

Work Plan for 2003

RCA Regional Office

Prepared for Report at the
25th Meeting of National RCA Representatives

I. General

- At the 31st RCA General Conference Meeting in Vienna on 18 September 2002, it was proposed that the RCA Regional Office formulate a work plan for 2003 and table it at the 25th Meeting of National RCA Representatives.
- In this regard, the Work Plan for 2003 has been duly prepared and is set out in this document. The Work Plan that was prepared by the Office was initially examined by Australia and reviewed by the Advisory Committee in March 2003.

II. Current Progress

- The RCA Regional Office was officially inaugurated on 27 March 2002 in Daejeon, Korea in association with the 25th Meeting of National RCA Representatives and in celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the RCA Agreement.
- The Office has been functioning well since its inception with four full-time staff plus two temporary staff. The Office is being operated as an interim measure for an initial two to three years. During this interim operational period, necessary legal provisions for the Office will be made.
- The operating cost for 2003 for the Office is approximately US\$ 500,000 and is being provided by the Korean government.

III. Basic Tasks for 2003

- The basic tasks for the Office in 2003 are to lay down stepping stones for the Office to enter into mandate. To this effect, the Office plans to complete related legal provisions needed for the Office and strengthening its mandate. At the same time, additional measures to enable the Office for undertaking its mandate will be further considered, when needed.
- Basic functions of the Office include increasing; awareness of the RCA in regional and international communities, seeking and promoting partnership cooperation with other regional and international organizations with particular emphasis on expanding financial and other resources available to the RCA programs.

- The Office will further strengthen regional endeavors for nuclear knowledge enhancement and preservation through the following initiatives; the Post-doctoral Training Program, the Master's Course for Nuclear and Quantum Engineering and for Nuclear Policy Makers, and the Nuclear Medicine Internship Training Program.

IV. Work Plan for 2003

1. Building Operational Basis

(1) Completion of Legal and Administrative Matters

- Adoption of the RCA-GCM Resolution regarding the establishment and operation of the RCA Regional Office by the 32nd RCA General Conference Meeting in Vienna in September 2003
- Modification of the Working Paper on the Establishment and Operation of the RCA Regional Office that was endorsed by the 31st RCA General Conference Meeting in Vienna in September 2002

(2) Operation of the Advisory Committee (Interim) of the RCA Regional Office

- A six-member Advisory Committee was established at the 24th Meeting of National RCA Representatives in Korea in March 2002. The Members are Australia, Bangladesh, China, India, Korea and the IAEA/RCA Coordinator. Australia and Korea were requested to take the lead in drafting and reviewing necessary documents for the Office. The Advisory Committee has also to review the Work Plan of the Office during the interim operational period.
- The Advisory Committee will convene in May 2003 in Sri Lanka in connection with the 25th Meeting of National RCA Representatives and also in Vienna in September 2003 in conjunction with the 32nd RCA General Conference Meeting. Additional meetings can also be arranged whenever needed.
- After completion of the interim operational period, the Advisory Committee will be developed into a board-type Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) as agreed at the 24th Meeting of National RCA Representatives in Korea in March 2002.

(3) IAEA Fellowship Attachment

- As described in the 'Working Paper on the Establishment of the RCA Regional Office in Korea' that was finally endorsed at the 31st RCA General Conference Meeting in Vienna in September 2002, it is requested that the IAEA would support attachment of Fellow(s) to the Office from the Member States under its national fellowship program.
- Since the Office has very limited human resources, particularly for fulfilling its mandate to increase awareness of the RCA and to promote better

partnerships with other regional and international organizations, it is needed the Member States to support the Office to this effect.

