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The Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) presents its compliments to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of IAEA Member States and has the honour to request that they draw the attention of all appropriate governmental authorities to the forthcoming Technical Meeting (TM) entitled "International Workshop on Harmonization of Approaches to Assuring Safety within National Radioactive Waste Management Policies and Strategies - A Common Framework for the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management and Disposal", to be held in Cape Town, South Africa from 2 to 6 July 2007.

The objective of the workshop is to create awareness of the concepts and ideas that form the basis for the proposed common framework for radioactive waste management and disposal and of the issues that have arisen during the revision of the international standards on the classification of radioactive waste; to provide an international platform for the discussion of these ideas and issues; and to work towards an internationally harmonized basis for national radioactive waste management policies and strategies to assure high levels of safety. Further information about the meeting and the provisional programme can be found in the attached workshop announcement.

This activity is part of the IAEA's approved Programme and Budget 2006–2007 and is included under project L.2.02. The TM will be held in English only.

Each Member State is invited to nominate an expert (or experts) to participate in this TM.

Owing to budgetary constraints, the IAEA is not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of nominated participants in this TM. Limited funds may however be available to help cover the costs of participants from Member States eligible to receive technical assistance under the technical cooperation programme. Such assistance may be offered, upon specific request, to one participant per Member State provided that, in the IAEA's view, this participant will make an important contribution to the TM. The application for financial support should be made at the time of nominating the participant.

It would be appreciated if the nominations could be received **not later than 18 May 2007.** As subsequent correspondence will be exchanged directly between the Scientific Secretary for the TM, Mr Phil Metcalf of the Division of Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety (email: P.Metcalf@iaea.org), and the nominated expert or experts, it would also be appreciated if the complete address of the experts could be included in the nomination.

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



2007-04-17

Enclosure: Workshop announcement