

# Annual Meeting of the Regulatory Forum for Safety of Uranium Production and Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material

IAEA Headquarters Vienna, Austria

3 - 7 June 2024

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## **Information Sheet**

#### Introduction

The IAEA published the Safety Standards Series No. SSG-60 Management of Residues Containing Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material from Uranium Production and Other Activities in 2021. Putting IAEA safety standards relevant to management of NORM residues into practice is challenging for regulatory bodies and operating organizations in the majority of the IAEA Member States. The IAEA project "Regulatory Forum for Safety of Uranium Production and Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (REGSUN)" is aimed to help build capacity in all the Member States undertaking or considering uranium production or the management of NORM residues, to:

- Promote good regulation and safe and environmentally responsible practices through the application of IAEA safety standards
- Promote and increase the exchange of information and expertise among participants, including providing regular updates on best practice approaches, offering targeted assistance in the review and provision of expertise, and identifying gaps in guidance;
- Support the utilization of the related IAEA tools and training materials;
- Provide strategic input for the IAEA's future work in areas related to the safety of uranium production and NORM residues management.

Under the REGSUN project, annual meetings are organized to review the progress of activities relevant to the subject of the REGSUN, including presentations by the participants on selected topics focusing

on practical issues and challenges relevant to safety and regulatory aspects of uranium production and NORM activities. This event is a follow up event of the annual meeting of REGSUN in 2023.

### **Objectives**

The objectives of the event are to review the progress made in activities identified as high priority at the meeting of the REGSUN in 2023 and to identify issues that should be addressed. These activities include reviewing progress in supporting application of IAEA Safety Standards related to the subject areas, sharing experience in establishing regulation for management of NORM, and exchange of information in topical areas associated with safety of uranium production and management of NORM residues.

The meeting will address, inter alia, the following topics:

- Update information on emerging issues relevant to safety and regulatory aspects of uranium production;
- Continue development competency framework for regulatory control of NORM residues/wastes including knowledge, skill and technical capacity;
- Discuss and develop a programme on train the trainer to enhance human resources demanded for safe and sustainable uranium production and management of NORM residues
- Continue supporting application of graded approach for management of NORM activities and NORM residue/waste, including case studies on specific exemption and specific clearance to NORM residues;
- Review and update training materials on managing NORM residues arising from rare earth processing, phosphate processing, metal processing and water treatment;
- Prepare programme for development of training materials on screening assessment for regulating NORM activities and NORM residues/waste;
- Share experience in addressing residue/waste management from uranium production and other activities through existing instrument, such as the Joint Convention of Safety of Spent Fuel Management and the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management;
- Discuss planning and supporting IAEA activities in the subject areas and revise future plan considering evolving situations.

#### **Target Audience**

Candidates for the meeting should be professionals from regulatory bodies, national authorities, operating organizations or technical support organizations, with direct involvement and responsibilities in relation to activities, such as:

• Regulating and decommissioning of uranium production facilities (in situ recovery and conventional methods)

- Establishment of regulatory framework for management of NORM residues
- Identification and inventory development of NORM activities
- Training and technical support to relevant activities. Participants are expected to provide input to the meeting by presenting their national approaches and experiences related to the topics, and by taking active part in discussions.

The meeting will be conducted in English language. Candidates should have sufficient English-language proficiency to be able to actively participate in the planned activities.

### Working Language(s)

English

### **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 or invited organization, participants are requested to submit their application via the InTouch+ platform (https://intouchplus.iaea.org) to the competent national authority (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) or organization for onward transmission to the IAEA by **12 April 2024**, following the registration procedure in InTouch+: 1. Access the InTouch+ platform (https://intouchplus.iaea.org):

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Persons with an existing NUCLEUS account can sign in to the platform with their username and password;

- Persons without an existing NUCLEUS account can register here.
- 2. Once signed in, prospective participants can use the InTouch+ platform to:

Complete or update their personal details under 'Complete Profile' and upload the relevant supporting documents;

Search for the relevant event under the 'My Eligible Events' tab;

Select the Member State or invited organization they want to represent from the dropdown menu entitled 'Designating Authority' (if an invited organization is not listed, please contact <u>InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org</u>);

If applicable, indicate whether financial support is requested and complete the relevant information (this is not applicable to participants from invited organizations);

Based on the data input, the InTouch+ platform will automatically generate the Participation Form (Form A) and/or the Grant Application Form (Form C); Submit their application.

Once submitted through the InTouch+ platform, the application, together with the autogenerated form(s), will be transmitted automatically to the required authority for approval. If approved, the application, together with the applicable form(s), will automatically be sent to the IAEA through the online platform.

NOTE: The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by **12 April 2024**.

For additional information on how to apply for an event, please refer to the  $\underline{\text{InTouch+ Help}}$  page. Any other issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be sent to  $\underline{\text{InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org}}$ .

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 <u>Agency's Personal Data and Privacy Policy</u> and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. The IAEA may also use the contact details of Applicants to inform them of the IAEA's scientific and technical publications, or the latest employment opportunities and current open vacancies at the IAEA. These secondary purposes are consistent with the IAEA's mandate.

#### **Expenditures and Grants**

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the event. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help meet the cost of attendance of certain participants. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA's view, the participant will make an important contribution to the event.

The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by **12 April 2024.** 

#### Venue

The event will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC) where the IAEA's Headquarters are located. Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

General information on the VIC and other practical details, such as a list of hotels offering a reduced rate for IAEA participants, are listed on the following IAEA web page: <u>https://www.iaea.org/events</u>.

Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC one hour before the start of the event on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official

photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

#### Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria at least four weeks before they travel to Austria. Since Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.

#### Organization

#### **Scientific Secretary**

#### Mr Zhiwen Fan

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary/Secretaries and correspondence on other matters related to the event to the Administrative Secretary.

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