

Report of the Director of the RCARO

The report of the Director of the RCARO is herewith submitted to the NRM for the consideration of the National RCA Representatives.

The Report contains information related to

1. RCARO Work Performance for 2011 in table
2. A description of the Progress made in 2011 under the topics of
 - Increasing the RCA's awareness
 - Successful implementation of RCA/UNDP project
 - Promoting partnerships for RCA
 - Preservation of nuclear knowledge
 - Increased interaction between Member States and RCARO
 - EB Contribution
3. RCARO Work Plan for 2012 in table
4. A description of the Work Plan of 2012 under the topics of
 - Increasing the awareness of RCA
 - Implementation of RCA/UNDP Partnership Project on nuclear imaging technology
 - Promoting partnerships for RCA
 - Preservation of nuclear knowledge
 - Increased interaction between Member States and RCARO

Proposed Action

The NRM may take note of the Report and approve the Work Plan for 2012 subject to any amendments.

RCARO 2011 Work Performance

	Target	Activities	Milestone				Performance Indicators	Status
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
1	Increasing the RCA's awareness	1.1 Publicity activities for increasing RCA's awareness	█	█	█	█	1.1.1 Publication of the fourth round RCA Success Stories	Done -1 booklet on radiotherapy was distributed at the 40 th GCM.
			█	█	█	█	1.1.2 Production of promotional video on RCA activities	Done -Video was presented and DVDs were distributed to the MSs at the 40 th GCM.
		1.2 Enhanced RCA information service through RCARO website	█	█	█	█	1.2.1 Redesign and operation of RCARO website	Done -A new website was launched on 15 July.
			█	█	█	█	1.2.2 Reorganization and updating of database(RCARO+MOH+IAEA provided data)	Done
			█	█	█	█	1.2.3 Updating data on RCA Stakeholders/end-users by Member States	Done - Data of PAK, MAL, BGD, MYA, JPN and ROK was updated.

		1.3 Participation in regional/ international meetings and support for the promotion of RCA activities					1.3.1 Presentation and exhibition on RCA/RCARO activities to target audiences	Done -Participated in 5 regional/ international events for presentation and exhibition. - Provided information on regional/ international events on the RCA website.
							1.3.2 Support to RCA experts for increasing awareness and promotion of RCA	Done -Supported a RCA expert in the publication of Success Story on radiotherapy and website renewal.
2	Successful implementation of RCA/UNDP project	2.1 Holding a kick-off meeting					- Holding a kick-off meeting to identify status and needs of participating countries, and to discuss and develop future work plan of the project	Done -The meeting was held on 17-19 May 2011 in Phuket, Thailand with 21 participants.
		2.2 Conducting the basic training on SPECT/PET and on-site regional training course					- Enhancement of basic capacity of SPECT/PET imaging science and technology	Done -Two training courses were held from 8 to 26 August 2011 at various hospitals in Seoul with 20 participants; Train-the-Trainers course for 2 weeks and On-Site Regional Training Course for 1 week.

		2.3 Monitoring and submission of progress report					- Preparation and submission of the progress report and financial report to UNDP	Done - Submitted the interim and annual progress report and financial report to the UNDP and UNOPS at the end of June and December.
		2.4 Annual review meeting and evaluation of the project					- Hosting an annual review meeting to review and evaluate the performance of the project and discuss work plan for the next year	Done - The meeting was held on 20-21 December 2011 in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia with 21 participants.
3	Promoting partnerships for RCA	3.1 Pursuing partnership with GEF					3.1.1 Investigation of GEF projects for developing a partnership project	Done -Investigated GEF-5 funding programme(2010-2014)
							3.1.2 Exploring possibility to apply nuclear techniques into GEF projects and RCA criteria	Done - As the GEF projects mostly focus on national level, it was difficult to identify adequate partnership projects to apply nuclear science and technology
							3.1.3 Consultation with GEF and RCA experts for developing a partnership project	- Based on 3.1.2, it was not necessary to consult with GEF and RCA experts

		3.2 Exploring partnership development with regional/ international organizations					- Exploration of strategies for partnership with regional/ international organizations	Done - RCARO made contact with UNDP for the development of a new project and made a proposal for a project titled Electron Beam Applications for Treatment of Environmental Pollutants and Industrial Products in the Asia-Pacific Region. - The proposal was not selected by UNDP.
4	Preservation of nuclear knowledge	4.1 RCARO/KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree Course					- Holding the RCARO/ KAIST Master's Degree Course	Done - Supported four students from PAK, INS and MAL for the course.
		4.2 Support to the RCARO/ ARCCNM training course					- Holding the RCARO/ARCCNM training course	Done - The 10 th Annual General Meeting of ARCCNM was held from 28 Nov. to 2 Dec. 2011 in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam and RCARO supported 25 trainees.
		4.3 RCARO/KAERI regional training workshop					- Implementation of the RCARO/ KAERI regional training workshops	Done - RCARO/KAERI Regional Training Workshop on Research Reactor Utilization and Radiation Application Technology was held on 10-21 October 2011 in Korea with 14 trainees.

