

## Caribbean Community Member States Receive Radiation Safety Regulatory Training



Regulatory training course participants from the CARICOM member states in Mexico

The use of ionization radiation produced through electric generators or radioactive sources is expanding day by day in research, medicine and industry. To monitor the safety and control of these radiation sources and to protect the public and the radiation workers from the harmful effects of the ionizing radiations, States are required to establish an effective regulatory infrastructure for radiation safety. Over the last many years IAEA has been actively helping a number of countries to improve their ability to control the radiation sources by providing training courses. The purpose of these training course is to build up the competence and expertise needed by the regulators for the establishment and operation of an adequate regulatory programme for the safety and security of radiation sources in radiology, nuclear medicine, radiotherapy, industrial radiography, industrial irradiators, nuclear gauges and well logging in accordance with the requirements, recommendations and guidance of international standards.

The course is a part of a set of standardised material that IAEA has been using in the recent years and which is updated from time to time. It covers authorization and inspection of radiation sources and is geared mainly towards medical and industrial applications. The contents of this course have been translated into several IAEA official languages. The four week course consists of three weeks of

classroom lectures and exercise while the last week is devoted to ‘on-the-job’ training, in which the participants visit different facilities, simulate inspections and draft inspection reports.

The regional basic training course on regulatory control of radiation sources was held in Mexico City, Mexico from 17 June to 12 July 2013 in collaboration with the Government of Mexico through the National Commission for Nuclear Safety and Safeguards (CNSNS). The CARICOM member states which participated were Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and Grenadine. This Course was designed as a follow-up activity to the Regional Workshop on Regulatory Infrastructure for the Control of Radioactive Sources for the CARICOM member countries that was held in Kingston, Jamaica, in June 2012.

The same course was also conducted earlier this year for delegates of Gambia, Rwanda, Togo, Seychelles, Sudan and Bahrain in Khartoum, Sudan from 21 April to 16 May 2013. These two training courses were funded by the EU COUNCIL DECISION 2010/585/CFSP of 27 September 2010 on “support for IAEA activities in the areas of nuclear security and verification and in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction.”