



Technical Meeting on Funding for Waste Management and Decommissioning

**IAEA Headquarters
Vienna, Austria**

9–12 July 2018

Ref. No.: EVT1701811

Information Sheet

A. Introduction

Understanding financial liabilities attached to the back end of the nuclear fuel cycle and to the future decommissioning of nuclear facilities is a crucial step towards establishing reliable schemes for providing the funds required for programme implementation.

Radioactive waste management and reactor decommissioning programmes are characterized by long time horizons, large capital investments, vast complexity and a high level of uncertainties. Estimating the costs — and delivery times — attached to such ‘megaprojects’ is a challenging and complex task. Cost information is a key input for a number of important studies focused on feasibility, investability, and bankability of waste management and decommissioning programmes.

The Technical Meeting on Funding for Waste Management and Decommissioning focuses on prospective capital and operating expenditures associated with the back end of the nuclear fuel cycle (from spent fuel storage to final disposal), other operational waste and the waste emerging from decommissioning of nuclear power plants and other nuclear facilities.

Estimating the costs attached to such projects and activities, identifying their drivers, and exploring ways to fund them, are the main topics to be discussed.

B. Objectives

The purpose of the event is to heighten awareness on this topic among Member States — particularly (but not limited to) embarking Member States. Two main topics will be covered: (1) basic principles of funding schemes, including mapping from ‘overnight’ costs to contribution schedules, sources of risk and risk mitigation approaches; and (2) cost estimation, including for waste emerging from the back end of the fuel cycle and for decommissioning of nuclear facilities, dealing with risks and uncertainties in the back end of the nuclear fuel cycle, and spent nuclear fuel management costs and cost breakdown structures (CBS).

The topics for discussion will include:

- CBS attached to waste management and decommissioning. CBS are key elements in understanding the drivers of cost and enabling ‘apples-to-apples comparisons’.
- Methodologies for developing cost estimates, determining the attached uncertainties, documenting and communicating the cost estimates, and updating them as required (incorporating lessons learned from past and ongoing projects).
- Approaches for dealing with future uncertain costs attached to the back end of the nuclear fuel cycle in the decision-making process.
- Establishing adequate and reliable policies and funding schemes for spent nuclear fuel (open or closed fuel cycle), operational waste and decommissioning waste management, including:
 - Addressing risk and uncertainty in the funding process
 - Designating ‘contribution schedules’ to funds
 - Funding ‘legacy’ waste disposal
 - Managing the collected funds.

Participants, from both nuclear newcomer countries and established nuclear countries, are invited to share their perspective on how to address costing and funding issues related to waste management and decommissioning, and to provide country-specific examples and case studies. Keynote speakers, with direct experience in developing and implementing policies to funding waste management and decommissioning, will highlight their own perspective, challenges and lessons learned.

C. Target Audience

The meeting is open to: (1) participants from Canada, China, France, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States of America; (2) qualified participants from other Member States that are considering, planning or implementing a nuclear power programme for the first time; (3) participants from Member States considering expanding their nuclear power capacity; (4) participants from Member States considering, planning or implementing decommissioning plans or the development of radioactive waste disposal facilities; and (5) participants from international organizations with expertise in these areas.

Participants should be knowledgeable about the details of their country’s national strategy (if any) and specific plans for waste management and decommissioning, and willing to share their experience and lessons learned in addressing the related costing and funding issues.

D. Working Language

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

E. Application Procedure

Designations should be submitted using the attached Participation Form (Form A). Completed requests should be endorsed by the competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA, or National Atomic Energy Authority) or by an organization invited to participate, and returned through the established official channels. They must be received by the IAEA not later than **18 May 2018**. Designations received after that date or applications sent directly by individuals or by private institutions cannot be considered. Designating Governments and invited organizations will be informed in due course of the names of the selected candidates and at that time full details will be given of the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

F. 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 meeting. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help meet the cost of attendance of certain participants. Such assistance may be offered upon specific request to normally one or two per country, provided that, in the IAEA's view, the participant(s) on whose behalf assistance is requested will make an important contribution to the meeting. The application for financial support should be made at the time of designating the participant(s). If Governments wish to apply for a grant on behalf of one of their experts, they should address specific requests to the IAEA to this effect. Governments should ensure that applications for grants are submitted by **25 May 2018** through InTouch+ (<https://Intouchplus.iaea.org>) or using a signed **Grant Application Form (Form C)**. Approved grants will be issued in the form of a lump sum payment that usually covers **only part of the cost of attendance**.

G. Venue

The Technical Meeting will be held at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna, Austria, specifically in Room M5, M Building of the Vienna International Centre (VIC), and will start at 9.30 a.m. on **Monday, 9 July 2018**. Participants are advised to arrive one hour prior to the convening time of the meeting to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

The following IAEA web page can be accessed for more detailed information on Vienna and the VIC: www-pub.iaea.org/iaemeetings/GeneralInfo/Guide/VIC

H. 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

I. Organization

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretaries and correspondence on other matters related to the event to the Administrative Secretary.