

Nature of the Tripartite AFRA/ARCAL/RCA meeting :

- ?? proposed by AFRA. ARCAL and RCA supported by the IAEA since 1997 and held during the GC every year
- ?
- ?? a forum for facilitating exchange of information among the 3 Regional Agreements
- ?
- ?? not a new organization or mechanism for carrying out interregional projects (will use of existing mechanisms under national or regional TC projects);
- ?
- ?? limited budget support by IAEA secretariat to facilitate in-depth exchange of technical information. (Final results and impact can be obtained only through follow up regional or national projects)
- ?
- ?? focuses on substance with practical experience and concrete results—good success stories

Tripartite Technology Transfer -AFRA/ARCAL/RCA¹

In 1998 and 1999 the Representatives agreed on the implementation of the following:

-Distance learning in nuclear medicine:

Training involving some 400 students in ARCAL, AFRA and RCA (about 230) ; materials translated into Chinese, Spanish, Korean, French.

-Harmonized approach for using radiation processing for quarantine purposes:

Action plan to facilitate international trade on irradiated commodities to meet quarantine requirements.

-Distance learning on basic radiation oncology:

A contract awarded to AUL contractor to develop the modules in 2001; for pilot testing afterwards.

-Harmonization of safety guides and procedures on Nuclear Medicine and radiotherapy quality assurance (physical aspects):

RCA sent 2 experts to review the draft safety guide in NM and another 2 to review the draft safety guide on radiotherapy were reviewed and submitted for agency to be adopted as agency document.

-Meeting among AFRA/ARCAL/RCA to exchange views and experience re use of nuclear techniques in geothermal energy:]

RCA sent 2 experts; this resulted in an RCA project for 2001/2002.

In September 2000 the following projects were agreed to be implemented:

-Development of selected ICT-based training/learning materials in the field of maintenance and repair of nuclear instruments:

General: Objective: acquire/develop ICT-assisted training/learning materials well adapted to developing countries' environment for training in nuclear electronics, maintenance and repair of nuclear instruments.

(a) Consultants meeting with representatives from MSs on 23-28 April 2001, Argonne, USA

(b) Establishing inventory of potential suppliers, developers and promoters of relevant ICT-assisted training material

¹ Reference: Minutes of the Tripartite Meeting AFRA/ARCAL/RCA, Vienna, Austria, 21 September 2000

- (c) *Performing comparative study on conventional versus ICT-assisted training tools*
- (d) *Testing the acquired ICT materials, testing developed materials*
- (e) *Consultants meeting to design and formulate long term programme for full scale implementation of ICT tools*

-Establishment of Quality System in Veterinary Testing Diagnosis Laboratory:

Objective: To establish quality system in veterinary testing laboratories based on guidelines of the Office International des Epizooties(OIE).

- (a) *Experts' joint workshop to assess status of quality management available in the laboratories, Vienna, Austria, 16-20 July 2001*
- (b) *Development of training materials*
- (c) *Intercomparison EQA*

-Geothermal energy:

General Objective: To ensure the sustainability of geothermal production fields for electrical power generation and non-electrical applications and to protect the environment amidst utilization of geothermal resources in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

- (a) *workshop on geothermal production, 12-18 March 2001, Philippines;*
- (b) *Experts' group meeting to prepare TECDOC on use of radioactive and chemical tracers, 2-8 September, El Salvador;*
- (c) *Experts mission to Philippines(1-7 May 2001, El Salvador(May 2001), Nicaragua(June 2001) and Mexico(May and September 2001)*

-Harmonization of standards and methods for production of safe radiation sterilized tissue allograft:

Objective: To support the development of regional and interregional collaboration between national networks to ensure that the most recent international guidelines, processing methods, standards, quality systems, donor selection criteria, radiation methodology and clinical benefits are made available to all countries using radiation sterilization for the safe production of tissue grafts.

- (a) *EAGM on innovation in training materials and methods, February 2001;*
- (b) *Experts workshop on standards legal and regulatory system, 23-27 July 2001, Vienna, Austria;*
- (c) *Experts meeting on code of practice for radiation sterilization of tissue, 12-16 March 2001, Havana, Cuba;*

- (d) *Workshop on public awareness promotional literature, 7-11 May 2001, Montevideo, Uruguay.*

-Interconnection of AFRA/ARCAL/RCA websites:

Objective: To improve the exchange of information among the 3 Regional Agreements

- (a) *Meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina in Nov 2000 resulted in detailed work plan and proposed protocol. RCA sent the LC and ALC.*
- (b) *National consultants meeting in May/June 2001 in Vienna, Austria to learn agency's IT systems and databases*
- (c) *Training courses in ARCAL and AFRA.*