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International Atomic Energy Agency

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International Atomic Energy Agency

Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique

Международное агентство по атомной энергии

Organismo Internacional de Energía Atómica

FAX Cover Sheet

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Addressee(s):

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Reference: C1-RAS5057

**Subject: IAEA/RCA Workshop on Best Practice for Food Safety and Quality
(Sanitary) Applications of Food Irradiation (RAS5057), 6-11 May 2013,
Shanghai, China**

Dear National RCA Representatives,

In accordance with the plan of activities of the RCA Programme in 2013, I am inviting your Government to submit nominations for the above-mentioned event, details of which and requirements for participation are given in the attached Information Sheet.

Please inform us **not later than 25 February 2013** of suitable candidates for this event with the duly completed and endorsed nomination form. Kindly note that the holding of the above Workshop will be subject to the official confirmation of the Government of China.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Best regards,

Kesrat Sukasam
RCA Focal Person
Division for Asia and the Pacific

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International Atomic Energy Agency

IAEA/RCA Workshop on Best Practice for Food Safety and Quality (Sanitary) Applications of Food Irradiation

INFORMATION SHEET

**Project Number
and Title:**

RAS/5/057 – Implementing Best Practices of Food Irradiation for
Sanitary and Phytosanitary Purposes

Place:

Shanghai, China

Dates:

6 – 11 May 2013

**Deadline for
Nominations:**

25 February, 2013 (Please note that it will not be possible to
consider the applications received after the deadline due to
administrative reasons.)

Language:

English

Organizers:

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in cooperation with
the Government of China

**Host Country
Organizer:**

Mrs Meixu GAO
Institute for Application of Atomic Energy
Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS)
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P.O. Box 5109
Beijing 100094
China
E-mail: meixugao@263.net
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Purpose:

The objectives of the workshop are to:

- review, finalize and endorse a draft “Best Practice Manual” on the application of food irradiation for the purposes of ensuring food quality and destroying organisms that could cause food borne illness;
- review existing information and educational material in preparation of a “Training Module” related to food irradiation in readiness for training workshops and executive management meetings.

Expected Outputs:

- (1) Endorsed Best Practice Manual that includes both food safety and quality (sanitary) and phytosanitary requirements related to the application of food irradiation treatments;
- (2) Educational training material (including examples of lectures, pamphlets, audio-visual and internet resources available at national level) that can be used in training workshops and expert meetings as part of a “Training Module” for regional participants and to use in train-the-trainer initiatives; and
- (3) A scope and detailed description of the training module including recommendations and plan for further improvement.

Scope and Nature

The workshop will discuss and agree the best practices on Food Irradiation for food quality, sanitary as well as phytosanitary purposes. It will add to and further develop a manual developed in terms of using irradiation as a phytosanitary treatment (to rid fresh produce of any associated insect pests) to make sure that it will also provide practical advice on how to meet necessary requirements in the application of irradiation to meet food quality and sanitary requirements.

A draft manual will be prepared by an expert and circulated to all participants in advance of the meeting. It is envisaged that the manual produced at this meeting will provide technical and practical advice with examples of how the requirements for food irradiation can be met in practice, when using irradiation to destroy foodborne pathogenic organisms (e.g. in dried herbs and spices), prolong shelf life and retard sprouting (e.g. potatoes, onions and garlic). The manual should assist those who regulate and those who operate irradiation facilities and irradiate foods to maintain or improve quality. It will consider gamma irradiation, but also include electron beam and x-ray irradiation as these are seen as areas where food irradiation technology will expand in future. A draft manual has been developed in relation to phytosanitary (plant health and quarantine pests) applications of food irradiation and this workshop will further develop this handbook so that it includes issues related to the food quality and sanitary aspects of food irradiation.

In addition developing the Best Practice Handbook the participants are expected to:

- provide examples of training and information material (written, audio-visual, lecture resources etc.) Discuss, plan and produce a scoping document and for a “Training Module” and agree and plan the information and training material that should be developed for future workshops and executive meetings.

- provide information on national and inter-regional (international) training initiatives regarding irradiated food;
- Review and produce a scope for a training module on food irradiation and best practices.

