

الوكالة الدولية للطاقة الذرية 国际原子能机构 International Atomic Energy Agency Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique Международное агентство по атомной энергии Organismo Internacional de Energía Atómica

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The Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) presents its compliments to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of its Member States and has the honour to request that they draw the attention of all appropriate Governmental authorities to the forthcoming Workshop on the Lessons Learned from the Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) Missions. The workshop will be held in Washington, DC, United States of America, from 26 to 28 October 2011. This workshop will be hosted by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC) in cooperation with the IAEA and will also be announced in the IAEA's schedule of meetings (<a href="http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/meetings/Announcements.asp?ConfID=42169">http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/meetings/Announcements.asp?ConfID=42169</a>) to give it wider publicity.

The IRRS programme provides, upon request, Member States with an objective evaluation of their nuclear and radiation safety regulatory framework and practices, starting with a thorough self-assessment of their regulatory framework as measured against international safety standards. This is followed by a peer review which aims to identify recommendations and suggestions for improvement, as well as by a review of the regulatory and technical policy issues faced by these States. The IRRS programme also contributes to the harmonization of regulatory approaches among Member States, promotes sharing of regulatory experiences between Member States and provides participating review team members with information regarding good practices identified during the reviews to take back to their home country.

The main purpose of the workshop is to provide a platform for the exchange of information, experience and lessons learned from the IRRS missions conducted since 2009, as well as expectations for the IRRS programme for the near future, and to explore further improvements in the planning and implementation of the IRRS in the longer term, including the establishment of a network of experts from regulatory authorities.

The enclosures outline the proposed agenda and provide further details of the workshop.

The workshop will be held in English only.

Each Member State that has received an IRRS mission or is interested in participating in future IRRS missions is invited to nominate one or two senior regulators from its regulatory body and/or organizations engaged in activities related to regulatory oversight of all facilities and activities.

It would be appreciated if replies could be received not later than 30 September 2011.

It is understood that all expenses incurred in connection with the experts' participation will be paid by their authorities. Owing to budgetary constraints, the IAEA is not in a position to bear the travel or other costs of nominated participants in this workshop.

For additional information or questions about administrative arrangements, please contact Mr Jon Hopkins, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, USNRC (Tel.: +1 301 415 3027; Email: <u>Jon.Hopkins@nrc.gov</u>) or Ms Jennifer Schwartzman, Office of International Programs, USNRC (Tel.: +1 301 415 2317; Email <u>Jennifer.Schwartzman@nrc.gov</u>).

The Scientific Secretaries for this workshop are Mr Gustavo Caruso of the Division of Nuclear Installation Safety, Mr Ahmad Al Khatibeh of the Division of Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety, and Ms Elena Buglova of the Incident and Emergency Centre.

Requests for further information concerning specific aspects of the workshop may also be addressed to Mr Gustavo Caruso of the Division of Nuclear Installation Safety (Tel.: +43 1 2600 26251; Fax: +43 1 2600 22682; Email: G.Caruso@iaea.org).

The Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency avails itself of this opportunity of assuring the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of its Member States of its highest consideration.



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Enclosures: IRRS Workshop Background Proposed Agenda