- The main duties of the Fellow(s) will be to support the Office's effort for increased information networking among the Member States and with other regional and international organizations. The Fellow(s) can also improve administration and management skills through participation in the Office's activities.
- The attachment can benefit the Member States in developing human resources and also achieving better management of RCA.
- Initial contact has been made between the Office and the IAEA-TC Country Officers and the IAEA/RCA Coordinator. The IAEA expressed its intention to contemplate this request. The Office hopes to have the IAEA Fellow(s) at the earliest possible time, hopefully from the latter part of 2003. Duration of the attachment(s) are hoped to be 3-6 months.
- In addition, the Office hopes to obtain Cost-free Expert(s) or Cost-free Consultant(s) from the Member State(s) to support and give advice on the Office's technical program activities.

2. Participation in the RCA 2005-06 Program Upstream Work

- In an effort to ensure the future mission of the Office in carrying out mandate functions, the Office will participate in the upstream work for 2005-06 RCA program and assist the Lead Countries in project designing.
- In this regard, the Office plans to prepare a 'Position Paper' for consideration and observation by the MSs and the Agency.
- The Office plans to participate in the 'Regional Workshop on National Planning, Selection and Design of the IAEA TC Projects' that will be held in Daejeon, Korea from 12-15 May 2003 in order to catch up the upstream strategies of the RCA projects for 2005-06.

[RCA RO Position Paper]

- The Office is preparing a Position Paper that will suggest rational approach to future year RCA program based on the Member States' perspective.
- The Paper hopes to suggest future directions of the RCA program based on the Member States' view. The Office wishes to develop action plans needed for a futuristic mission-oriented RCA Current RCA operational and managerial matters including proper evaluation will also be reviewed.
- February-March 2003: The Office will initially prepare a draft of the 'Position Paper'. The Office's Technical Advisory Committee will support to prepare the draft. It is again reiterated that the Technical Advisory Committee shall look over the future direction of the RCA on a Member States' view.
- Late April 2003: The draft 'Position Paper' will then be reviewed by Advisory Committee of the RCA RO.
- Early May 2003: The Office will have advice of the 'Position Paper' from

international experts.

- Mid-May 2003: The draft 'Position Paper' will be circulated to the National RCA Representatives for their perusal and comments. It is hoped to have comments by 1 May 2003. The Office will immediately prepare a revised draft of the 'Position Paper' reflecting comments from the Member States.
- Late May 2003: The Advisory Committee in conjunction with the 25th Meeting of National RCA Representatives will again review the draft 'Position Paper'.
- Mid-June 2003: The Office will again request review by the Advisory Committee for finalization of the 'Position Paper'. In between, the Office will confer with IAEA
- Late July 2003: The Office will report the 'Position Paper' at the RCA LCC meeting.
- Mid-September 2003: The Office will report the 'Position Paper' to the 32nd RCA General Conference Meeting.

3. Nuclear Knowledge Preservation and Enhancement Programs

(1) Post-doctoral Fellowship Training Program for 2003

- The Office initiated the RCA Post-doctoral Fellowship Training Program in March 2002 right after the inauguration of the Office in an effort to enhance nuclear knowledge in the region.
- At present, there are a total of 13 fellowship trainees attached to various nuclear related institutions in Korea under the first series of the program. The fellowship trainees are participating in various major nuclear R and D programs of Korea.
- Announcement for the second series of the program has already been circulated to the Member States for application in January 2003. The second series of the program will be implemented from April 2003. As of early April, a total of 11 fellows applied from the Member States.
- The Office hopes the Program could contribute to the endeavors of the Member States for nuclear technology enhancement for immediate future needs. It is hoped that the Program could be successfully implemented for the benefit of the Member States in the human resources development endeavor.

(2) Master's Degree Courses for Nuclear Energy and Quantum Engineering and for Nuclear Policy Establishment for 2003

- The Office also initiated an RCA Master's Degree Courses in nuclear energy and quantum engineering and for nuclear policy makers. The Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) supports the courses.
- The main purpose of the Courses is to contribute to the nuclear knowledge preservation effort of the Member States by completing master's course.
- The other facet of the courses is to provide national nuclear policy-making personnel with the necessary knowledge and strategic information.

