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الوكالة الدولية للطاقة الذرية

国际原子能机构

International Atomic Energy Agency

Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique

Международное агентство по атомной энергии

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The Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) presents its compliments to the IAEA's Member States and has the honour to draw their attention to the **Technical Meeting on Achievements and Challenges in Radioactive Waste Characterization** (hereinafter referred to as "event") to be held at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna, Austria, from **10 to 14 October 2022**.

In addition, the event will allow for virtual participation via Cisco Webex.

The purpose of the event is to provide a forum for members of the International Network of Laboratories for Nuclear Waste Characterization (LABONET) to share updated technical information, current practices, and achievements and challenges related to the characterization of low and intermediate level radioactive waste and waste packages.

The attached Information Sheet provides further details of the event.

The event will be held in English.

Member States are invited to designate one or more participants to represent the Government at this event. Member States are strongly encouraged to identify suitable women 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 at the time of designating the participant(s) using the attached Grant Application Form (Form C).

It should be noted that compensation is not payable by the IAEA for any damage to or loss of personal property. The IAEA also does not provide health insurance coverage for participants in IAEA events. Arrangements for private insurance coverage on an individual basis should therefore be made. The IAEA will, however, provide insurance coverage for accidents and illnesses that clearly result from any work performed for the IAEA.

Designations should be submitted to the IAEA through the competent national authority (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) not later than **26 August 2022** using the attached Participation Form (Form A). Completed and authorized Participation Forms should be sent either by email to: [official.mail@iaea.org](mailto:official.mail@iaea.org) or by fax to: +43 1 26007 (no hard copies needed). Copies should be sent by email to the Scientific Secretary of the event, Ms Felicia Nicoleta Dragolici, Division of Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Waste Technology, Department of Nuclear Energy (Email: [F.N.Dragolici@iaea.org](mailto:F.N.Dragolici@iaea.org)), and to the Administrative Secretary, Ms Marina Tolstenkova (Email: [m.tolstenkova@iaea.org](mailto:m.tolstenkova@iaea.org)). The Scientific Secretary of the event will liaise with the

participants directly concerning further arrangements, including travel details, as appropriate, once the official designations have been received.

Should Governments wish, in addition, to appoint one or more observers to assist and advise the designated participants, they are kindly requested to inform the IAEA of the names and contact details of any such observers by the above date. In accordance with the established rules, Governments are expected to bear the cost of attendance of any observers they may send to IAEA events. Compensation is not payable by the IAEA for any damage to or loss of observers' personal property or for illness, injury or death occurring while travelling to or in connection with their attendance at IAEA events.

The IAEA takes no responsibility for, and the provider of the virtual meeting services has represented and warranted that the Services shall not contain, and that no end user shall receive from the software used to hold the virtual meeting, any virus, worm, trap door, back door, timer, clock, counter or other limiting routine, instruction or design, or other malicious, illicit or similar unrequested code, including surveillance software or routines which may, or is designed to, permit access by any person, or on its own, to erase, or otherwise harm or modify any data or any system, server, facility or other infrastructure of any end user (collectively, a "Disabling Code").

The Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the IAEA's Member States the assurances of its highest consideration.



2022-07-26

Enclosures:       Information Sheet  
                          Participation Form (Form A)  
                          Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B)  
                          Grant Application Form (Form C)



**IAEA**

International Atomic Energy Agency

*Atoms for Peace and Development*

# **Technical Meeting on Achievements and Challenges in Radioactive Waste Characterization**

**IAEA Headquarters  
Vienna, Austria**

**10 – 14 October 2022**

**Ref. No. EVT1904419**

## **Information Sheet**

### **Introduction**

The characterization of radioactive waste and waste packages plays an important role during all stages of the predisposal management of radioactive waste. By understanding the characteristics of such waste, it is possible to establish the necessary adjustment, treatment, conditioning or suitability for further handling, processing, transport, storage or disposal. Waste characterization involves all aspects related to the physical, chemical and radiological properties of the waste.

Therefore, the safe management and disposal of radioactive waste is, in part, reliant upon its accurate and quality-assured characterization by non-destructive and destructive methods, and upon determination of the radionuclide inventory. Relevant procedures, standards and laboratory practices have been developed and refined over the years in expert laboratories in those Member States of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) with mature operating nuclear facilities and laboratories. However, several Member States with less developed programmes do not have such facilities and laboratories. For these countries, establishing fit-for-purpose characterization programmes is a complex technical challenge requiring both intellectual and financial resources.

Over the past decade significant progress has been achieved in the development of waste characterization, control procedures and equipment as a direct response to ever-increasing requirements for quality and reliability of information on waste characteristics. However, some aspects of radioactive

waste characterization remain challenging, such as the estimation of the activity of long lived, difficult-to-measure radionuclides, adequate sampling methodologies, refining the characterization method to achieve more accurate results, the development of scaling factors adapted to the specificity of waste streams, and the characterization of waste for the verification of waste activity before clearance.

