



Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications
IAEA Environment Laboratories, Monaco

**13th Coordination Meeting of the IAEA's Network of Analytical Laboratories
for the Measurement of Environmental Radioactivity (ALMERA)**

Ref. No.: K4-TM-52135

Title: 13th Coordination Meeting of the IAEA's Network of Analytical Laboratories for the Measurement of Environmental Radioactivity (ALMERA)

Host Institute: Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO), Sydney, Australia

Dates: 26–28 October 2016

Deadline for Nominations: 22 July 2016

Organizers: The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO)

Host Country Organizer: Ms Jennifer Harrison
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Language: English

Background Information:

ALMERA ('Analytical Laboratories for the Measurement of Environmental Radioactivity') is a worldwide network of analytical laboratories, established by the IAEA. Through methodological and data quality support received from the IAEA and collaborative method development and validation, ALMERA member laboratories are able to provide internationally acceptable radioanalytical data in normal situations as well as in case of accidental or intentional releases of radioactivity, as requested by their nominating authorities.

The ALMERA network holds annual coordination meetings to discuss the implementation of planned activities and to define future activities of the network. Within this context, ALMERA laboratories' representatives are invited to attend the 13th Coordination Meeting of the IAEA's Network of Analytical Laboratories for the Measurement of Environmental Radioactivity (ALMERA) to be held from 26 to 28 October 2016 at the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) in Sydney, Australia.

Purpose:

The purpose of the meeting is to review ALMERA activities and to define a future work plan for developing the network's activities in the following fields: recommended radioanalytical methods, reference materials and proficiency testing, methodologies supporting routine and emergency environmental monitoring, and radioecological assessment.

Expected Outputs:

The expected outputs of the meeting are to:

- Present and discuss ALMERA proficiency test results and related proposals;
- Discuss the current status and plans for recommended analytical procedures developed within the ALMERA network;
- Discuss priorities for training courses and workshops;
- Discuss means for communication and data sharing and exchange among ALMERA laboratories;
- Discuss initiatives for regional cooperation and collaboration with other networks;
- Identify work plans and proposals for the ALMERA regional groups and task groups; and
- Review and update the general ALMERA work plan.

Scope and Nature: The meeting will provide an opportunity to undertake, at the senior technical level, a thorough review of the plan for future ALMERA activities. The meeting will also discuss how to further increase the role of regional coordination centres in mobilizing the network's experience, encouraging exchange of expertise, and supporting capacity building at the regional level.

The meeting will consist of a plenary session and working sessions for regional groups and for task groups. The plenary session will include presentations by ALMERA members on developments in radioanalytical methods, quality systems and environmental radioactivity monitoring and assessment projects in their laboratories and presentations by IAEA specialists in relevant areas. The overall ALMERA work plan will be presented at the plenary session on Friday, 28 October 2016. The meeting agenda will be circulated in due course.

Participation: The meeting is open to representatives from ALMERA network member laboratories from IAEA Member States. All ALMERA representatives wishing to attend the meeting should be nominated by their Government (Ministry of Foreign Affairs or National Atomic Energy Authority). Nominations for participation (using **Form A**) should be received by the IAEA not later than **22 July 2016**.

Participants' Qualifications: Representatives of laboratories which are members of the ALMERA network.

Nomination Procedure: Nominations should be submitted through the established official channels not later than **22 July 2016** for the attention of the Scientific Secretary of the meeting, Ms Iolanda Osvath, ALMERA Coordinator, IAEA Environment Laboratories, Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications, IAEA, 4a Quai Antoine 1er, 98000 Monaco, Principality of Monaco (Tel.: +377 97 97 72 33; Fax: +377 97 97 72 73; Email: almera@iaea.org). Nominations should also be copied to the Administrative Secretary for the meeting, Ms Julie Le Normand (Email: J.Le-Normand@iaea.org). The full names and complete contact details (including postal address, telephone/fax numbers, and email address) of nominated participants should be provided.

Nominations received after this date or which have not been routed through the established official channels cannot be considered.

**Administrative and
Financial
Arrangements:**

Nominating Governments will be informed in due course of the names of the candidates who have been selected and will, at that time, be given full details of the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

A limited number of grants will be made available by the IAEA to non-local participants from developing countries. The Grant Application Form (**Form C**) should be submitted through the established official channels as soon as possible and no later than **22 July 2016**. Selected participants will be provided with travel and subsistence expenses.

The organizers of the meeting do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the meeting, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in nominating participants, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks. Participants should also make their own arrangements for passports, visas, and vaccinations.