- The first announcement was circulated in January 2003 in which applications from the Member States were greatly encouraged. The Office plans to commence the courses from October 2003.
- The Office hopes the Master's Degree Courses could benefit the Member States in their human resources development endeavor.

(3) Nuclear Medicine Internship Training Program for 2003

- The Office plans to initiate another important program. It is the Nuclear Medicine Internship Training Program. The Korea Institute of Radiological and Medical Sciences (KIRAMS) in Seoul will support it.
- Invitation to the program will be circulated in April 2003. The 2003 program will commence in October for 3 practical weeks.
- After completion of the 3-week practical training, it is planned to establish a diagnostic and therapeutic networking among the participating Member States.
- The Office hopes that this nuclear medicine internship-training program could be implemented as part of RCA Health sector project.

4. RCA Awareness Increasing Programs

(1) Information Flow Program through Internet (RCA RO Homepage Operation)

- The RCA RO Homepage was opened in June 2002 with the address of www.rcaro.org. More construction work is now being actively carried out in an effort to attract more visitors. The Homepage is intended to increase the public awareness of the RCA and provide necessary information in order to support for Member States.
- The RCA RO Homepage will extensively cover information on major RCA programs, events, meetings with emphasis on current reports, and even necessary forms and documents.
- Current plan calls for maximum linkage with other homepages of regional and international organizations
- The RCA RO homepage plans to link to national RCA homepages of the Member States. This will enable the RCA RO homepage to link with national nuclear related organizations of each Member State.
- The Office plans to support RCA's nuclear knowledge enhancement and preservation endeavors through effective use of modern communication systems. In the future, the Office hopes to play a role of hub-site for RCA cyber education.
- The Office staff will participate in the 'IAEA/RCA Project Meeting to develop RRU Database and Nuclear Medicine E-Learning System' that will be held in Daejeon, Korea from 1-4 July 2003.

(2) Publication Program

- The Office plans to publish its own brochure for RCA awareness increasing purpose. CD-Roms will also be produced. The brochures and CD-Roms will be distributed to all Member States and to other regional and international organizations for their better understanding about the RCA.
- The Office plans to produce an RCA Information Kit. The Kit will basically be used for all RCA event participants to elaborate their knowledge about the RCA. But, the Kit can also used whenever there is a need.
- The Office also plans to provide 'The Progress of the RCA Regional Office in 2002' to the RCA 2002 Annual Report that will be published by the host country of the 25th RCA NRM.
- The Office plans to collect necessary information on the current status of the uses of nuclear techniques in the Member States with the full support from the National RCA Representatives. The information will be compiled in the Office's databank for further upgrading and to serve for the needs of the Member States.
- The information includes lists of nuclear-related organizations of the Member States with major facilities; national policy on nuclear energy of each Member State and so on. Emphasis will be placed on the on-going RCA projects at each Member State.

(3) RCA Briefing Meetings with the Third Party Alleys

- On 14 March 2003 in Seoul, the Office had a briefing meeting with 16 representatives from the diplomatic missions of the RCA Member States stationed in Korea. At the meeting, the Office promoted the 25th Meeting of National RCA Representatives and also explained on-going RCA programs.
- The Office's new initiatives for nuclear knowledge enhancement and preservation endeavors were highlighted. The Agency's TC Strategies were also introduced. A routine communication networking between the missions in Korea and the Office will be established.
- The Office plans to have a briefing meeting with local nuclear related industries with the belief that the industries' involvement in RCA programs would greatly contribute to the benefit of the Member States. It is planned to have the meeting in May in Seoul.
- The Office also plans to have a meeting with representatives from regional and international organizations (UNDP, etc.) stationed in Korea.

(4) Meetings with RCA Project Participants of Member States

- The Office plans to have roving briefing meetings in the Member State with national RCA project participants when arranged. The Office had the first such meeting in Bangkok (OAP) in December 2002. The Office plans to have the next meeting in Hanoi in October 2003.
- The main purpose of the meeting in the Member States by the Office is to reflect the on-site views of the Member States to the Office's activities.