Background Information:

Irradiation is an effective and safe method for preserving food; it reduces spoilage, ensures food hygiene, and extends shelf life. Irradiate food for sanitary reasons is a relatively well developed and very promising technique, the commercial uptake has been successful in some RCA member states (MSs), but growth has been relatively slow for others. The technology can also be used to help reduce post-harvest food losses due to damage by insects, bacteria and mould, or from premature sprouting or over-ripening of produce. These losses are estimated to be between 25 and 40 % of the foods produced in many countries. Irradiation is also an effective phytosanitary treatment and its use as a quarantine treatment is becoming more and more favourable as it can be used against a broad range of different pests and avoids the need to use chemicals. Some Member States are already using this technique as a commercial treatment and others are developing their own regulations and guidelines to enable the adoption of this application of irradiation technology in order to ensure that their food producers can have access to export markets that would otherwise forbid fresh produce due to concerns over quarantine pests. Most irradiation facilities that treat food for sanitary or phytosanitary purposes are gamma ray facilities where the radiation is produced by a radioactive cobalt-60 source. The strict requirements for handling and transportation of radioactive materials, the cost of the radiation source, and misconceptions and negative attitudes regarding large quantities of radioactive materials are having an impact on the continued use of cobalt-60 in gamma irradiation facilities. At the same time, high energy electron beam technologies are available and some have been installed at facilities in this region for several years. These machine source facilities can generate electron beams or x-rays that can be used to irradiate food and they do not rely on radioactive material. It is therefore expected that these types of facilities will become more widespread in future. Electron beam or x ray irradiation can be used to quickly process large volumes of materials such as fresh fruits and vegetables as well as frozen foods.

Project RAS/5/057 aims to enhance the effective application of irradiation technologies for sanitary and phytosanitary purposes and a “Best Practice Manual” is intended to support this overall objective. The Manual will be a key document and under-pin a “training module” that is being developed to support the application and up-take of food irradiation in the region.

Participation: A maximum of two participants per country, the National Project Coordinator or their representative, and other person with appropriate qualifications.

Participants' Qualifications: The NPC or their deputy who is familiar with the scope and plans for TC project RAS/5/057 plus a person who has experience with trade in irradiated food, official controls on food safety / quality or who have radiation processing and food irradiation experience (including electron beam, x-ray or gamma ray irradiation).

Nomination Procedure: Nominations (**including those of local participants**) should be submitted on the standard IAEA Nomination Form for Meeting/Workshop and National Consultant (available on the IAEA web-site: <http://www.iaea.org/>). Completed forms should be endorsed by relevant national authorities and returned to the Agency through official channels, i.e. the office of the National RCA Representative.

The applications should contain sufficient information to establish the nominees have the required qualifications. The nominated candidate may not be selected if sufficient information is not provided.

Applications must be received by the International Atomic Energy Agency, P. O. Box 100, A-1400 Vienna Austria, not later than **25 February 2013** Nominations received after this date or which have not been routed through established official channels, cannot be considered.

Advanced nominations through facsimile (+43-1-2600-7), or e-mail (Official@iaea.org) are welcomed. The facsimile / e-mail should contain the following basic information about the candidate: name, date of birth, academic qualifications, and current position including the exact nature of the duties carried out, proficiency in English and full contact address including telephone/email/facsimile numbers.

Security in the Field: It is recommended that the meeting participants complete the courses *Basic Security in the Field: Safety, Health and Welfare (BSITF)* and *Advanced Security in the Field (ASITF)*, prior to traveling to locations where UN security phases are in effect. The aim of these courses is to educate participants on how best to avoid or minimize potential dangers and threats, and to show what individuals can do if they find themselves in insecure situations.

The courses are available on the following UN websites that can be accessed using Microsoft Internet Explorer:

- BSITF: <http://dss.un.org/BSITF/>
- ASITF: <http://dss.un.org/ASITF/>

If you have difficulty using the websites, a CD-ROM can be obtained from your IAEA National Liaison Officer or from IAEA.

Once the candidate has completed the courses and passed the accompanying exams, certificates will be generated automatically and must be printed for submission to the IAEA (either as an e-mail attachment or by fax). Copies of the certificate should be kept by the candidate for his / her records, as they are valid for a period of three years.

