



**Arab Atomic Energy Agency (AAEA)  
Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators (ANNuR)  
Forum of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies in Africa (FNRBA)**

# **Annual Meeting on the Safety and Licensing of Research Reactors**

**Hosted by the  
Government of Ghana**

**through the  
Ghana Atomic Energy Commission**

**Accra, Ghana**

**8–12 October 2018**

**Prospectus**

## **A. Introduction**

Feedback from the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA's) activities on research reactors, including safety review missions and meetings on the application of the Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors, in which Member States of the Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators (ANNuR) and the Forum of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies in Africa (FNRBA) have participated, indicates that there is a need in many of these Member States to improve the capabilities of regulatory bodies in the oversight of research reactor safety. The self-assessments performed by the Member States in the framework of these meetings have highlighted areas of satisfactory application of the provisions of the Code of Conduct and areas where improvements are required, in particular areas relating to the regulatory supervision of research reactors.

During the sixth ANNuR Steering Committee meeting, which took place in March 2015, the IAEA was requested by ANNuR member countries to serve as the technical secretariat of ANNuR. In this regard, the IAEA conducted, in 2015, expert review activities and a consultancy meeting with the participation of international experts and experts from the regulatory bodies in a number of ANNuR member countries, with the objective being to review the status of regulatory supervision programmes for research reactors in ANNuR member countries, and to identify areas needing improvement and possible IAEA assistance to address the identified needs. The actions that have been identified as a result of these activities include the conduct of annual ANNuR meetings to discuss issues of common concern regarding regulatory supervision of research reactors. These meetings will allow for the strengthening of regional cooperation and the use of expertise within the ANNuR member countries in order to enhance the regulatory supervision of research reactors. At the FNRBA Steering Committee meeting held in 2016, the IAEA was requested to conduct a similar meeting on enhancing regulatory supervision of research reactors for FNRBA member countries, and it was proposed to combine the FNRBA meeting with the ANNuR meeting on this topic. These meetings will be supported by the IAEA in the framework of its provision of technical support to Member States for the application of the IAEA safety standards.

The discussions during the 2017 ANNuR and FNRBA meeting in Jordan indicated that progress had been made in improving regulatory effectiveness through enhancement of regulatory competence in some Member States. It was agreed that further efforts were needed in most of the participating Member States in order to apply the IAEA's Systematic Assessment of Regulatory Competence Needs (SARCoN) approach, to review the results of the competence needs assessment, and to take actions to address the identified gaps.

## **B. Objectives**

The meeting will discuss the assessment of and programmes for competence needs for regulatory bodies for research reactors, and regulatory review and assessment of safety submittals for research reactors.

## **C. Target Audience**

The meeting is open to participants from ANNuR and FNRBA member countries that are operating research reactors, or establishing (or considering) new research reactor programmes. The participants should be senior staff members from the regulatory bodies who are responsible for managing regulatory

competence, performing assessment of competence needs for regulatory bodies for research reactors and implementing programmes to address those needs.

The candidates should have sufficient proficiency in English to participate in the meeting without difficulty.

## **D. Working Language**

The working language of the meeting will be English.

## **E. Structure**

The first part of the meeting will be dedicated to presentations by the IAEA representatives and international experts addressing the following two main topics:

1. Assessment of regulatory competence needs for research reactors and development of action plans to address areas where improvements are needed;
2. Regulatory review and assessment of safety submittals (safety cases and supporting safety assessments) for research reactors.

These presentations will be based on the IAEA safety standards and other documentation including:

- *Managing Regulatory Body Competence* (Safety Reports Series No. 79, IAEA, Vienna, 2014);
- *Training the staff of the regulatory body for nuclear facilities: A competency framework* (IAEA-TECDOC-1254, Vienna, 2001); and
- *Review and Assessment of Nuclear Facilities by the Regulatory Body* (IAEA Safety Standards Series No. GS-G-1.2, Vienna, 2002).

