KEY DEADLINES

17 April 2015  Submission of extended abstracts (including Forms A and B)
17 April 2015  Submission of Grant Applications (Forms A and C)
26 June 2015  Notification of acceptance of extended abstracts

REGISTRATION AND FUNDS

No registration fee is charged to participants. Limited funds are available to assist certain participants. Approved grants will usually cover only part of the cost of attendance. Please see the conference web page for details on how to register.

LANGUAGE

The working language of the conference will be English.

EXHIBITION

Limited space will be available during the conference for displays, exhibits and demonstrations of instruments, publications, educational tools and assessment methods and tools. Interested parties should send an email to: EPR-Conference-2015.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

TECHNICAL VISITS

A number of technical visits to the IAEA’s Incident and Emergency Centre will be arranged.

REFRESHER WORKSHOPS

The refresher workshops programme will provide participants with the opportunity to refresh and update their knowledge in specific areas of EPR.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS

Round table discussions will be held to explore the current key issues in specific EPR areas through expert discussions and direct questions from the audience using emails and Twitter. This will help the IAEA Secretariat identify challenges and priorities in these EPR areas.

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

Scientific matters and submission of contributions

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Participation, grant application and administrative matters

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CONFERENCE WEBSITE

Please visit the following web page regularly for new information regarding this conference:
Please include reference number IAEA-CN-213 in all communications.
BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The experience gained in responding to nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies in the past underscores the importance of emergency preparedness in all activities involving nuclear and other radioactive material. For example, the 2011 accident at the Fukushima Daiichi NPP again emphasized the need to strengthen emergency preparedness and response (EPR) at the national as well as at the international levels.

This conference is being organized by the IAEA in cooperation with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), European Commission (EC), European Police Office (EUROPOL), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Maritime Organization (IMO), INTERPOL, Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD NEA), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Health Organization (WHO) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

The purpose of the conference is to bring together all those involved in EPR to share strategies and experiences and to discuss challenges and priorities in preparedness for and response to nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies. The conference will provide a forum for networking and exchange of information and experiences, and will promote effective preparedness as a key to efficient response. It will also provide opportunities to refresh and update knowledge in specific areas of EPR and discuss challenges and priorities in EPR in round table discussions.

TOPICS

- **Emergency management**: ‘all hazards and threats approach’, decision making processes, information management systems and databases, nuclear security–safety interfaces and integration in emergency response, peer reviews of EPR, international emergency assistance;
- **Protection strategies**: assessment and prognosis in an emergency, emergency radiation monitoring, modelling systems, protective and other actions, criteria, planning areas and distances, protection of emergency workers and helpers, protection of food and agricultural products, termination of a radiation emergency, transition phase and recovery;
- **Communications**: notification and information exchange processes at national and international levels, public/media communication (in preparedness, during an emergency and in post-emergency phase);
- **Public health and medical response**: medical triage, individual exposure assessment (including biodosimetry), diagnosis and treatment of radiation injuries, practical aspects of thyroid blocking, public health and ethical considerations of response, psychological impact management, medical surveillance of overexposed individuals and long term follow-up of exposed populations;
- **Waste**: management of contaminated waste (during an emergency, in recovery phase);
- **International cooperation**: cooperation among States, interagency cooperation, framework for sharing of decisions, international harmonization;
- **Education and training**: training strategies, programmes, exercises and simulation tools, e-learning;
- **Past experiences**: past incidents and emergencies, lessons, impacts on EPR.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions on the topics listed above are welcome as extended abstracts. All papers submitted – other than invited keynote papers – must present original work and should not have been published elsewhere. Poster sessions will be used to promote greater interactions among conference participants. A book of extended abstracts containing the accepted contributions will be distributed to all participants at the opening of the conference.

IMPORTANT: The system for electronic submission of extended abstracts, IAEA-INDICO, is the sole mechanism for submission of the papers. Authors are encouraged to submit the extended abstracts as early as possible.

STRUCTURE

The conference will consist of plenary sessions with high level invited speakers, technical sessions, poster sessions and a number of side events, including round table discussions, refresher workshops, and technical visits to the IAEA’s Incident and Emergency Centre, as well as displays, exhibits and demonstrations of instruments, publications, educational tools and assessment methods and tools. Details will be made available on the conference web page.

AUDIENCE

The conference is targeted at governmental officials with responsibilities in EPR, experts in EPR as well as in nuclear security matters, representatives of response and operating organizations, emergency responders, public information officers and others involved in EPR for nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies.