



Technical Meeting on the Global Radium-226 Management Initiative

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria
and virtual participation via Cisco WebEx

June 5 – 9, 2023

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Information Sheet

Introduction

Sealed radioactive sources (SRSs) are used extensively in industry, medicine, agriculture, and various research areas. A radioactive source that is no longer in use, or not intended to be used, for the practice for which an authorization has been granted, is deemed as disused. These Disused Sealed Radioactive Sources (DSRS) must be properly managed to ensure that the whole life cycle is safe and secure, as cost effective, and the impact to the environmental is minimized.

Paragraph 14 of the IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources specifies that “every State should encourage the reuse or recycling of radioactive sources, when practicable and consistent with considerations of safety and security”.

Many Member States have legacy stocks of ^{226}Ra , which may present a long-term management challenge for some of them. The IAEA understands this challenge presented by long-lived radionuclides and continues to seek suitable solutions for the stored legacy ^{226}Ra . Conversely, the Secretariat notes that several Member States may have a use for such legacy ^{226}Ra stocks, particularly, in the field of targeted alpha therapy in nuclear medicine. The treatment of cancer cells through the application of radiotracers with Actinium-225 shows very promising results and using ^{226}Ra as a feedstock material is an effective production route for the Actinium.

In light of the above, the Secretariat is coordinating an activity focussing on ^{226}Ra recycling referred as the “Global Radium-226 Management Initiative”. In the frame of this initiative a platform to facilitate information exchange between Member States possessing legacy ^{226}Ra sources and Member States with

capabilities and suitable recycling facilities has been established. In this context, the Secretariat notes that it stands ready to assist the safe and secure transport of ^{226}Ra sources from its holder to the recipient Member State.

Over 45 Member States are participating in the initiative as holders of legacy ^{226}Ra . A dozen of Member States have expressed interest in receiving and recycling the disused ^{226}Ra sources. Coordination between ^{226}Ra holders and recipients has successfully started. Bilateral discussions on the ^{226}Ra inventories, current conditions of the ^{226}Ra sources, expected packaging and transport operations, as well as safety, security, administrative and legal considerations are ongoing at this stage.

Objectives

The Technical Meeting will review the implementation status of the Global Radium-226 Management Initiative. The Contact Points appointed by Member States participating in this initiative will discuss their inventory of legacy Radium-226 sources and the capabilities for recycling these sources in recipient Member States. It will also provide an opportunity to discuss the effectiveness of the platform established to facilitate information exchange between Member States possessing legacy Radium-226 sources and Member States with capabilities and suitable recycling facilities. Challenges and practical experiences in packaging and transporting Radium-226 sources will also be discussed.

Target Audience

The target groups are appointed contact points in Member States to the “Global Radium-226 Management Initiative”, users of radioactive sources in position of legacy ^{226}Ra DSRS, radioactive waste operators, national regulators, sealed source recyclers, and decision-makers at government level. The participants should have a thorough knowledge of the administrative and technical infrastructure to support the DSRS recycling programs. Participants are requested to prepare a brief presentation on experiences in the implementation of DSRS recycling activities, either as holder or recipient of DSRS.

Working Language(s)

English.

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, participants are requested to send the **Participation Form (Form A)** to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) for onward transmission to the IAEA by **10 March 2023**. Participants who are members of an organization invited to attend are requested to send the **Participation Form (Form A)** through their organization to the IAEA by the above deadline.

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.

Presentations

The IAEA encourages participants to give presentations on the work of their respective institutions that falls under the topics listed above.

Participants who wish to give presentations are requested to submit an abstract of their work. The abstract will be reviewed as part of the selection process for presentations. The abstract should be in A4 page format, should extend to no more than three pages (including figures and tables). It should be sent electronically to Mr Juan Carlos Benitez Navarro, the Scientific Secretary of the event (see contact details below), not later than **10 March 2023**. Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their proposed presentations by **31 March 2023**.

In addition, participants have to submit the abstract together with the **Participation Form (Form A) and the attached Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B)]** to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) or their organization for onward transmission to the IAEA not later than **10 March 2023**.

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 using the **Grant Application Form (Form C)**, which has to be stamped, signed and submitted by the competent national authority to the IAEA together with the **Participation Form (Form A)** by **10 March 2023**.

Venue

The event will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), where the IAEA's Headquarters are located. Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

General information on the VIC and other practical details, such as a list of hotels offering a reduced rate for IAEA participants, are listed on the following IAEA web page:

www.iaea.org/events.

Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC one hour before the start of the event on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria at least four weeks before they travel to Austria. Since Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.

IAEA Contacts

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