



Virtual Event:

Technical Meeting on Sustaining Operational Excellence at Nuclear Power Plants in a Changing Global Business Climate

24 to 26 November 2020

Ref. No.: EVT1904675

Information Sheet

Introduction

Nuclear electricity generation has been taking a vital role for achieving stable electricity supply with its inherent characteristics of non-carbon generation source, and its success has been supported by high quality of technologies and mature management model. However, it has started to face critical economic challenges under competitive electricity market and stagnant or slowly increasing demand. Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) owner/operating organizations now need to re-evaluate and re-establish their business models to become more robust and resilient in order to continuously take their expected roles.

Under these circumstances the Technical Working Group on Nuclear Power Plant Operations (TWG-NPPOPS) was newly established in 2018. This TWG is a group of executives and leaders with responsibilities for NPP operations that was established to provide advice to the IAEA and support programme implementation in the area of management and strategy for sustainable NPP operations by reflecting a global network of leadership, excellence and expertise. TWG provided a set of general recommendations in its preliminary exploration of potential IAEA-Nuclear Energy Department (NE) support to the operating NPPs.

The IAEA-NE understood from the recommendations that NPP owner/operator organizations should take specific initiatives to achieve and sustain operational excellence with cost effectiveness. Therefore, it is deemed to be valuable to develop a high-level guidance document that could show them a proper

direction for excellence in operations. The drafting of the document was started in May 2019.

Objectives

The purpose of the event is to share among Member States with operating (or soon-to-be operating) NPPs experience, good practices and lessons learned in achieving, sustaining and improving operational excellence under changing economic and business conditions.

The event will also enable Members States to review and provide feedback on a draft IAEA guidance document on operational excellence.

Target Audience

The meeting is targeted mainly at mid- and high-level management including executives and officers of NPP owner/operating organizations, who are directly responsible for plant safety and performance. Nuclear industrial associations such as WANO, INPO, NEI, OECD/NEA, Foratom and JANSI are also targeted as their activities to support plant operation and management could influence effectiveness in improving plant performance.

Vendors and suppliers would also benefit from this meeting as it would help them to improve and establish NPP customer interfaces and to better understand the needs and challenges faced by NPP owner/operator organizations.

Participants should be knowledgeable and experienced in industry-wide operational practices, rules and regulations, as well as in their implementation with respect to plant operation and management. They should be capable of describing and discussing in depth their knowledge and experience, as well as the needs and challenges faced by their countries.

Participants will be asked to make comments and provide perspectives on the draft IAEA guidance document on operational excellence, that will be soon ready for their review.

Although the decision-making processes by the regulatory body, government and NPP owner/operating organization on plant operation and management is independent of each other, the practice of transparency and informative interface between them is essential in the activities towards decision making for better plant performance. Therefore, this meeting could also be beneficial for participants from the regulatory bodies and governments.

Working Language(s)

English.

Expected Outputs

The expected outputs from the event are the review and feedback for the draft IAEA guidance document on operational excellence, which will be used in finalizing the publication.

The following topics are envisaged to be discussed during the event:

- What core fundamentals should be established/preserved in the owner/operating organizations under the current changing business environment to achieve and sustain operational excellence;
- What strategic actions should be taken to overcome existing or foreseen barriers;
- What outcomes are expected to be reached in the nuclear community by taking the above actions.

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 **9 October 2020**. 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 above deadline.

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

Please note that the IAEA is in a transition phase to manage the entire registration process for all regular programme events electronically through the new InTouch+ (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>) facility, which is the improved and expanded successor to the InTouch platform that has been used in recent years for the IAEA's technical cooperation events. Through InTouch+, prospective participants will be able to apply for events and submit all required documents online. National authorities will be able to use InTouch+ to review and approve these applications. Interested parties that would like to use this new facility should write to: InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Venue

The event will be held remotely using a standard IAEA IT platform in accordance to an agenda provided in advance of the first session. The expected meeting duration is 2 hours per day (totally 6 hours) considering the time difference across the world.

Selected participants will be required to provide confirmation of accessibility to the standard IAEA IT platform.

Organization

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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.