

RER/9/163: Improving the Protection of Workers Exposed to Radiation at Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material Sites

# **Regional Workshop on Implementation of the IAEA Requirements for Workplaces Monitoring for NORM**

Hosted by

The Government of Slovakia

through the

Regional Public Health Authority with the Seat in Banská Bystrica

Banská Bystrica, Slovakia

2 to 6 December 2024

Ref. No.: ME-RER9163-2405675

#### **Information Sheet**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the event is to discuss establishing national legal framework that ensures compliance with the of GSR Part 3 requirements for workplaces monitoring for naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM), focusing on radiation protection of occupationally exposed workers.

The results of the initial survey of RER9163 project "Improving the Protection of Workers Exposed to Radiation at Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material Sites" and status of national arrangements on radiation protection of workers based on element 12 of the IAEA's Radiation Safety Information Management System (RASIMS) Thematic Safety Area 2 profiles of participating Member States will be evaluated.

## **Working Language(s)**

The working language of the event will be English.

#### **Deadline for Nominations**

Nominations received after 18 October 2024 will not be considered.

### **Project Background**

There is continued interest and awareness among Member States, including through Agency activities regarding naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM) in workplaces, concerning the need to protect workers and properly manage residues containing NORM in industrial operations and processes in workplaces, and to apply a graded approach to optimize the use of regulatory and operator resources for these tasks in line with Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards (IAEA Safety Standards Series No. GSR Part 3). Strengthening the capacity of MSs to control, monitor, and record occupational exposure in workplaces involving NORM is essential for national arrangement in occupational radiation protection. The RER9163 has been formulated to support MSs to develop and/or enhance their regulatory frameworks as a continuation of RER9155 project.

## **Scope and Nature**

The regional workshop will be conducted with a series of expert presentations on application of graded approach, inspections arrangements, roundtable discussion on selected case studies and include a site visit to a water treatment facility.

# **Participation**

The regional workshop is open for up to 35 participants from countries that participate in the regional project, subject to the availability of funds.

### Participants' Qualifications and Experience

The regional workshop is open to Regulatory Authority representatives, Radiation Protection Officers/consultants/experts from operational NORM workplaces and representatives of the Technical Service Providers (e.g., Radioanalytical laboratories) of the regional project counterparts (RER9163). As the workshop will be conducted in English, participants should have sufficient proficiency to follow lectures and express themselves in English without difficulty.

### **Application Procedure**

Candidates wishing to apply for this event should follow the steps below:

- 1. Access the InTouch+ home page (https://intouchplus.iaea.org) using the candidate's existing Nucleus username and password. If the candidate is not a registered Nucleus user, she/he must create a Nucleus account (https://websso.iaea.org/IM/UserRegistrationPage.aspx) before proceeding with the event application process below.
- 2. On the InTouch + platform, the candidate must:
  - a. Finalize or update her/his personal details, provide sufficient information to establish the required qualifications regarding education, language skills and work experience ('Profile' tab) and upload relevant supporting documents;
  - b. Download and complete the Designation of Beneficiary and Emergency Contact Form, and upload to InTouch+ ('Profile' tab under the personal section) specifying the document name. If already provided, kindly discard this step; and
  - c. Search for the relevant technical cooperation event (EVT2405675) under the 'My Eligible Events' tab, answer the mandatory questions and lastly submit the application to the required authority.

NOTE: Completed applications need to be approved by the relevant national authority, i.e. the National Liaison Office, and submitted to the IAEA through the established official channels by the provided designation deadline.

For additional support on how to apply for an event, please refer to the InTouch+ Help page. Any issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be addressed to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Should online application submission not be possible, candidates may download the nomination form for the meeting from the IAEA website.

NOTE: A medical certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner dated not more than four months prior to starting date of the event must be submitted by candidates when applying for a) events with a duration exceeding one month, and/or b) all candidates over the age of 65 regardless of the event duration.

# Administrative and Financial Arrangements

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

Selected participants will receive an allowance from the IAEA sufficient to cover their costs of lodging, daily subsistence and miscellaneous expenses. They will also receive either a round-trip air ticket based on

the most direct and economical route between the airport nearest their residence and the airport nearest the duty station through the IAEA's travel agency AX Travel Management, or a travel allowance, or they will be reimbursed travel by car/bus/train in accordance with IAEA rules for non-staff travel.

# **Disclaimer of Liability**

The organizers of the event 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 course, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in approving his/her participation, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.

## Note for female participants

Any woman engaged by the IAEA for work or training should notify the IAEA on becoming aware that she is pregnant.

The Board of Governors of the IAEA approved new International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources. The Standards deal specifically with the occupational exposure conditions of female workers by requiring, inter alia, that a female worker should, on becoming aware that she is pregnant, notify her employer in order that her working conditions may be modified, if necessary. This notification shall not be considered a reason to exclude her from work; however, her working conditions, with respect to occupational exposure shall be adapted with a view to ensuring that her embryo or foetus be afforded the same broad level of protection as required for members of the public.

#### **IAEA Contacts**

#### **Programme Management Officer (responsible for substantive matters):**

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