CONTRIBUTING TO PEACE, HEALTH & PROSPERITY

This issue of the IAEA Bulletin edition considers the ideas and innovations that led to the IAEA's formation and influenced its evolution.

December 8 2013 is the 60th anniversary of President Eisenhower's historic Atoms for Peace speech to the United Nations General



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Assembly. He called for the establishment of an international atomic energy agency to put nuclear material to use to "serve the peaceful pursuits of mankind."

Four years later, in 1957, the IAEA began work in Vienna. Since then, the IAEA has worked hard to bring the benefits of peaceful nuclear technology to all parts of the globe and to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. The world has changed enormously in that time. But the Atoms for Peace mission has lost none of its relevance. The IAEA has successfully adapted to changing times and the evolving needs of Member States.

In this issue of the IAEA Bulletin, you will learn more about how countries use nuclear technology to improve health and prosperity and protect the environment through the technical cooperation programme. Together, the Member States and the IAEA are making a lasting contribution to achieving the Millennium Development Goals that challenge us to significantly reduce hunger, poverty and disease.

To take one example: cancer is reaching epidemic proportions in developing countries, but many countries lack the resources to deal with it. The IAEA, together with the World Health Organisation, is helping to make radiotherapy, medical physics, nuclear medicine, and imaging services available to developing countries. Our Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT) has been recognized by Member States as a flagship IAEA programme.

The IAEA also helps to improve food security and to manage precious water resources in areas suffering from drought. Through its energy planning services, the IAEA helps countries to assess their current and future energy needs.

Civil nuclear power is also marking its 60th anniversary: the first such plant became operational in Obninsk, in what was then the Soviet Union and is today the Russian Federation, on 26 June 1954. This innovation has been followed by decades of continuing development to provide safe, low-carbon, baseload power and other applications.

Nuclear safety is a never ending pursuit for improvement. In this year, the Agency marked the 30th anniversary of the Operational Safety Review Team (OSART) programme, through which the IAEA coordinates internationallybased teams of experts who conduct reviews of operational safety performance at nuclear power plants.

The IAEA looks forward to continuing to support its 160 Member States in the peaceful use of nuclear technology in the coming decades.

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