During this part of the meeting, the participants will be asked to give presentations on their national experience and practices with regard to the assessment of regulatory competence needs for research reactors and addressing areas needing improvements, as well as with regard to the regulatory review and assessment of safety submittals (safety cases and supporting safety assessments).

The second part of the meeting will involve working group activities on the two main topics:

- 1) Review of the results of systematic assessment of regulatory competence needs for research reactors and development of action plans to address areas needing improvements; and
- 2) Regulatory review and assessment of safety submittals (safety cases and supporting safety assessments) for research reactors.

These working group activities will provide a forum for the participants to share and discuss experiences, challenges and lessons learned in their country on the review and development of regulatory competence and in the review and assessment of safety submittals (safety cases and supporting safety assessments).

The 2019 work plans for the ANNuR Research Reactor Safety Management Group and the FNRBA Research Reactor Working Group will be also discussed during the meeting.

## **F. Application Procedure**

Prospective participants should first apply through the GNSSN website (<http://gnssn.iaea.org/sites/annur/>). If requested by the national authorities, the completed Participation Forms should then be endorsed by these authorities and returned through the established official channels (e.g., Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Atomic Energy Authority, or office of the United Nations Development Programme). They must be received at the IAEA, Vienna International Centre, PO Box 100, 1400 Vienna, Austria, not later than **31 August 2018**. Designations received after that date or applications which have not been routed through one of the aforementioned channels cannot be considered.

In case of technical problems with the online nomination system, nominations may also be sent to the IAEA Project Management Officer, Mr Yassine Chaari, via email to: [Y.Chaari@iaea.org](mailto:Y.Chaari@iaea.org), via the IAEA's official email address ([Official.Mail@iaea.org](mailto:Official.Mail@iaea.org)), or via fax: +43 1 26007. The email should contain the following basic information about the candidate(s): name, age, gender, academic qualifications, present position (including exact nature of duties carried out), proficiency in English, and full working address (including telephone and fax numbers and email address) to enable the IAEA to carry out a preliminary evaluation of the candidate(s).

## **G. Arrangements**

Designating governments will be informed in due course of the names of the selected candidates and will at that time be given full details on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

The organizers of the meeting do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the meeting, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in designating participants, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.

## **H. Venue**

The meeting will be held at the premises of the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission, Accra, Ghana.

# **I. Organization**

## **IAEA Project Management Officer:**

### **Mr Yassine Chaari**

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**Local Organizer:****Prof. Benjamin Jabez Botwe Nyarko**

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**FNRBA Contact Person:****Dr Rex Gyeabour Abrefah**

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the IAEA Scientific Secretary and correspondence on other matters related to the meeting to the IAEA Project Assistant.

## **J. GNSSN Website**

Please visit the GNSSN website regularly for new information regarding this meeting: <http://gnssn.iaea.org>



# Participation Form

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for Arab Atomic Energy Agency (AAEA), Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators (ANNuR),  
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Accra, Ghana

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To be completed by the participant and sent to the competent official authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA, or National Atomic Energy Authority) of his/her country for subsequent transmission to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Vienna International Centre, PO Box 100, 1400 Vienna, Austria, either electronically by email to: [Official.Mail@iaea.org](mailto:Official.Mail@iaea.org) or by fax to: +43 1 26007 (no hard copies needed). Kindly send also a copy to the Scientific Secretary, Ms Hayley Sears (Email: [H.Sears@iaea.org](mailto:H.Sears@iaea.org)), as well as to the Administrative Secretary, Ms Beatrice Predescu (Email: [I.B.Predescu@iaea.org](mailto:I.B.Predescu@iaea.org)).

Please attach a passport copy or other document of identification (ID).

Participants who are members of an invited organization can submit this form to their organization for subsequent transmission to the IAEA.

**Deadline for receipt by IAEA through official channels: 31 August 2018**

Family name: (e.g. Smith)	First name(s): (e.g. John)	Mr/Ms
Institution:		
Full address:		
Tel:		
Email:		
Nationality:	Representing following Member State/non-Member State/entity or invited organization:	
Do you intend to submit a paper?                      Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Would you prefer to present your paper as a poster?    Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Title:		