5	Increased interaction between Member States and RCARO	5.1 Increased participation of Member States in RCARO activities	████████████████████			- Inviting 3-4 temporary staff from Member States to RCARO	Done - Four temporary staff were invited from MAL, PAK, MON and SRL.	
		5.2 Participation in RCA policy meetings		████████	████████	- Participation in the 33 rd NRM, the 40 th GCM and relevant meetings as and if so decided	Done - Attended 33 rd NRM and 40 th GCM.	
		5.3 Participation in the FNCA Coordinators meeting		████████		- Participation in the 12 th FNCA Coordinators meeting	The meeting was cancelled due to the earthquake and tsunami in Japan.	
		5.4 RCARO development of capabilities in project design and management		████████		- Participation in the LCC meeting	Done - Attended the LCC meeting in February 2011 in Vienna.	
		5.5 Holding a temporary staff workshop on enhancing RCARO interactions with Member States				████████	- Holding a temporary staff workshop to review RCARO activities and future work plan including interaction with Member States	Done - RCARO held a workshop on “Future Cooperation of the RCA Regional Office for Sustainable Development” on 1-3 November 2011 in Jeju, Korea with 9 past and present temporary staff.
		5.6 The legal status of RCARO		████████			- Preparation and submission of detailed proposals regarding the strengthening of the legal authority	Done - Reported the proposals to the 33 rd NRM.

		5.7 Extra-budgetary contribution of RCARO					of RCARO to the 33 rd NRM	
							- EB contribution of RCARO to the IAEA	Done (US\$50,000, RAS/6/061) - RAS/6/061/: Improving Cancer Management with Hybrid Nuclear Medicine Imaging

RCARO 2011 Work Performance

1. Increasing the awareness of RCA

1.1 Publicity activities for increasing RCA's awareness

1.1.1 Publication of the fourth round RCA Success Stories

Upon approval at the 32nd NRM, the RCARO published the fourth batch of RCA Success Stories, 1 leaflet on mitigating coastal impacts of Tsunami and 1 booklet on improving the quality of radiotherapy in the Asia-Pacific region, with a view to promoting the understanding of the general public about the RCA achievements and potential benefits of RCA projects to the region. As for the Success Story on radiotherapy in booklet format, pursuant to the decision by the 33rd NRM to reflect the comments from the Member States, it was published reflecting the comments from THA, INS and JPN and distributed to the 40th GCM. 500 copies of the Success Story on radiotherapy were distributed to RCA NRs for a national distribution as requested by the 13th SAC. Copies of these Success Stories were also handed out to the regional and international events which RCARO participated in search of promotion.

RCARO also established the publication mechanism, schedule and plan including the RCA projects for future publication of RCA Success Stories. In this context, RCARO conducted a survey and received recommendations from the Member States on appropriate projects for future RCA Success Stories among the RCA projects for 2009-2011. Based on the survey results of project priority among the Member States, 3 projects were selected for the future Success Stories. Upon approval for the publication mechanism, plans and the selected projects at the 40th GCM, RCARO proceeded to publish the 5th batch of the Success Stories.

The two RCA Success Stories in leaflet format are being drafted in consultation with LCCs, but receiving a draft for the Success Story in booklet format from LCC in charge is behind schedule.

The projects to be published are as follows:

- RAS/5/046 in leaflet: Novel Applications of Food Irradiation Technology for Improving Socioeconomic Development
- RAS/9/042 in leaflet: Sustainability of Regional Radiation Protection Infrastructure
- RAS/7/016 in booklet: Establishing a Benchmark for Assessing the Radiological Impact of Nuclear Power Activities on the Marine Environment in the Asia-Pacific region

1.1.2 Production of promotional video on RCA activities

Along with the publication of the RCA Success Stories, RCARO produced a promotional video reflecting advice and recommendations of Member States and comments from the 33rd NRM as follows:

- 1) Comments from AUL, CPR, IND, MAL, PAK, PHI, ROK and the IAEA at the 33rd NRM
- 2) Inclusion of the interviews with the former RCA coordinators, Dr. Machi and Dr. Easey
- 3) Views from INS to revise the presentation and contents of the RCA mission; AUL to modify and edit the narration and script; SRL and IND to add the video clips of RCA related activities
- 4) Insertion of pictures of each NR of the 17 Member States

The completed video was presented at the 40th GCM and DVDs were distributed to the Member States.

