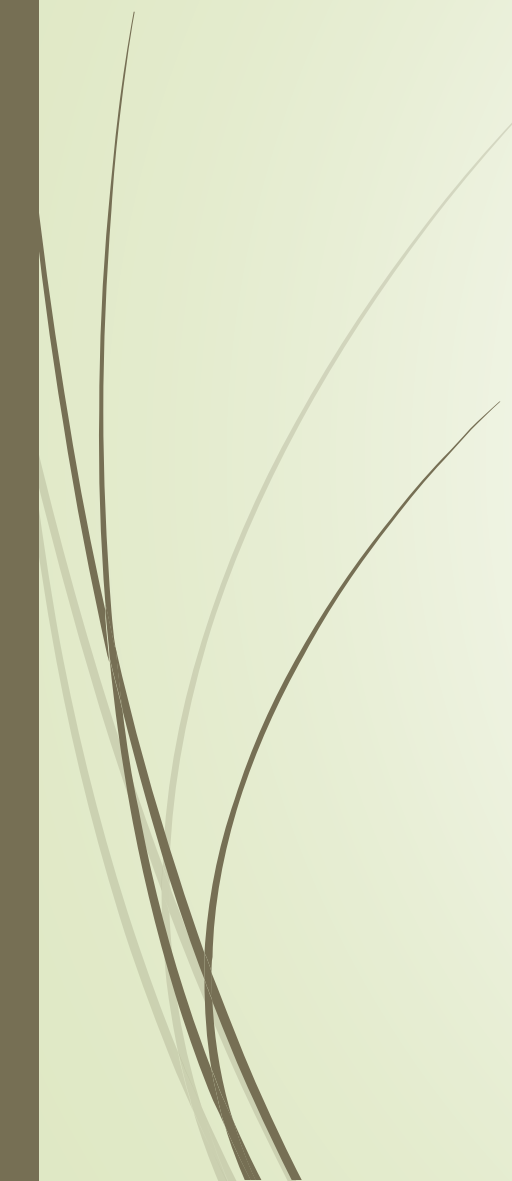
Terms of Reference

- Established at 38th NRM and reviewed during various meetings of MTSC WG with small updates put to various NRMs and GCMs for endorsement
- Membership included subject matter experts from (at different times) AUL, BGD, INS, JPN, MAL, NZE, PHI, ROK.
 - Supported by IAEA Secretariat and RCARO
- Chaired by INS, then NZE, then AUL
- Twelve (12) identified tasks including

#	Function	Status
1	to provide recommendations on milestones of the MTS to the NRs based on the Performance Indicators of the MTS, in consultation and coordination with the RCA Programme Advisory Committee (RCA PAC);	Complete. Mid-Term Review (MTR) identified methodology to be used in assessing the PIs.
2	to identify and develop approaches for expanding partnerships;	Complete. The now incorporated Working Group on Financial Gap Analysis and Resource Mobilization (WG FGA&RM) explored opportunities for partnerships, primarily by setting up an AFRA-style fund. Recommendation not accepted by NRs.
3	to explore and identify strategic directions for increasing and managing extra-budgetary contributions in support for the RCA Programme;	Complete. Declaration sent to GPs in 2018 calling for 400k / year in EB contributions.
4	to explore ways to mobilize national/regional resources such as high quality of technical and logistical support of the Government Parties in implementing RCA projects;	Complete. Revitalised concept of RRUs in GOR and updated database with RRU information.
5	<p>to advise and recommend on sustainable human capacity building in the RCA Region, including nuclear knowledge management in forms of education and training, and accord particular attention to the special needs of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the new RCA GPs; the Least Developed Countries (LDCs); and the Small Island Developing States (SIDSs) 	Complete. Now incorporated Working Group on Human Resource Development (WG HRD) delivered report to NRs in 2018. Recommendations incorporated into GOR.
6	to assist the NRs in implementing the MTS by preparing Annual Work Plans to be presented to the NRMs and/or GCMs as required including recommendations for the formation of additional Working Groups when needed;	Complete. Updated Work Plans submitted to NRs after each MTSC WG meeting. New WG on drafting of the next MTS recommended.
7	to develop Annual Progress Reports based on the activities undertaken in previous years to be presented to the NRMs and/or GCMs as required;	Complete. Reports submitted to NRs after each MTSC WG meeting.
8	when requested by the NRs, to provide additional assistance in other matters with regard to the implementation of MTS;	Complete with ongoing review. MTSC WG member participating in the Secretariat project on outcome monitoring.
9	to make recommendations to the NRs on the update of the RCA Guidelines and Operating Rules (GOR), when necessary;	Complete. Revisions to GOR presented where changes recommended.
10	to coordinate with other RCA-related stakeholders to ensure the effectiveness of the Annual Work Plans and advice provided to the NRs with respect to the implementation of MTS;	Complete. RCARO, PAC, and RCA-FP routine participants in MTSC WG meetings.
11	to assist the RCA PAC with its function of undertaking the MTS Mid-term Review and Final Review; and	Complete with ongoing review. Comprehensive guidance on conduct of the MTR developed for PAC at 6 th Meeting.
12	make recommendations and provide advice to the NRs on the formulation of the Medium Term Strategy 2024-2029.	Complete. Guidance document developed at 7 th Meeting. MTSC WG Chair offered to be a part of the drafting WG for new MTS.




Major Activities of the MTSC WG

- Seven meetings of the MTSC WG held approx. every six months since Feb 2017 with meeting reports, work plans and recommendations submitted to subsequent NRMs and GCMs for endorsement
 - Engagement with subject matter experts at the IAEA on various topics including outcome monitoring
 - Engagement with various RCA project meetings including on air pollution
 - Preparation of guidance documents
 - Review and updating of key RCA documents
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Major Outputs of the MTSC WG

- 2019 – *MTSC WG Guidance for PAC on 2020 Mid-Term Review (MTR)*
 - A comprehensive 30-page guide on how the data sources, metrics, and evaluative criteria are to be used to measure performance of the Agreement against the MTS and its Performance Indicators (PI)
 - Included baseline analysis of Agreement performance against the PI
 - Subsequently used by PAC in conduct of the MTR in 2020
- 2018 – *Declaration of NRs to the RCA and accompanying RCA Chair Call for EB Contributions to the RCA*
- Various updates to GOR, including:
 - Simplification of Project Participation Forms (PPF) and Regional Resource Units (RRU)
 - Encouraging greater synergy between the GOR and MTS



Future Work of the MTSC WG

- Undertake analysis of MTR results from PAC
- Update review guidance for PAC where necessary ahead of their Final Review in 2023
- Identify areas for improvement in Agreement performance and make related recommendations for consideration by the NRs
- Contribute to drafting of the next MTS for 2024-2029 based on lessons learned
- Planning next meeting (virtual) for 1st week of February 2021



Considerations for the MTS Drafting WG

- ▶ Are RCA projects as impactful as they could be?
- ▶ Is the structure of the RCA fit for purpose? Are projects appropriately targeted, of sufficient length?
- ▶ Do the Strategic Priorities still reflect the objectives of GPs?
- ▶ Are the Performance Indicators still fit for purpose?
- ▶ Can the process for selecting, approving, implementing, and evaluating projects be improved and / or simplified?
- ▶ Is the MTS properly aligned with other key Agreement documents like the GOR?
- ▶ Are there lessons to be learned from other regional agreements?