

# Technical Meeting on the Alternative Technologies to Radioactive Materials and their Impact of the Management of Disused Sealed Radioactive Sources

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

8 - 12 December 2025

Ref. No.: EVT2403452

# **Information Sheet**

### Introduction

The use of radioactive materials to provide ionizing radiation for a number applications in medicine, research, public health, and industry has long been the standard. However, in the past decade, advances in alternatives to radioactive materials have made new technologies more commercially available for these applications delivering equivalent, or sometimes better, results. Where radioactive materials can still be the superior technology in some applications, in others they may are no longer necessary. This has the potential to provide equivalent results for these applications while potentially reducing the need for the safety, security, and end of life management requirements typically associated with traditional technologies involving radioactive materials. Several Member States have engaged in activities to replace radioactive materials with alternatives with positive results but also have faced challenges related to the management disused radioactive sealed sources (DSRS) that result from the transition.

# **Objectives**

The objective of this meeting is to bring together a diverse group of stakeholders from industry, research, governmental organizations and regulatory bodies to exchange knowledge on the availability, discuss regulatory frameworks to share information on where the current state of alternative technologies is and where it is headed in the future. It will explore the regulatory concerns involved in switching from radioactive materials and the safety and security concerns that may remain. It will also discuss the pros and cons of employing alternative surrounding issues of transportation, infrastructure, regulatory authorization, output, and end of life management to help inform Member States on the options they have before making decisions on the purchase and import on new equipment. Additionally, will address the challenges that arise around the management of disused radioactive materials, in particular DSRS, that may result from the switch to alternatives. The event will provide opportunities for participants to engage with experts, governmental programs that can provide assistance with employing alternative technologies, and the IAEA on ongoing and planned activities in their respective area, and for IAEA staff to bring participants up to date on relevant activities under the IAEA's own programme in this area.

# **Target Audience**

The target audience for an IAEA meeting on Alternative Technologies to Radioactive Materials and their Impact of the Management of Disused Sealed Radioactive Sources includes policymakers, regulatory authorities, waste management organizations, and technical experts from industry and member states involved in the implementation of applications involving these technologies. Additionally, the meeting is relevant to representatives from research institutions, medical and industrial users of radioactive materials. The objective is to bring together a diverse group of stakeholders to exchange knowledge, discuss regulatory frameworks, share best practices, and explore innovative technologies so that member states can make informed decisions on what technologies work best for their own situation.

# Working Language(s)

English.

# **Expected Outputs**

The meeting will serve as a platform for participants to share industry, national and international experiences, along with key lessons learned, regarding the current status and anticipated future developments in Alternative Technologies. Discussions will cover major factors influencing strategic choices, as well as implementation challenges.

# **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 or invited organization, participants are requested to submit their application via the InTouch+ platform (<a href="https://intouchplus.iaea.org">https://intouchplus.iaea.org</a>) to the competent national authority (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) or organization for onward transmission to the IAEA by 10 October 2025, following the registration procedure in InTouch+:

- 1. Access the InTouch+ platform (<a href="https://intouchplus.iaea.org">https://intouchplus.iaea.org</a>):
  - Persons with an existing NUCLEUS account can sign in to the platform with their username and password;
  - Persons without an existing NUCLEUS account can register <u>here.</u>
- 2. Once signed in, prospective participants can use the InTouch+ platform to:
  - Complete or update their personal details under 'Complete Profile' and upload the relevant supporting documents;
  - Search for the relevant event under the 'My Eligible Events' tab;
  - Select the Member State or invited organization they want to represent from the drop-down menu entitled 'Designating Authority' (if an invited organization is not listed, please contact <a href="mailto:InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org">InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org</a>);
  - If applicable, indicate whether a paper is being submitted and complete the relevant information;
  - If applicable, indicate whether financial support is requested and complete the relevant information (this is not applicable to participants from invited organizations);
  - Based on the data input, the InTouch+ platform will automatically generate the Participation Form (Form A) and/or the Grant Application Form (Form C);
  - Submit their application.

Once submitted through the InTouch+ platform, the application, together with the auto-generated form(s), will be transmitted automatically to the required authority for approval. If approved, the application, together with the applicable form(s), will automatically be sent to the IAEA through the online platform.

NOTE: The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by 10 October 2025.

For additional information on how to apply for an event, please refer to the <u>InTouch+ Help</u> page. Any other issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be sent to <u>InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org</u>.

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. Further information can be found in the Data Processing Notice concerning IAEA InTouch+ platform.

# **Papers and Presentations**

The IAEA encourages participants to give presentations on the work of their respective institutions that fall 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. It should be sent electronically to Frank Cocina, the Scientific Secretary of the event (see contact details below), not later than 10 October 2025. Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their proposed presentations by 31 October 2025.

Submission of a paper should be confirmed, together with the submission of the main application via the InTouch+ platform, by 10 October 2025.

# **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, together with the submission of the application, by **10 October 2025**.

### 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**

### **Scientific Secretary:**

### Mr Frank Cocina

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### **Administrative Secretary:**

### Ms Sharon Garcia

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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.

# **Event Web Page**

Please visit the following IAEA web page regularly for new information regarding this event: <a href="https://www.iaea.org/events/evt2403452">www.iaea.org/events/evt2403452</a>