RCARO produced two separate versions of video, one excluding some interviews and pictures of NRs considering frequent replacement and the other including Nepal in preparation of Nepal's possible joining of the RCA.

RCARO posted the video on the RCA website in order for Member States to download freely and use it for promotional purposes. The video was also presented at the regional and international events to introduce the RCA and its activities.

1.2 Enhanced RCA information service through RCARO website

1.2.1 Redesign and operation of RCARO website

RCARO demonstrated the renewed RCA website at the 33rd NRM and collected opinions from the Member States as decided at the 33rd NRM. Opinions from the Member States including INS, AUL and RCA-FP on its revision were reflected and the data was updated accordingly.

With all these support of the Member States and stakeholders, a new RCA website was launched on 15 July 2011 and a new ID and PW were informed to the NRs of the Member States for their active use.

1.2.2 Reorganization and updating of database (RCARO+MOH+IAEA provided data)

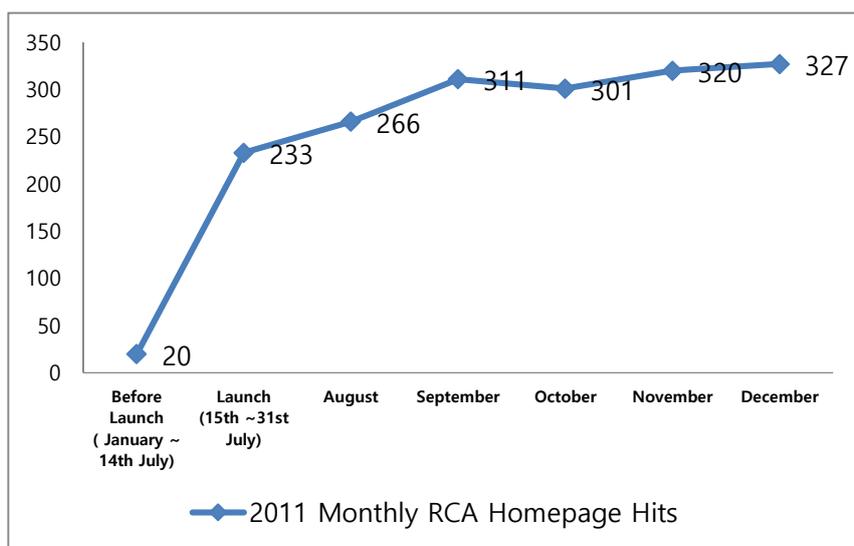
RCARO reorganized and updated the RCA website with the data of RCARO, MOH and data provided by RCA-FP as well.

In addition, RCARO uploaded the "Asia-Pacific Aerosol Database (A-PAD) for fine and coarse air particulate matter from the RCA region" on the RCA website, which is one of the results of the RCA project, as decided by the 33rd NRM for expert's wide use.

1.2.3 Updating data on RCA stakeholders/end-users by the Member States

RCARO updated the data of the Member States and other stakeholders including PAK, MAL, BGD, MYA, JPN and KOR with the assistance of temporary staff on the RCA website.

RCARO established two menus on the website; Member States News and File upload/download which allow Member States to exchange and share information and files freely among Member States through the website.



As shown in the graph above, there were around 300 visitors per month since its launch.

1.3 Participation in regional/international meetings and support for the promotion of RCA activities

RCARO is encouraged to seek opportunities to present the RCA activities to target audiences in order to enhance the awareness of RCA and its activities and to establish partnership with regional and international organizations.

1.3.1 Presentation and exhibition on RCA/RCARO activities to target audiences

As approved at the 33rd NRM, RCARO participated in the following regional and international events;

- 1) UNDP-SU-SSC/ESCAP Exhibition on 19-25 May 2011, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2) International Meeting on Radiation Processing on 13-16 June 2011, Montreal, Canada
- 3) World Molecular Imaging Congress on 7-10 September 2011, San Diego, USA
- 4) 9th Southeast Asian Congress of Medical Physics on 16-19 November 2011, Bohol, Philippines
- 5) UNDP Global South-South Expo on 5-9 December 2011, Rome, Italy

As its mandate to increase the visibility and to promote the viability, RCARO made efforts to demonstrate

the RCA's capabilities and potentials to the regional and international communities. The RCA Success Stories and the RCA promotional video were used for promotional purposes on these occasions. Particularly, the RCA promotional video was recognized as the most effective tool to introduce and enhance the awareness of RCA. Through participating in the aforementioned conferences, RCARO was able to publicize RCA and network with the industry and scientific experts not only within the RCA region but also outside of RCA Region such as North and South America and Europe.

In addition, RCARO collected and provided information on regional and international events and posted it on the RCA website.

