**Why is this important?**

The use of nuclear technologies in Arab countries has increased significantly in different social and economic sectors (e.g., health, industry, agriculture, water management, etc.). The energy and electricity needs of many Arab countries have significantly increased and they expressed their interest to embark on nuclear power programmes. These developments urge the need for the establishment of a national independent, competent and efficient regulatory body as well as a sustainable regional framework for the exchange of information, knowledge, experiences and lessons learned. To address these issues, the Arab network of Nuclear Regulators (ANNuR) was established in January 2010. Since its inception, ANNuR became an integral part of the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Framework-GNSSF, linking and promoting international legal instruments, the use of the IAEA Safety Standards, security guidances and peer reviews. The IAEA supports ANNuR through the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network, to help Member States connect, collaborate and communicate. The IAEA acts also as ANNuR's scientific secretariat.

**What do I need to know?**

The purpose of ANNuR is to foster, enhance, strengthen and harmonize radiation protection, and nuclear safety and security regulatory infrastructure frameworks among the member states; and to provide mechanisms for ANNuR to be an effective, efficient and internationally recognized forum to exchange regulatory experiences and practices among the radiation and nuclear regulatory bodies in Arab countries.

Today, ANNuR has eight thematic working groups including experts working together on issues of common interest, sharing knowledge, and developing solutions to address problems and finding solutions. While regulation remains a national responsibility, ANNuR is intended to take into consideration the dynamics of technology and globalization of the nuclear industry to play a key role in sharing and maintaining the knowledge in radiation protection, emergency preparedness, radioactive waste management, transport of radioactive sources, and nuclear safety and security.

**Collaborating with ANNuR**

ANNuR provides access to several special interest portals where regulators can find and share specific information on various technical areas, such as:

- **Strengthening Infrastructure and Capacity Building for Regulatory Bodies**: This approach focuses on developing processes and methodologies for ANNuR members for a systematic approach on training needs, design of training programmes and implementation of trainings to support human resource development and capacity building.

- **Legislation and Regulation Frameworks**: The aim is to share knowledge and achieve a common understanding regarding the nuclear and radiation safety regulation through a platform where experts interact with interested parties and share their experiences.
What actions are recommended?

Regulators and their technical support organizations are encouraged to join and participate in ANNuR.

Network members are encouraged to collaborate widely through ANNuR portals to improve nuclear and radiation safety and security worldwide.

Member States and the IAEA can use the ANNuR website for planning and conducting capacity building activities.

For registration instructions, see: https://gnssn.iaea.org/

Collaborating with ANNuR (continued)

- **Radioactive Waste Management and Disposal of Spent Fuel**: This special interest portal identifies and shares best practices of national radioactive waste management strategies and assists meeting member countries in national obligations of the Joint Convention.

- **Emergency Preparedness and Response**: This topical group identifies and shares best practices for national Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) strategies, common EPR needs and assists through national and international level exercises.

- **Safety, Security and Safeguards**: This portal enhances co-operation, shares best practices and lessons learned in the areas of nuclear safety, security and safeguards on the implementation of effective management systems among the member countries in the region.

- **Safety Management of Research Reactors**: This specific interest portal shares best practices for safety design, construction, operation (including ageing management), modification and decommissioning of research reactors and serves as an expert platform for ANNuR members.

- **Transport of radioactive materials**: This topical group promotes exchange of information on import-export and transit requirements of radioactive material amongst ANNuR member states, as well as the cooperation between competent authorities for transport of radioactive materials.

- **Information Technology**: This information group focusses on assisting with all IT related issues related to ANNuR, such as developing and maintaining the website and developing IT solutions to the diverse questionnaires and self-assessments. The group consist of IT specialists from participating countries.

How do I join ANNuR?

The ANNuR portal is open to all Arab League Member State regulators. Regulators interested in joining ANNuR register through GNSSN.

Email: GNSSN.Contact-Point@iaea.org
Visit: https://gnssn.iaea.org/main/ANNuR/Pages/default.aspx