

Atoms for Peace

DIVISION OF RADIATION TRANSPORT AND WASTE SAFETY



EduTA EDUCATION AND TRAINING APPRAISAL MISSION

IN ALGERIA

17-21 October 2010

COMPOSITION OF THE IAEA APPRAISAL TEAM

- 1. Andrea Luciani, Team Coordinator, IAEA
- 2. Mohammad Hassan Kharita, Senior Expert, Team Leader, Syria
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PERSONS MET DURING THE APPRAISAL MISSION

Name	Designation
Mellah A.	Director General, CRNA
Baaliouamer M.	Director, Prospectives Studies and Nuclear Applications, COMENA
Noureddine A.	Division Director / President of the Pedagogical Committee for Training in Radiation Protection, CRNA
Magnouche A.	Director General, CRND
Moulay. M.	Director, Nuclear Safety, COMENA
Bouchfer M.	Division Director / Rapporteur of the Pedagogical Commitee for Training in Radiation Protection, CRNA
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Toutaoui C.	Responsible for research / President of the Pedagogical Commitee for Training in Medical Physics, CRNA
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Chenoufi F.	Department Head, Nuclear Safety, COMENA
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Fellouh M.A.	Head, Department of Operational Radiation Protection, CRND
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Afiane M.	Head of the Radiotherapy Department, Pierre et Marie Curie Centre

BACKGROUND

The inter-governmental African Regional Cooperative Agreement for Research, Development and Training related to Nuclear Science and Technology (AFRA) is one of the regional agreements under the IAEA. AFRA entered into effect in 1990. Since then, the AFRA Member States have been carrying out cooperative projects in various fields of nuclear science and technology for socio-economic development. As an intergovernmental agreement AFRA is fostering sustainable regional self-reliance and mutual assistance in Africa. This aim can be consolidated through the recognition of regional institutions in high priority fields (AFRA Regional Designated Centers (RDCs)).

In the AFRA Strategic Action Plan, Procedures and Operational Guidelines, endorsed by the 19th meeting of AFRA representatives in September 2008, the arrangements for recognition of RDC are outlined. For that purpose any Member State that believes that one or more of its institutions are capable of fulfilling the overall and specific objectives of RDCs is invited to submit their applications according to the relevant fields of specialization. The application form together with the Specific Questionnaire for the field of specialization enables a pre-screening of the evaluation of the ability of the RDC to deliver its anticipated specialized services. Approved applications will be then audited through an IAEA EduTA mission (funded by AFRA). However, again according to AFRA Guideline for the Recognition of Regional Designated Centers it is the Technical Working Group Meeting (TWGM) which will nominate the RDC to the AFRA representatives of Member States based on the results of the whole evaluation process.

The Centre de Recherche Nucléaire d'Alger (CRNA) has applied to host a RDC in Algeria. The documents, according to the procedure for appointing RDCs (Fig. 1 in "Application for Regional Designated Centers (RDC) for Training in Radiation Protection in AFRA Member States - Questionnaire"), were provided to the IAEA Secretariat that, after a preliminary review, approved the application and initiated the organization of an EduTA mission.

The EduTA mission was organized from 17 to 21 October with two external experts and an IAEA Technical Officer.

The principal Agency publications used as a basis for the appraisal were:

- The Education and Training Appraisal in Radiation Protection and the Safety of Radiation Sources (EduTA) (Working Material July 2008);
- The International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources (SS No. 115);
- The Safety Guide, Building Competence in Radiation Protection and the Safe Use of Radioactive Sources (RS-G-1.4);
- Safety Report, Training in Radiation Protection and the Safe Use of Radioactive Sources (SRS-20);
- Standard Syllabus Postgraduate Educational Course in Radiation Protection and then Safety of Radiation Sources (Training Course Series 18);
- Draft Syllabus for the Training of Radiation Protection Officers.

Other reference material used as a basis or the appraisal was:

- Application for Regional Designated Centers (RDC) for Training in Radiation Protection in AFRA Member States Questionnaire;
- AFRA Guidelines for the Recognition of AFRA Regional Designated Centres.

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE APPRAISAL

The terms of reference for this appraisal were:

- To carry out an education and training appraisal mission to review the status of the provision for education and training in radiation protection, including:
 - legislative and regulatory framework with particular reference to education and training;
 - guidance material relevant to education and training;
 - the national training programme in radiation safety or similar document;
 - approved /accredited training course providers /centers and /accredited training courses, if approval/accreditation procedures/systems exist;
 - annual reports from accredited training course providers/centers; recognition/approval/accreditation procedures for education and training providers;
 - courses held in the past calendar year and the numbers of participants attending;
 - list of education and training events planned;
 - the facilities used for educational and training programmes;
 - availability of human resource and national lecturers.
- To outline an Action Plan, together with the counterparts, to address deficiencies, if any identified during the assessment.

CONDUCT OF THE APPRAISAL

The Director General of CRNA (Centre de Recherche Nucléaire de Algiers) Dr. Mellah welcome the EduTA mission in the Headquarters of CRNA, in the presence of the counterparts Dr. Baaliouamer M., Dr. Noureddine A. and the CRNA and COMENA staff, and expressed his wishes to become an AFRA Regional Designated Centre (RDC). Dr. Baaliouamer gave an overview of COMENA mission, organization, programmes, international cooperation and human resources development. Dr. Mellah presented the CRNA and its capacities in terms of acting as a RDC. Dr Noureddine outlined the education and training activities carried out in CRNA.

The EduTA team briefed the hosts about the mission which constitutes an essential step in the procedure for appointing Regional Designated Centers (RDC) for Training in Radiation Protection in AFRA Member States. The objectives and the procedure for the conduct of the mission were presented.

The pre-appraisal information provided to the team was discussed in detail and additional information was requested where necessary. During the mission, numerous documents were provided to the team.

During the five day mission, the EduTA team continued discussions with the host and visited facilities/laboratories at the CRNA, CRND (Centre de Recherche Nucléaire de Draria), Hospital 'CHU Bab El Oued' and Hospital 'Centre Pierre et Marie Curie'. The EduTA team met with potential lecturers and also evaluated the facility for the possible conduction of the PGEC or other regional training courses. CRNA and COMENA staff provided several presentations during the five day mission, clarifying the regulatory framework for education and training in the radiation protection field, training programmes regularly organized for research reactor personnel and for the COMENA staff, training programme for radioactive sources users, status and prospective in medical physics.

An exit meeting was held at CRNA with the management of CRNA and COMENA to present the Appraisal Team's preliminary conclusions. The recommendations and action plan were agreed with the local counterpart. A full technical report with the findings, recommendatins and a work plan was provided to the mission's counterpart and the national authorities.