1.3.2 Support to RCA experts for increasing the awareness and promotion of RCA

RCARO supported a RCA expert for publication of the Success Story on radiotherapy and website renewal. RCARO will continue to support RCA experts for increasing the awareness and promotion of RCA.

2. Successful implementation of UNDP project

RCARO established the project framework and work plan and confirmed the participating Member States, Project Leading Country Coordinator (LCC), and their National Project Coordinators (NPCs) in consultation with the Member States.

The first year activities of the RCA/UNDP project on Promoting and Accelerating Nuclear SPECT/PET Imaging Technologies in the region have been successfully implemented, achieving the objectives and goals, as planned.

2.1 Holding a kick-off meeting

RCARO held a kick-off meeting in Phuket, Thailand on 17-19 May 2011. 21 participants including the NR of Thailand, LCC, NPCs from 11 Member States, staff from RCARO, UNDP and ARCCNM attended the meeting. The meeting confirmed the 2011 work plan and decided to hold two training courses in August in Seoul and an annual review meeting in December 2011.

The meeting report was distributed to the NRs of participating Member States, participants of the meeting, RCA-FP and IAEA technical officer.

2.2 Conducting the basic training on SPECT/PET and on-site regional training course

As decided in the kick-off meeting, two training courses were held from 8 to 26 August 2011 in Seoul,

Korea in cooperation with Seoul National University Bundang Hospital and LCC.

The courses were 1) Train-the-trainers course for two weeks and 2) on-site regional training course for one week. 20 trainees from 11 Member States participated in the training courses. The training material was produced by the committee for training protocol and material development consisting of Singapore NPC, Korean experts in nuclear medicine and RCARO and it was uploaded on the RCA website for participants of the Regional Training Courses to use freely after completion of the courses.

2.3 Monitoring and submission of progress report

The satisfactory survey was conducted after the regional training courses and it showed that the participants evaluated the courses as more satisfactory in comparison to those organized by other organizations in terms of preparation, context and quality of trainers.

National reports were duly collected from the participating NPCs. Based on their reports, the interim and annual progress report and financial report were submitted to UNDP and United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) accordingly at the end of June and December.

2.4 Annual review meeting and evaluation of the project

The annual review meeting was held on 20-21 December 2011 in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, with 20 participants, among whom including LCC, 13 representatives including first participation from Australia, staff from RCARO and ARCCNM. At the meeting, representatives presented on the national achievements and outcomes in 2011, work plan for 2012 and expected outcomes of each participating Member State.

At the meeting, 2012 work plan was set up to hold the train-the-trainer course and on-site training course for three weeks consecutively between June and July in Korea. Australia, Singapore and Republic of Korea agreed to participate as technology provider. ARCCNM agreed to provide lectures during the first week of the training course.

The meeting was a significant event for project participants who had an opportunity for a comprehensive review of the annual progress since its kick-off and the project was evaluated by the participants as a successfully implemented one, achieving the objectives and goals.

3. Promoting partnerships for RCA

3.1 Pursuing partnership with GEF

3.1.1 Investigation of GEF projects for developing a partnership project

RCARO has been seeking opportunities to build partnerships with regional and international organizations to implement RCA projects in a more beneficial way to the Member States.

In order to develop a partnership with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), RCARO had made research on GEF-5 funding programme (2010-2014) to explore the possibility of a partnership.

3.1.2 Exploring possibility to apply nuclear techniques into GEF projects and RCA criteria

At the 33rd NRM, RCARO reported that GEF would not be a suitable organization to develop a partnership project with the RCA since most of the GEF projects address priority development areas at the national level.

As recommended by the 33rd NRM, RCARO carried out further investigation of the GEF Agencies that provide assistance to eligible applicants in the development, implementation and management of GEF projects, for seeking an opportunity to build a RCA partnership project with them.

From among the 10 GEF partnership agencies, RCARO investigated the data on funding types and mechanisms, project thematic areas of UNIDO, the World Bank and FAO.

AS UNIDO focuses its projects on agro-based small and medium enterprises and mainly addresses priority development areas at the national level, the possibility of developing partnerships with UNIDO seems to be low.

The World Bank has a program for regional projects in the fields of health, agriculture and environmental and natural resources management. But most of the projects are implemented on a loan base by international financial institutions such as IBRD and IDA. In this context, the World Bank might not be an appropriate counterpart for developing a partnership project.