This event is being organized by the IAEA as part of the activities planned within the framework of the IAEA's International Network of Laboratories for Nuclear Waste Characterization (LABONET) in order to increase efficiency in sharing international experience in the application of proven, quality-assured practices for the characterization of radioactive waste and waste packages. The exchange of information and best practices in the operation of characterization laboratories is expected to underpin both public and regulatory confidence in the secure management and responsible storage and disposal of radioactive waste.

## **Objectives**

The purpose of the event is for members of the International Network of Laboratories for Nuclear Waste Characterization (LABONET network) to share updated technical information, current practices, and achievements and challenges related to the characterization of low and intermediate level radioactive waste and waste packages.

The meeting will provide a forum for the exchange of information and discussions on good practices, latest developments, challenges and future directions in the area of radioactive waste characterization with the aim to seek suggestions for new activities, particularly those reflecting the needs of Member States in this area.

## **Target Audience**

The event is targeted at representatives of laboratories or organizations in Member States who are responsible for the characterization of low and intermediate level waste and waste packages; who are actively engaged in planning, improving and implementing radioactive waste management programmes; and who are willing to share their experience or gain knowledge on the subject.

Participants from the invited Member States and organizations are expected to attend, as well as representative(s) from the IAEA and the LABONET Steering Committee.

Participants should be operators or managers of radioactive waste processing and storage facilities or who are working in regulatory or supporting organizations with responsibility for the management of low and intermediate level radioactive waste and sealed radioactive sources.

## Working language(s)

The working language of the event will be English with no interpretation provided. All communications and papers must be submitted in this language.

## Expected Outputs

The event will provide a forum for the exchange of information and discussions on good practices, latest developments, challenges and future directions in the area of radioactive waste characterization, as well as providing the latest state-of-the-art technical methods and technologies to characterization laboratory planners, managers and technicians as well as designers, operators and regulators involved in the management of radioactive waste in Member States.

The expected outputs are:

- To share international experiences and best practices in characterizing radioactive waste streams through presentations; and
- To increase support for organizations or Member States with less advanced programmes for the characterization of low and intermediate level waste, by making available the relevant skills, knowledge, managerial approaches and expertise from Member States with mature operating characterization laboratories.

## Structure

The event will include presentations by the participants outlining the experiences and issues of Member States related to the topics mentioned below. Participants are requested to indicate the chosen topic and title of the presentation in the Participation Form (Form A), and to send an abstract of the presentation at least two weeks prior to the event.

The technical programme will consist of plenaries, roundtable discussions and a one-day technical visit to the IAEA Seibersdorf laboratories, if the technical and organizational conditions will allow it. In order to allow sufficient time for topical discussions, the organizers are considering the possibility of holding parallel poster sessions depending on the number of contributed papers received. Plenaries will include presentations and discussions on particular waste characterization programmes and on more focused topics covering the specific areas noted above. The roundtable discussions will focus on relevant issues and topics of common interest.

## Topics

The event will involve exchanges on practices and trends in radioactive waste characterization covering relevant areas, including:

- Challenges in radioactive waste characterization: from planning to deployment;
- The role of characterization in the establishment of an inventory and waste management planning’;
- Non-radiological characterization of radioactive waste: case studies, examples of good practices, challenges encountered and potential technical approaches and solutions;
- Updates on international and European research and development projects and networks; the role of research and development in waste characterization;
- Sampling for characterization and the impact on further waste processing activities;
- LABONET achievements over the year: events, projects, network, working groups.

## 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 **26 August 2022**. 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.

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](mailto:InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org).

## Papers and Presentations

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

Participants 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 two pages (including figures and tables). It should be sent electronically to Ms Felicia Dragolici, the Scientific Secretary of the event (see contact details below), not later than **26 August**

**2022.** Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their proposed presentations by **Acceptance Deadline**.

In addition, participants should 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 **26 August 2022**.

The maximum number of attendees at the event will depend on meeting logistics. Consequently, priority will be given to attendees who intend to share either a presentation or a poster.

## 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 **26 August 2022**.

## 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:

<http://www-pub.iaea.org/iaeaevents/GeneralInfo/Guide/VIC>.

The event will begin at 09:30 on Monday, 10 October in Room M3, Building M of the VIC. 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

**Scientific Secretary:**

**Ms Felicia Nicoleta Dragolici**

Division of Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Waste Technology

Department of Nuclear Energy

Vienna International Centre

PO Box 100

1400 VIENNA

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Tel.: +43 1 2600 26097

Fax: +43 1 26007

Email: [F.N.Dragolici@iaea.org](mailto:F.N.Dragolici@iaea.org)

**Administrative Secretary:**

**Ms Marina Tolstenkova**

Division of Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Waste Technology

Department of Nuclear Energy

Vienna International Centre

PO Box 100

1400 VIENNA

AUSTRIA

Tel.: +43 1 2600 21968

Email : [M.Tolstenkova@iaea.org](mailto:M.Tolstenkova@iaea.org)

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.



