



# **Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators (ANNuR)**

## **First Regional Meeting on Harmonizing the Regulatory Requirements for Radiation Protection Officer Qualification and Competence**

**Hosted by the**  
Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt

**through the**  
Egyptian Nuclear & Radiological Regulatory Authority (ENRRA)

**Cairo, Egypt**

**24 - 26 April 2024**

**Ref. No.: [\[EVT2304112\]](#)**

## **Information Sheet**

### **Introduction**

The Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators (ANNuR) was created in 2010 with the purpose of strengthening and harmonizing the regulatory infrastructure in Arab countries as one of the regional networks under the IAEA's Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN). Under the MOU signed between the IAEA and Arab Atomic Energy Agency, the Secretariat of ANNuR, the IAEA has been providing technical secretariat service for the network identify the technical needs in the region and explore activities to address them.

IAEA Safety Standard GSR Part 3 (Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards) defines the Radiation Protection Officer (RPO) as a person technically competent in radiation protection matters relevant for a given type of practice who is designated by the registrant, licensee or employer to oversee the application of regulatory requirements.

In the 14th annual meeting of ANNuR which was held in Hammamet, Tunisia in February 2023, the Member States discussed about the importance of securing sufficient competent radiation protection officers to enhance the level of radiation safety in expanding the nuclear and radiation application programs in Arab. To serve the purpose, the representatives supported the idea of harmonizing the Member State's regulatory requirements regarding the qualification and competence of RPO by aligning with international standard such as IAEA GSR Part 3.

As conclusion of the discussion, it was decided that ANNuR establishes a working group with the Member States willing to enhance and harmonize their regulatory requirement for RPO with other Arab countries. The working group will serve as a platform to share each Member State's regulatory system and develop an action plan to be implemented in participating countries.

## **Objectives**

The purpose of the event is to review the current Member States' national regulatory systems for radiation protection officers (RPOs), including training and education. Participating Member States will develop an action plan for harmonizing the regulatory requirements for RPOs.

In addition, the participants will be informed on the International Safety Standards in the radiation protection area as well as best practices from other countries to enhance the related regulatory infrastructure in Member States overall.

## **Target Audience**

This meeting is open to the Member States of ANNuR participating in the aforementioned RPO harmonization initiative. The participants should be regulators with the responsibility in regulatory infrastructure concerning the requirement of Radiation Protection Officers.

Prior to the meeting, participants are expected to make a gap analysis between their national infrastructure compared to that required in IAEA Safety Standards. This can be facilitated by being familiar with their national profiles of TSAs 1 and 6 in RASIMS (Radiation Safety Information Management System).

The IAEA technical officer(s) will participate in the meeting providing guidance on the application of IAEA safety standards.

## **Working Language**

The working language of the meeting will be English.

## **Expected Outputs**

The expected outputs of the event include: a) meeting report capturing all the shared knowledge and experiences related to the regulatory requirements status in the Arab region and the work plan for harmonizing the regulatory requirements for RPO; b) participants' gap analysis between their national infrastructure compared to that required in IAEA Safety Standards, and a national action plan for addressing the gaps

## **Structure**

The meeting will consist of presentations made by the participants on their national regulatory system and practices for the education, training and competence of Radiation Protection Officers (RPOs) as well as introduction of practical cases in operating the RPO system from other countries. There will be IAEA Technical Officer's presentation on the roles and duties of the RPOs as well as a description of the relevant requirements for regulatory provisions that are needed to verify compliance. A template for the presentations of the participants will be provided.

Based on Safety Standards requirements GSR Part 1 and GSR Part 3, IAEA will provide presentations on the roles and duties of the RPO, as well as a description of the relevant requirements for regulatory provisions that are needed to verify compliance.

Participants are expected to make a gap analysis between their national infrastructure compared to that required in IAEA Safety Standards, and to draft a national action plan for addressing the gaps.

## **Topics**

- Presentation on IAEA Safety Standards GSR Part 1 and GSR Part 3: Role and duties of the RPO and regulatory provisions
- Presentation on IAEA's Radiation Safety Information Management System (RASIMS) Thematic Safety Area 6 'Education and Training in Radiation Protection and Safety'
- Presentation on the National Regulatory Requirements for Radiation Protection Officer Qualification and Competence (A template will be provided)
- Discussion on the gap analysis between the national Regulatory Requirements for Radiation Protection Officer compared to that required in IAEA Safety Standards and drafting of the national plan to address the gap

- Discussion on the roadmap for harmonizing the regulatory requirements of RPO among the participating Member States

## Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event have to be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be members of organizations that have been invited to attend.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State, participants are requested to send the **Participation Form (Form A)** to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) for onward transmission to the IAEA by **01 September 2023**. Participants who are members of an organization invited to attend are requested to send the **Participation Form (Form A)** through their organization to the IAEA by the above deadline.

Selected participants will be informed in due course on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the [Agency's Personal Data and Privacy Policy](#) and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required.

## Venue

The event will be held in Bangkok, Thailand. More detailed information will be provided to the registered meeting participants.

## Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter [\[Country\]](#) should submit the necessary application as soon as possible to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of [\[Country\]](#).

## Additional Information *(Note: this section is optional)*

[\[Text\]](#)

## **Additional Requirements** *(Note: this section is optional)*

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### **IAEA Contacts**

**Scientific Secretary:**

### **ANNuR Contacts**

### **Event Web Page**