RCARO explored the possibilities of developing partnership project with FAO. FAO has Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP), which was launched in 1976 and is a part of FAO's Regular Programme, financed from the assessed contributions of its Members. The Programme aims to provide FAO's technical expertise to its Member countries through targeted, short term, catalytic projects. These projects are mostly national projects and address technical problems in the field of agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural livelihood that prevent Member countries, either individually or collectively, from implementing their development programmes. The TCP(Technical Cooperation Programme) is a tool of FAO's Member countries and requests for assistance can only be submitted by the governments of these countries or by the intergovernmental organizations (e.g. IAEA) of which they are members and which are recognized as such by FAO, as FAO's counterparts. In this context, the FAO might not be an appropriate counterpart for developing a RCA partnership project.

3.1.3 Consultation with GEF and RCA experts for developing a partnership project

Recognizing the fact that GEF would not be a suitable organization to develop a partnership project, it was not necessary to continue to consult with GEF and RCA experts.

3.2 Exploring partnership development with regional/international organizations

Upon the UNDP project application plan for 2011, RCARO submitted the RCA/UNDP project proposal on “Electron Beam Applications for Treatment of Environmental Pollutants and Industrial Products in the Asia-Pacific Region”, reflecting the views of RCARO SAC and the Member States.

The proposal was not selected by the UNDP, but RCARO plans to submit it again to the latter to make it as a new partnership project with the UNDP in 2012.

4. Preservation of nuclear knowledge

4.1 RCARO/KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master’s Degree Course

The nuclear knowledge preservation programme was initiated by RCARO in cooperation with the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) for Nuclear Engineering Master’s Degree Course. RCARO supported four students in 2011; one from PAK, two from INS and one from MAL.

4.2 Support to the RCARO/ARCCNM training course

Encouraged by the successful holding of RCARO/Asian Regional Cooperative Council for Nuclear Medicine (ARCCNM) Training Course since 2008, RCARO supported 25 trainees for the training course held from 28 November to 2 December in 2011 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

4.3 RCARO/KAERI regional training workshop

RCARO hosted a regional training workshop for 14 selected participants from 11 Member States on research reactor utilization and radiation application technology held on 10-21 October 2011 in cooperation with the Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute (KAERI).

5. Increased interaction between Member States and RCARO

5.1 Increased participation of the Member States in RCARO activities

Four temporary staff from MAL, PAK, MON and SRL were selected in 2011 and they took part in the activities of RCARO. They completed their duties successfully in assisting to update the relevant data on the RCA website, collecting information on regional and international events, renewal of RCA website and providing assistance to the RCA/UNDP partnership project.

5.2 Participation in RCA policy meetings

RCARO, as one of the RCA stakeholders, participated in the RCA policy meetings, namely, the 33rd NRM in Indonesia in April and the 40th GCM in Vienna in September and the director of RCARO made presentations on the RCARO activities. RCARO served as the secretariat in supporting an efficient operation of the RCARO SAC meetings.

5.3 Participation in the FNCA Coordinators meeting

As approved at the 39th GCM, RCARO was supposed to participate in the 12th FNCA Coordinators Meeting to be held in Fukui, Japan on 17-18 March 2011 to discuss cooperative matters between RCA and FNCA on behalf of RCA. But the meeting was cancelled due to the earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

5.4 RCARO development of capabilities in project design and management

As decided at the 32nd NRM, RCARO attended the LCC meeting in Vienna in February 2011 to develop capabilities in project design and management.

5.5 Holding a temporary staff workshop on enhancing RCARO interactions with Member States

With a view to increasing RCARO interactions with the Member States, RCARO invited previous temporary staff who worked in RCARO and held workshop on 1-3 November 2011 to review and discuss the ways of promoting cooperation among Member States and the role of RCARO.

9 participants from CPR, INS, MAL, MON, PAK, SRL and THA attended the workshop and each participant made a presentation on their experiences in the RCARO and their present organizations and on their ideas for the sustainable development of the RCARO.

5.6 The legal status of RCARO

As requested by the 39th GCM, RCARO provided detailed proposals regarding the strengthening of its legal authority to the 33rd NRM. RCARO also prepared a specific proposal to amend the RCA Agreement in consultation with legal experts. This issue was discussed under the agenda item 14 “Extension of RCA Agreement” during the 33rd NRM, but no consensus was made.

5.7 Extra-budgetary contribution of RCARO

RCARO contributed Extra-Budget (EB) of US\$50,000 for the RCA project, RAS/6/061 on “Improving Cancer Management with Hybrid Nuclear Medicine Imaging” for cooperation with the RCA/UNDP partnership project on “Promoting and Accelerating Nuclear SPECT/PET Imaging technologies in the region” in order to support exchanging experts and information between two projects.

