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International Atomic Energy Agency

Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique

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The Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) presents its compliments to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Missions of Member States and has the honour to request that they draw the attention of all appropriate Governmental authorities to the forthcoming workshop on “Lessons Learned from the Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) Mission to France”. The workshop will be held in Paris, France, from 22 to 23 March 2007. This workshop will be conducted by the French Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN) in cooperation with the IAEA.

The main purpose of the workshop is to provide information to interested Member States regarding the Integrated Regulatory Review Services (IRRSs), to discuss their experiences and lessons learned from the regulatory review conducted at the French Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN) from 6 to 17 November 2006 (see the IRRS Workshop Background enclosure) and to explore further improvements in the planning and implementation of the IRRS, including the establishment of a network of experts from regulatory authorities.

The IRRS missions provide the host country with an objective evaluation of their nuclear and radiation safety regulatory practices with respect to international standards, including the identification of recommendations and suggestions for improvement, and a review of their regulatory and technical policy issues. Other objectives of the IRRS include contributing to the harmonization of regulatory approaches among Member States, promoting sharing of regulatory experiences and lessons learned between Member States, providing participating review team members with information regarding good practices identified during the reviews to take back to their home country, and providing the host country with an opportunity to conduct a self-assessment of its activities against international safety standards.

Another purpose of the workshop is to answer enquiries from Member States regarding Integrated Regulatory Review Service missions.

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

The workshop will be held in English only.

Each Member State 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 nuclear reactors, nuclear materials or radiation protection regulation to participate in this workshop.

It would be appreciated if replies could be received not later than Tuesday, 20 February 2007.

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 any administrative arrangements, please contact Ms Christine Feltin, Deputy Director for International Relations, French Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN), tel: 0033 1 43 19 70 54; email Christine.feltin@asn.fr.

Requests for further information concerning specific aspects of the event may also be addressed to the IAEA, Mr G. Caruso, Section Head, Regulatory Activities Section, Division of Nuclear Installation Safety, tel: 0043 1 2600 26251; fax 0043 1 2600 22682; email: g.caruso@iaea.org or Mr K. Mrabit, Section Head, Policy and Programme Support Section, Division of Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety, tel: 0043 1 2600 22722; fax 0043 1 26007; email: k.mrabit@iaea.org

The Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Missions of Member States of the IAEA the assurances of its highest consideration.



2007-02-02

Enclosures: IRRS Workshop Background
 Proposed agenda