**Administrative
and Financial
Arrangements:**

Nominating Governments will be informed in due course of the names of the candidates who have been selected and will, at that time, be given full details on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Selected participants from countries eligible to receive technical assistance will be provided with a round trip economy class air ticket from their home countries to the venue and a stipend sufficient to cover the cost of their accommodation, food, and minor incidentals. Shipment of accumulated meeting materials to the participants' home countries is not the responsibility of the IAEA.

The organizers of the meeting do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the course, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in nominating participants, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.

SAMPLE FORM (2 PAGES): which can be downloaded from the website:
<http://www.iaea.org/technicalcooperation/How-to-take-part/train-course/index.html>



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E-MAIL: Official.Mail@iaea.org, TC WEB SITE: <http://www-tc.iaea.org>

NOMINATION FOR TRAINING COURSE

Note: This form cannot be used to apply for a fellowship or scientific visit

The Government of

nominate the following candidate for the **Training Course** on (indicate short title, place, dates, project/course number):

<input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male		Date of birth:	Recent photograph of candidate
Family name: (as in passport)		Place of birth:	
First name:		Nationality:	
Complete mailing address (office):		Passport No.:	
Inst. Name:		Date of issue:	
Street:		Place of issue:	
P.O. Box: Post Code:		Valid until:	
Town/City:		Telephone (office):	
Region/District:		Telephone (home):	
Country:		Fax:	
Airport/town nearest to residence:		e-mail:	
		WEB Page:	
		Emergency phone:	

EDUCATION (commencing with secondary school)

Years attended		Name and place of institution	Field of study	Diploma or degree
from	to			

RECENT EMPLOYMENT RECORD

Years of service		Name and place of employer/organization	Title of position	Type of work
from	to			

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

Type of work done by the candidate during the past 3 years (Please attach list of any material the candidate may have published)

Is the candidate covered under a radiation surveillance programme in his/her home country? ☐ yes ☐ no

Has the candidate been, or will he/she be, involved in any IAEA-supported Technical Co-operation project?
(Please identify project and describe the nature of the candidate's involvement.)

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION IN AN IAEA ACTIVITY				
Has the candidate participated in a previous IAEA activity? If yes, please list each activity below.				
RELEVANCE OF THE TRAINING				
How is the Government going to make use of the training received by the candidate at the course?				
LANGUAGE CERTIFICATE				
I, as a qualified language examiner, hereby certify that I have examined the above candidate and give the following information on his/her language qualification:				
(a) Mother tongue of the candidate			
(b) Other languages			
(c) Language of the course			
Proficiency in the language of the course	Read	Write	Speak	Understand
	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Good
	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average
	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor

	Date	Name (printed) and signature of examiner		
MEDICAL CERTIFICATE				
I, as a qualified medical doctor, hereby certify that I have examined the above candidate and found him/her in good health, free from infectious diseases and able physically and mentally to carry out any relevant duties away from his/her home.				
		
	Date	Name (printed) and signature of examining physician		
GOVERNMENT STATEMENT				
The nominating Government gives the following assurances:				
a) All information supplied in this form is complete and correct.				
b) Should the candidate's language qualification prove to be insufficient or should the candidate's state of health not correspond to the examining physician's statement, then nominating Government will accept the responsibility for the consequences and any costs arising therefrom.				
c) It is noted that the sponsoring organization(s), host country(ies) and host institution(s) do not accept liability for the payment of any costs or compensation arising from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the training course, and it, the nominating Government, undertakes the responsibility for such coverage.				
d) The position of the candidate will be retained for him/her and he/she will continue to receive during the training course a salary and related emoluments to enable him/her to meet his/her financial commitments in his/her home country.				
e) If selected, the nominee will conduct himself/herself in a manner compatible with his/her status as a participant and will refrain from engaging in any political and commercial activities.				
f) No facts are known to the Government regarding the reliability and character of the applicant which would obstruct giving him/her access to nuclear installations or institutions where ionizing radiation is used.				
		
	Date	Name and title (printed) and signature of certifying Government official		



REGIONAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT (RCA)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN RCA REGIONAL TRAINING COURSES.