RCARO 2012 Work Plan

	Target	Activities	Milestone				Performance Indicators
			QT 1	QT 2	QT 3	QT 4	
1	Increasing the awareness of RCA	1.1 Publicity activities for increasing RCA's awareness	—————				1.1.1 Publication of the 5th round of RCA Success stories and preparation of its 6 th round - 1 booklet and 2 leaflets
			—————				
		1.2 Enhanced RCA information service through the RCA website	—————				1.2.1 Updating data on RCA and RCA projects
			—————				1.2.2 Updating data on RCA stakeholders/end-users by Member States
		1.3 Participation in regional/international events and support for the promotion of RCA activities	—————				1.3.1 Presentation and exhibition on RCA/RCARO activities to target audiences
			—————				1.3.2 Support to RCA experts for increasing awareness and promotion of RCA
—————				1.3.3 Preparation and participation in the exhibition of the 40 th Anniversary of RCA			
2	Implementation	2.1 Reporting to the 34 th NRM	—————			2.1.1 Reporting of the achievements and outputs of the	

	of RCA/UNDP partnership project on nuclear imaging technology	<p>2.2 Conducting the basic training on SPECT/PET and on-site regional training course</p> <p>2.3 Monitoring and submission of progress report.</p> <p>2.4 Annual review meeting and evaluation of the project</p>				<p>RCA/UNDP project</p> <p>2.2.1 Holding of the training courses for enhancement of basic capacity of SPECT/PET imaging science and technology</p> <p>2.3.1 Preparation and submission of the progress report and financial report to UNDP and UNOPS.</p> <p>2.4.1 Hosting an annual review meeting to review and evaluate the performance of the project and discuss work plan for 2013</p>
3	Promoting partnerships for RCA	<p>3.1 Application of RCA/UNDP partnership project on “Electron Beam Applications”</p> <p>3.2 Exploring the partnership projects with regional/international organizations</p>				<p>3.1.1 Modifying the project proposal made in 2011 in consultation with the experts and submit the proposal to UNDP</p> <p>3.2.1 Exploring the partnership projects with regional/international organizations in consultation with the RCA experts</p>
4	Preservation of nuclear knowledge	<p>4.1 RCARO/KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master’s Degree Course</p> <p>4.2 Support to the RCARO/ARCCNM</p>				<p>4.1.1 Holding of the RCARO/KAIST Master’s Degree Course</p> <p>4.2.1 Holding of the RCARO/ARCCNM training course</p>

		training course						
		4.3 RCARO/KAERI regional training workshop				█	4.3.1 Implementation of the RCARO/KAERI regional training workshop	
5	Increased interaction between Member States and RCARO	5.1 Increased participation of Member States in RCARO activities	█					5.1.1 Inviting 3-4 temporary staff from the Member States to RCARO
		5.2 Participation in RCA policy meetings				█	5.2.1 Participation in the 34 th NRM, 41 st GCM and relevant meetings	
		5.3 Participation in the FNCA Coordinators Meeting				█	5.3.1 Participation in the 13 th FNCA Coordinators Meeting	
		5.4 Holding of an expert workshop on enhancing strategic goals of RCARO				█	5.4.1 Holding of an expert workshop on enhancing strategic goals of RCARO	
		5.5 Extra-budgetary contribution of RCARO to the IAEA					█	5.5.1 EB contribution of RCARO to the IAEA

RCARO 2012 Work Plan

1. Increasing the awareness of RCA

1.1 Publicity activities for increasing RCA's awareness

1.1.1 Publication of 5th round of RCA Success Stories and preparation of its 6th round

As approved at the 40th GCM in 2011, RCARO will prepare draft Success Stories of “Establishing a Benchmark for Assessing the Radiological Impact of Nuclear Power Activities on the Marine Environment in the Asia-Pacific region”(RAS/7/016) in booklet and “Novel Applications of Food Irradiation Technology for Improving Socioeconomic Development” (RAS/5/046) and “Sustainability of Regional Radiation Protection Infrastructure”(RAS/9/042) in leaflets, and submit them to the 34th NRM in Beijing, China 2012 for review and approval prior to the publication. It may be delayed to publish the Success Story in booklet format because it takes more time to make its draft.

The completed Success Stories will be published and distributed to the 41st GCM and the copies will be further handed out to RCA experts, IAEA and regional and international events.

1.1.2 Updating promotional video on RCA activities

As the RCA promotional video was successfully completed in 2011, RCARO will make the most use of the video on the occasions like the 40th RCA anniversary, regional/international events to promote the RCA and its activities and also provide support to the Member States for their promotional uses of RCA.

It will be updated, when necessary, to modify the changes related to the RCA and its activities and the updated version will be distributed to the NRs and also uploaded on the RCA website.

Additionally, the short version excluding some of the interviews of RCA experts and pictures of the NRs will be also uploaded on the RCA website for Member States considering frequent replacement of the NRs.