5. Partnerships Increasing Programs

1. Cooperation with UNESCAP

- A cooperative relationship between IAEA/RCA and UNESCAP is being pursued. The RCA Regional Office representatives participated in the UNESCAP's environmental session in Bangkok in December 2002 on behalf of the Agency.
- A tripartite MOU (IAEA/RCA/UNESCAP) is being considered to establish in the first part of 2003. UNESCAP is now preparing a draft of the MOU.
- A Forum to identify cooperative areas is also planned in the very near future.

2. Cooperation with UNU

- A proposal on a cooperative relationship with UN University in Tokyo is also being considered. Initial contact will be made between RCA RO and UNU in April 2003 and will report to National RCA Representatives Meeting.

3. Cooperation with other Regional/International Organizations

- Effort to increase partnerships with other regional and international organizations will be continuously pursued to enable more dedicated work of the Office when it enters into mandate function.
- Initial contact will be made with UNICEF, WHO, APO, FNCA and other organizations functioning in the region with particular emphasis on food, environment and energy programs.

4. Representation of National RCA Representatives/Experts of MSs in RCA related Meetings in the Region on behalf of the Regional Office

- The Office plans to request other RCA National Representatives or senior level experts of the Member States to represent at RCA related meetings to be held in his/her Member State on behalf of the Office mainly for promotional activities for RCA.
- The representation is particularly needed when the Director of the Office or other representative finds it difficult to participate individually in such meetings in the region because of the limited resource capacity. Therefore, it will be more effective to request someone from the Member State who has ample experience and knowledge about the RCA to participate in the meeting.
- The senior expert who will participate in such meeting is hoped to increase awareness of the RCA at the Meeting and also to make effort to seek additional partners to the RCA programs on behalf of the Office.
- This representation will also contribute to the effective use of the Office's budget. However, the Office may support local travel expenses for the participation.

5. Cooperation with KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency)

- KOICA is supporting the Nuclear Medicine Internship Training Program for 2003. This program will continue for another few years.
- New cooperative programs between KOICA and the Office are being considered. Possible areas will be radiation protection training program, expert mission to the Member States in nuclear technology in general, and feasibility study on the introduction of advanced nuclear medicine equipment to the Member States. When agreed, new programs will be initiated in 2004.

V. Internal Provisions

1. Operation of RCA RO Technical Advisory Committee

- For physical convenience, a Technical Advisory Committee was set up within the Office in January 2003 with Korean experts for each Thematic Sectors of the RCA projects.
- The Committee consists of 7 members and is hoped to provide overviews on RCA philosophy and future direction.
- The members are; Dr. Young-Il Lee (KAERI) for Agriculture, Dr. Joon-Ha Jin (KAERI) for Industry, Dr. Myun-Joo Lee (KAERI) for Environment, Dr. Sung-Ryul Ryu (KIRAMS) for Health, Dr. Byung-Jin Jun (KAERI) for Research Reactor, Dr. Man-Ki Lee (KAERI) for Energy and Dr. Sung-Ho Rah (KINS) for Radiation Protection.
- The first work undertaken by the Technical Advisory Committee is to give advice on preparing a Position Paper of the Office based on their experience in the RCA programs. It is hoped that the members could give a balanced view on the RCA programs apart from Korea's own view. The members are suggested to use modern communication tools to get appropriate information from the Member States.

2. Operation of Technical Consultant Body

- The Office plans to set up a Technical Consultant Body in May 2003 to have advice mainly on the RCA visions and future strategies. The Body will consist of 3-4 experts from the Member States who have ample experience in the RCA matters.
- The Office plans to have the Body's first meeting in early May in Daejeon, Korea. The meeting is hoped to review a draft of the Position Paper of the Office. The Advisory Committee of the Office will revisit the Position Paper for further discussion and comment.

3. Additional Staffing

- In January 2003, the Office additionally hired two more supporting staff. One is a web-master who is responsible for successful operation of the Office's Internet homepage.