



First Regional Meeting on Harmonizing the Regulatory Requirements for Radiation Protection Officer Qualification and Competence

**Hosted by the
Government of Egypt**

**through the
Egyptian Nuclear and Radiological Regulatory Authority (ENRRA)**

Cairo, Egypt

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Information Sheet

Introduction

The Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators (ANNuR) was created in 2010 with the purpose of strengthening and harmonizing the regulatory infrastructure in Arab countries as one of the regional networks under the IAEA's Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN). Under the MOU signed between the IAEA and Arab Atomic Energy Agency, the Secretariat of ANNuR, the IAEA has been providing technical secretariat services for the network to identify technical needs in the region and explore activities to address them. IAEA Safety Standard GSR Part 3 (Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards) defines the Radiation Protection Officer (RPO) as a person technically competent in radiation protection matters relevant for a given type of practice and who is designated by the registrant, licensee or employer to oversee the application of regulatory requirements.

In the 14th annual meeting of ANNuR which was held in Hammamet, Tunisia, in February 2023, the Member States discussed the importance of securing sufficient competent radiation protection officers. The purpose of this effort is to enhance the level of radiation safety within the region's expanding nuclear and radiation application programmes. To serve this purpose, the representatives supported the

idea of harmonizing the Member States' regulatory requirements regarding the qualification and competence of RPOs by aligning with international standards such as IAEA GSR Part 3. ANNuR concluded to establish a working group with its Member States that are willing to enhance and harmonize their regulatory requirement for RPOs with other Arab countries. The working group will serve as a platform to share each Member State's regulatory system and to develop an action plan to be implemented in participating countries.

Objectives

The purpose of the event is to review the current Member States' national regulatory systems for radiation protection officers (RPOs), including training and education. Participating Member States will develop an action plan for harmonizing the regulatory requirements for RPOs. In addition, the participants will be informed on the International Safety Standards in the radiation protection area as well as best practices from other countries to enhance the related regulatory infrastructure in Member States overall.

Target Audience

This event is open to the Member States of ANNuR participating in the aforementioned RPO harmonization initiative. The participants should be regulators that in their respective regulatory infrastructure have the responsibility and knowledge of the requirements of Radiation Protection Officers.

Working Language(s)

English

Expected Outputs

The expected outputs of the event include: a) a report capturing all the shared knowledge and experiences related to the regulatory requirements status in the Arab countries region and the work plan for harmonizing the regulatory requirements for RPOs; b) participants' gap analysis comparing their national infrastructure to that required in IAEA Safety Standards, and a national action plan for addressing the gaps.

Structure

The event will consist of presentations made by the participants on their national regulatory system and practices for the education, training and competence of Radiation Protection Officers (RPOs). It will also include an introduction of practical cases regarding the operation of the RPO system from other countries. A template for the presentations of the participants will be provided.

Prior to the event, participants are expected to make a gap analysis comparing their national infrastructure to that required in IAEA Safety Standards. This can be facilitated by the participants familiarizing themselves with their national profiles of TSAs 1 and 6 in RASIMS (Radiation Safety Information Management System).

There will be a presentation provided by an IAEA Technical Officer on Safety Standards requirements GSR Part 1 and GSR Part 3, on the roles and duties of the RPOs as well as a description of the relevant requirements for regulatory provisions that are needed to verify compliance.

Topics

- Presentation on the IAEA Safety Standards GSR Part 1 and GSR Part 3: Role and Duties of the RPO and Regulatory Provisions.
- Presentation on the IAEA Radiation Safety Information Management System (RASIMS) Thematic Safety Area 6 ‘Education and Training in Radiation Protection and Safety’.
- Presentation on the National Regulatory Requirements for Radiation Protection Officer Qualification and Competence (A template will be provided).
- Discussion on the gap analysis between the National Regulatory Requirements for Radiation Protection Officer compared to that required in IAEA Safety Standards and drafting of the national plan to address the gap.
- Discussion on the roadmap for harmonizing the regulatory requirements of RPOs among the participating Member States.

Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event have to be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be members of organizations that have been invited to attend.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State or invited organization, participants are requested to submit their application via the InTouch+ platform (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>) to the competent national authority (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) or organization for onward transmission to the IAEA by **23 February 2024**, following the registration procedure in InTouch+:

1. Access the InTouch+ platform (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>):
 - Persons with an existing NUCLEUS account can sign in to the platform with their username and password;

- Persons without an existing NUCLEUS account can register [here](#).

2. Once signed in, prospective participants can use the InTouch+ platform to:

- Complete or update their personal details under ‘Complete Profile’ and upload the relevant supporting documents;
- Search for the relevant event under the ‘My Eligible Events’ tab;
- Select the Member State or invited organization they want to represent from the drop-down menu entitled ‘Designating Authority’ (if an invited organization is not listed, please contact InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org);
- If applicable, indicate whether financial support is requested and complete the relevant information (this is not applicable to participants from invited organizations);
- Based on the data input, the InTouch+ platform will automatically generate the Participation Form (Form A) and/or the Grant Application Form (Form C);
- Submit their application.

Once submitted through the InTouch+ platform, the application, together with the auto-generated form(s), will be transmitted automatically to the required authority for approval. If approved, the application, together with the applicable form(s), will automatically be sent to the IAEA through the online platform.

NOTE: The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by **23 February 2024**.

For additional information on how to apply for an event, please refer to the [InTouch+ Help](#) page. Any other issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be sent to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Selected participants will be informed in due course on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the [Agency’s Personal Data and Privacy Policy](#) and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. The IAEA may also use the contact details of Applicants to inform them of the IAEA’s scientific and technical publications, or the latest employment opportunities and current open vacancies at the IAEA. These secondary purposes are consistent with the IAEA’s mandate. Further information can be found in the [Data Processing Notice](#) concerning the IAEA InTouch+ platform.

Expenditures and Grants

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the event. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help meet the cost of attendance of certain participants. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA’s view, the participant will make an important contribution to the event.

The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by **23 February 2024**.

Venue

The event will be held in Cairo, Egypt. More detailed information will be provided to the registered event participants.

Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Egypt should submit the necessary application as soon as possible to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Egypt.

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary and correspondence on other matters related to the event to the Administrative Secretary.



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