1.2 Enhanced RCA information service through the RCA Website

RCARO redesigned RCA website with introduction of new tools such as content management system, searching function and user's space for information exchange among end-users and stake-holders of RCA Member States. RCARO also reorganized and updated database (RCARO + MOH + IAEA provided data), and launched it successfully on 15 July 2011.

RCARO will continue its efforts to further upgrade and enhance its website operation in 2012, with a view to making it a hub for an information flow within the RCA community.

1.2.1 Updating data on RCA and RCA projects

RCARO will continue to renew its efforts to further update the data on RCA and its activities; meetings, projects, news.

RCARO will enhance, among others, its interactions among end-users and stakeholders of the RCA Member States through the website, in particular, on matters regarding the information exchange and utilization.

1.2.2 Updating data on RCA stakeholders and end-users by Member States

In accordance with RCARO's efforts to update the database on the RCA stakeholders and end-users, the Member States are required to participate in the provision of data on relevant personnel in respective Member States. Member States' advices on effective use of the database are solicited.

1.3 Participation in regional/international events and support for the promotion of RCA activities

RCARO will make further its efforts to fulfill its mandate to promote RCA to target audiences at appropriate occasions by presentation, exhibition, and provide support to RCA experts for increasing the awareness and promotion of RCA.

1.3.1. Presentation and exhibition on RCA/RCARO activities to target audiences

RCARO will continue to present the RCA/RCARO activities to target audiences including relevant end-users to promote a better understanding about the RCA's activities related to the nuclear science and technology application. Presentations will be made at some relevant occasions and meetings including the RCA events in the region.

RCARO will also continue to participate in regional and international events to demonstrate the RCA's capabilities and potentials to regional and international communities.

These are the events from the survey conducted by RCARO which could be of interest to the RCA:

- PBNC 2012, 18th Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference, 18-23 March 2012, Busan, Korea
- RADTECH 2012, RadTech UV & EB Technology Expo & Conference , 30 April – 2 May, Chicago, USA

- World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering WC 2012, 25 - 31 May, Beijing, China
- 20th Annual Meeting and Exhibition of the International Society for MRI in Medicine, 5-11 May 2012, Melbourne, Australia
- World Congress on Water, Climate and Energy, 13 - 18 May 2012, Dublin Ireland
- IMRP(International Meeting on Radiation Processing), time and venue to be decided
- ASNM(American Society of Nuclear Medicine) Annual Meeting 2012, 9 -13 June 2012, Miami, Florida, USA
- International Nuclear Industry Exhibition, 18-20 Sep, 2012, St Petersburg, Russia
- 3rd International Symposium on Radiopharmaceutical Therapy (ISRT-2012), 25 – 29 November 2012, Levi, Finland
- UNDP Global South-South Expo, Dec. 2012, Vienna hosted by UNIDO
- Other relevant meetings to be identified

A survey among the Member States will be also conducted by RCARO to reflect their inputs for the events to participate and promote RCA. RCARO will then participate in the appropriate events which are identified to be effective for promotional use of RCA.

1.3.2. Support to RCA experts for increasing the awareness and promotion of RCA

RCARO has provided support for RCA experts in their activities that could enhance the RCA's awareness and the promotion of RCA activities, such as participation in international meetings. In 2012, RCARO will continue to provide its assistance to some selected RCA experts for participation in international meetings and promotional activities for RCA.

1.3.3. Preparation and participation in the exhibition of the 40th Anniversary of RCA

As decided by the 40th GCM, RCARO will participate in the exhibition of the 40th anniversary of RCA to be held on 23 April 2012 in Beijing, China as a thematic coordinator of general RCA. RCARO will prepare the exhibition materials in consultation with the RCA-FP and the RCA experts and make good use of its experiences and the materials on the exhibition until now.

2. Implementation of RCA/ UNDP partnership project on nuclear imaging technology

RCA/UNDP partnership project on nuclear imaging technology was contracted with UNDP Regional

Office in Bangkok in December 2010 to promote SPECT/PET imaging technologies in the RCA region. The total funding of \$500,000 is to be contributed to the project, specifically \$300,000 by UNDP and \$200,000 by RCARO for three years. 12 RCA Member States (Australia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam) and Nepal, as least developing country required by UNDP, have been participated in the project. The project was implemented successfully as planned and its mid-term progress was reported to the 40th GCM in 2011.

2.1 Reporting to the 34th NRM

As decided by the 40th GCM, RCARO will report the progress of the project in 2011 and work plan for 2012 at the 34th NRM.

2.2 Conducting the basic training on SPECT/PET and on-site regional training course

As decided at the annual review meeting in 2011, reflecting the analysis of the training courses in 2011 and the opinions of the trainees and NPCs, the basic training on SPECT/PET for one week and on-site regional training course for two weeks will be consecutively held between June and July in Korea.