# Participation Form

## Technical Meeting on Achievements and Challenges in Radioactive Waste Characterization

**IAEA Headquarters Vienna, Austria and virtual participation via Cisco Webex**

**10–14 October 2022**

To be completed by the participant and sent to the competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA, or National Atomic Energy Authority) of his/her country for subsequent transmission to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) either by email to: [official.mail@iaea.org](mailto:official.mail@iaea.org) or by fax to: +43 1 26007 (no hard copies needed). Please also send a copy by email to the Scientific Secretary [F.N.Dragolici@iaea.org](mailto:F.N.Dragolici@iaea.org) and to the Administrative Secretary [M.Tolstenkova@iaea.org](mailto:M.Tolstenkova@iaea.org).

Participants who are members of an invited organization can submit this form to their organization for subsequent transmission to the IAEA.

### Deadline for receipt by IAEA through official channels: 26 August 2022

Family name(s): (same as in passport)	First name(s): (same as in passport)	Mr/Ms
Institution:		
Full address:		
Tel. (Fax):		
Email:		
Nationality:	Representing following Member State/non-Member State/entity or invited organization:	
If/as applicable: Do you intend to submit a paper?                      Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Would you prefer to present your paper as a poster?      Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Title: I plan to attend virtually:                                      Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

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.



# Form for Submission of a Paper

## Technical Meeting on Achievements and Challenges in Radioactive Waste Characterization

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

10–14 October 2022

To be completed by the participant and sent to the competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA, or National Atomic Energy Authority) of his/her country for subsequent transmission to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) either by email to: [official.mail@iaea.org](mailto:official.mail@iaea.org) or by fax to: +43 1 26007 (no hard copies needed). Please also send a copy by email to the Scientific Secretary [F.N.Dragolici@iaea.org](mailto:F.N.Dragolici@iaea.org) and to the Administrative Secretary [M.Tolstenkova@iaea.org](mailto:M.Tolstenkova@iaea.org).

Participants who are members of an invited organization can submit this form to their organization for subsequent transmission to the IAEA.

**Deadline for receipt by IAEA through official channels: 26 August 2022**

Title of the paper:		
If applicable: Abstract ID in IAEA-INDICO:		
Family name(s) and first name(s) of all author(s) (same as in passport(s):	Scientific establishment(s) in which the work has been carried out	City/Country
1.		
2.		
3.		
Family name(s) and first name(s) of author presenting the paper (same as in passport):	Mr/Ms:	
Mailing address:		
Tel. (Fax):		
Email:		

I plan to attend virtually:

Yes  No

I hereby agree to assign to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA):

- the copyright; or
- the non-exclusive, worldwide, free-of-charge licence (this option is only for those authors whose parent institution does not allow them to transfer the copyright for work carried out in that institution) granting the IAEA world rights for the use of the aforementioned material in this and any future editions of the publication, in all languages, and in all formats available now, or to be developed in the future (digital formats, hard copy etc.).

**Please note:** If granting the licence mentioned above, please supply any copyright acknowledgement text required.

Furthermore, I herewith declare:

- that the material submitted to the IAEA is original, except for such excerpts from copyrighted works as may be included with the permission of the copyright holders thereof, has been written by the stated authors, has not been published before, and is not under consideration for publication by another entity;
- that any permissions and rights to publish required for third-party content, including but not limited to figures and tables, have been obtained, that all published material is correctly referenced; and
- that the material submitted to the IAEA does not contain any libellous or other unlawful statements and does not contain any materials that violate any personal or proprietary rights of any person or entity.

**Date:**

**Signature of main author:**

# Grant Application Form

## Technical Meeting on Achievements and Challenges in Radioactive Waste Characterization

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria and virtual participation via Cisco Webex  
 10–14 October 2022

To be completed by the applicant and sent to the competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA, or National Atomic Energy Authority) of his/her country for subsequent transmission to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) either by email to: [official.mail@iaea.org](mailto:official.mail@iaea.org) or by fax to: +43 1 26007 (no hard copies needed). Please also send a copy by email to the Scientific Secretary [F.N.Dragolici@iaea.org](mailto:F.N.Dragolici@iaea.org) and to the Administrative Secretary [M.Tolstenkova@iaea.org](mailto:M.Tolstenkova@iaea.org).

**Deadline for receipt by IAEA through official channels: 26 August 2022**

Family name(s): (same as in passport)	First name(s): (same as in passport)	Mr/Ms:
Mailing address:	Tel.:	
	Fax:	
	Email:	
Date of birth (yy/mm/dd):	Nationality:	
I plan to attend virtually:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	

### 1. Education (post-secondary):

Name and place of institution	Field of study	Diploma or Degree	Years attended	
			from	to

### 2. Recent employment record (starting with your present post):

Name and place of employer/ organization	Title of your position	Type of work	Years worked	
			from	to

### 3. Description of work performed over the last three years:

### 4. Institute's/Member State's programme in field of event:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Date:** **Name, signature and stamp of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority** \_\_\_\_\_