Purpose of these instructions

The RCA Secretariat has been facing numerous difficulties in selecting participants for RCA Regional Training Courses and making administrative arrangements for their participation, due to lack of sufficient information about the nominees. The purpose of these Instructions is to assist the nominees of RCA Regional Training Courses to provide the information needed by the RCA Secretariat for the above purposes.

Purpose of RCA Regional Training Courses

The purpose of the RCA Regional Training Courses is to provide skills and knowledge required by the participants from the RCA Member States to implement planned activities that would lead to achieving the objectives of the project under which the Training Course is held. The participants should be members of the National Project Teams engaged in implementing the relevant project, under the leadership of the National Project Coordinators. Those who are not actively engaged in project activities would not be eligible for participation. (Please see Sections 3.3 and 3.4 of RCA Guidelines and Operating Rules for further information on the responsibilities of National Project Coordinators and National Project Teams.)

Instructions

1. The information requested should be typed (preferred) or printed legibly in ink. (The Nomination Forms can be downloaded from the IAEA TC web-site <http://www.iaea.org/technicalcooperation/How-to-take-part/train-course/index.html>).
2. Please provide sufficient information to indicate that you have the qualifications specified in the Prospectus of the Training Course. Proper descriptions of the work you are engaged in and the relevance of this training are essential in this regard. You may use additional pages as annexes if necessary.
3. Please make sure the completed Nomination Forms are submitted to the IAEA before the deadline stipulated in the Prospectus. It would not be possible to consider late nominations due to administrative reasons.
4. Please attach a copy of the BSTIF (Basic Security in the Field) certificate to your application. The details can be found in the Prospectus of the Training Course.
5. Please pay special attention to the following
 - a) Description of Work

The description of work should include the activities you are engaged in relation to the RCA project under which this Training Course is conducted. The information provided should be sufficient to indicate that you are actively engaged in implementing project activities in your country.

b) Relevance of the Training

Please indicate how this training will enable you to implement the activities of the project under which the Training Course is held, according to the National Work Plan of the project.

c) Contact Details

Please provide current and accurate contact details including your FAX and phone numbers and the e-mail address. Your name should be as it appears in your Passport. Inaccurate or illegible contact details and other information would prevent us from contacting you and making the necessary arrangements for your participation in the Training Course.

6. The Language Certificate and the Medical Certificate are mandatory
7. The Government Statement should be signed by the National RCA Representative or a person authorized by your Government to request Technical Cooperation support from the IAEA.



REGIONAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT (RCA)
Nomination of participants for RCA Regional Training Courses

Approval of the National RCA Representative

In accordance with Section 4.2 (p) of the RCA Guidelines and Operating Rules*, I hereby approve the nomination ofwho has been selected in consultation with the National Project Coordinator for participation in the RCA Regional Training Course on. The nominee is employed in a work area related to this Training Course and is a member of the National Project Team of the RCA Project under which this Training Course is held.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

*** Section 4.2 (p) of RCA Guidelines and Operating Rules**

4.2 Appointment, Roles and Responsibilities of National RCA Representatives

(p) Nominate suitably qualified persons for participation in RCA events and activities in consultation with the respective National Project Coordinators and ensure that they are employed in appropriately related work areas, and are members of the Project Teams;

National RCA Representatives

COUNTRY	NAME	FAX NUMBER
AUSTRALIA	Mr. Steven MCINTOSH	+61 29717 6111
BANGLADESH	Mr. A.S.M. FIROZ	+880 2 8141843
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INDIA	Dr. B. PURNIAH	+91 22 2250 5151
INDONESIA	Dr. Anhar Riza ANTARIKSAWAN	+62 21 525 1110
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MONGOLIA	Mr. Tseren DAMDINSUREN	+976 11 329019
MYANMAR	Dr.Khin Maung LATT	+95 67404277
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Permanent Missions RCA Member States

COUNTRY	FAX NUMBER
AUSTRALIA	504 1178
CHINA	370 6626
INDIA	505 92 19
INDONESIA	479 05 57
JAPAN	263 6749
KOREA, REP. OF	478-1013
MALAYSIA	505 79 42
MONGOLIA	535 280 720
NEW ZEALAND	505 3020
PAKISTAN	367 1831 / 368 7376
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