The basic training on SPECT/PET will provide lectures on the basic pathophysiology and principles of SPECT/PET, radiopharmaceutical production, image acquisition and reconstruction and image analysis and interpretation, while the on-site regional training provide practice of neurochemistry imaging technologies and molecular oncologic imaging technologies linked with pathophysiology and principles of SPECT/PET, radiopharmaceutical production.

2.3 Monitoring and submission of the progress report

RCARO will take the responsibilities of overall management of the project through monitoring and submitting the progress report for successful implementation. Conforming to the UNDP programming manual, progress and financial report of the project will be prepared and submitted to UNDP every six months.

2.4 Annual review meeting and evaluating of the project

Pursuant to the decision at the annual review meeting in 2011, RCARO will hold the annual review meeting, inviting representatives of the participating Member States and relevant stakeholders, to review and evaluate the performance of the project in 2012 and discuss 2013 work plan.

3. Promoting partnerships for RCA

RCARO will continue to explore international funding sources in terms of funding availability, relevance with RCA, and other terms and conditions. Upon identifying appropriate partners, RCARO will develop feasible partnership projects with them.

3.1 Application of RCA/UNDP partnership project on “Electron Beam Applications”

RCARO has promoted cooperation with UNDP through partnership project as its major activity.

In 2011, RCARO made a proposal to UNDP on “Electron Beam Applications for Industrial Products and Treatment of Environmental Pollutants in the Asia-Pacific Region” with no result.

Upon the project application plan for 2012, RCARO plans to submit this proposal again to UNDP. The proposal will be modified in consultation with the RCA experts, including the electron beam application on food irradiation which is one of the priority areas for the developing countries.

According to the RCA GOR, RCARO will reflect the opinions of the RCARO SAC and the Member States for the application of the project proposal.

If selected, RCARO will make the necessary arrangements cooperatively with UNDP and the participating Member States to proceed with the project smoothly.

3.2 Exploring the partnership projects with regional/international organizations

RCARO is tasked to explore the international funding sources and develop partnership projects with them focusing on the areas related to nuclear science and technology application.

Due to limited technical knowledge and manpower, RCARO has difficulties in developing future partnership projects in terms of finding funding sources and appropriate projects.

Against this backdrop, RCARO plans to consult with the RCA experts with experience and expertise to solve the problems which RCARO is facing.

4. Preservation of nuclear knowledge

4.1 RCARO/KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master’s Degree Course

The nuclear knowledge preservation programme was initiated by RCARO in cooperation with the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) for Nuclear Engineering Master’s Degree Course. As carried out in the past years, recruiting students from the Member States for the 2012 spring and fall semesters will be implemented in due course.

4.2 RCARO/ARCCNM training course

As done in 2011, RCARO will continue its support for the RCARO/ARCCNM training course to be held in October, Seoul in 2012.

4.3 RCARO/KAERI regional training workshop

RCARO will host a regional training workshop regarding nuclear technology, utilization of radiation and safety in October or November 2012 in cooperation with KAERI. RCA Member States are requested to recommend appropriate candidates for the workshop.

5. Increased Interaction between Member States and RCARO

5.1 Increased participation of Member States in RCARO activities

RCARO will select 3~4 temporary staff from the Member States to work in RCARO in 2012. Their duties will be assistance of updating stakeholder/end-user database; collecting information on regional and international event; implementation of RCA/UNDP partnership projects. RCARO is considering to extend the duty period of the temporary staff who successfully performed their duties in RCARO.

5.2 Participation in RCA policy meetings

RCARO will participate in the RCA policy meetings, including the 34th NRM in Beijing, China in April and the 41st GCM in Vienna in September. RCARO will also provide assistance to the operation of RCARO SAC meetings as a secretariat.

5.3 Participation in the 13th FNCA Coordinators Meeting

On behalf of RCA, RCARO will participate in the 13th FNCA Coordinators Meeting to be held in Fukui, Japan in March in 2012 to discuss cooperative matters between RCA and FNCA.

5.4 Holding of an expert workshop on enhancing strategic goals of RCARO

With a view to enhancing strategic goals of RCARO, RCARO plans to hold an expert workshop to discuss RCA partnership project development; promote the utilization of RCA experts; strengthen the RCARO capacity for involving in RCA project management; and other topics to be considered.

The workshop is to be held for 3 to 4 days in July 2012 in Jeju, Korea, and the RCARO SAC members, NRs and RCA experts will be invited to the workshop. The detailed information will be decided in due course.

5.5 Extra-budgetary contribution of RCARO to the IAEA

An EB contribution by RCARO and the ROK Government will continue in 2012 and is subject to the budget availability of RCARO.