RCA Programme Advisory Committee (PAC)

Revision of TOR of the PAC and the RCA GOR

The TORs of PAC and MTSC

The RCA Programme Advisory Committee (PAC) was established in 2014, with a Terms of Reference given in Annex 1. Subsequently the Working Group on Medium Term Strategy (MTSC) was established with its own TOR.

Both the PAC and MTSC had observed overlaps in their TORs and in the work carried out and the PAC is proposing that the TORs of PAC and MTSC should be reviewed and revised.

The focus of PAC should be the RCA Programme, which should include the development of the programme, all aspects of its implementation, monitoring of the progress and recording the outcomes. The development of Regional Programme Frameworks of the RCA also should be a function of the PAC.

 The functions of the MTSC should be focused on RCA strategies and policy issues. This should include development of RCA Medium Term Strategies. Resource mobilization also should be a function of the MTSC as recommended at the MTSC Meeting held on 17th -21st February 2020.

Revision of the GOR

The current GOR contains procedures related to implementation of the RCA Programme and details of policies and strategic aspects of the RCA. Since it is a "live" document, which is periodically revised based on decisions of the NRMs and GCMs, it has become a very comprehensive document containing the decisions of the Meetings of the NRs, making it difficult for some of the stakeholders to obtain the required information.

PAC proposes the GOR to be a document which contains only the RCA guidelines and operating rules related to the Programme Cycle (development of the programme, its implementation, monitoring of the progress and recording the outcomes), appointment and the roles and responsibilities of all the stakeholders responsible for these tasks, and other issues relevant to the programme cycle.

RCA strategies and policies should be in a separate document.

Proposed Action.

Approval in principle for the proposal to revise the PAC and MTSC TORs, and for the proposal to revise the GOR. Detailed proposals will be submitted to the 49th GCM upon the initial approval of the 42nd NRM.

RCA PAC TERMS OF REFERENCE AND OPERATING PROCEDURES

Functions of the RCA PAC

The agreed functions of the RCA PAC shall cover the following issues:

(a) Contribute to identification and recommendation of project ideas, concepts and design phases for the RCA projects being developed for support under the RCA Programme, including extrabudgetary funding, and provide advice on:

- Mechanisms for identifying and screening RCA project concepts/ideas;

- Mechanisms for improvement of the RCA Programme development at both the concept and design stages;

- Mechanisms for identifying and screening RCA Project budgeting;

- Specific functions, roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder;

- Indicative timelines for proper planning and development of the RCA Programme;

- The effect of the TC Guidelines on the RCA Project development process.

In addition, the RCA PAC will:

(a) Facilitate RCA GPs' ability to draft Project Concepts/Project Designs effectively through:

- Engaging with the IAEA Secretariat at crucial stages in the planning cycle for the TC Programme to review the compatibility of their guidelines for the preparation of the TC Programme and identify any aspects that might give rise to difficulties with implementation of the RCA recommendations; and,

- Reviewing technical aspects of current and future project submissions using other technical experts if required.

(b) Provide inputs and advice to the NRs on RCA strategic matters such as:

- Development of the RCA Medium Term Strategy; RCA submissions to the TC Best Practice Initiative; and,

- Mechanisms to identify funding opportunities through donors outside the IAEA.

(c) Provide input into any other issues that the NRs may from time to time request from the RCA PAC.