



REGIONAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY



REPORT OF THE
46th
NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES MEETING (NRM)
OF THE
REGIONAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR RESEARCH,
DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING RELATED TO NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (RCA)

14-17 May 2024

Beijing, China

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

ACRONYMS.....	3
Introduction.....	4
Opening.....	4
Designation of New RCA Chair and Rapporteurs..... 오류! 책갈피가 정의되어 있지 않습니다.	
1. Adoption of the Agenda.....	4
2. Report on the follow-up actions of the 52nd GCM by the RCA-FP.....	5
3. Report on the implementation of the RCA programme in 2023 by the RCA FP - RCANRM(46)/3.....	5
4. RCA Technical Cooperation Programme 2026/2027 Cycle Concept Papers - RCANRM(46)/4.....	6
5. Report of RCA Chairs' Committee on the review on the procedure and process of developing and selecting the RCA TC projects by the RCA Chair Committee - RCANRM(46)/5.....	7
6. Report on the RCA Technical Cooperation Programme by NRs of the Project Lead Countries, aligned to IAEA flagship initiative themes, by RCA Chair – RCANRM(46)/6.....	7
7. Report on the activities and update of the Regional Cooperative Agreement Regional Office (RCARO), including the achievements of the RCARO projects RP 02 and RP 03, by RCARO Director - RCANRM(46)/7..... 오류! 책갈피가 정의되어 있지 않습니다.	
8. Report of the RCARO Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) on the activities of the RCARO by the RCA Chair - RCANRM(46)/8.....	9
9. Presentation on FNCA's activities by the FNCA Coordinator - RCANRM(46)/9	9
10. Update on the acceptance of the 2017 RCA - RCANRM(46)/10.....	10
11. Arrangements for the 53rd RCA GCM, 47th RCA NRM, and 48th RCA NRM by the RCA Chair.....	10
12. Any other business	10
13. Closure	11

List of Annexes

Annex No.	Title
1	List of Participants
2	Welcome Remarks by Representative of Chair Country (<u>CPR</u>)
3	Remarks from DDG-TC
4	Remarks from outgoing RCA Chair (<u>AUL</u>)
5	Remarks from the new RCA Chair (<u>CPR</u>)
6	Meeting Agenda - RCANRM(46)/1
7	Report on the follow-up actions of the 52 nd GCM - RCANRM(46)/2
8	Implementation of the RCA programme in 2023 - RCANRM(46)/3
9	2023 RCA Annual Report draft – RCANRM(46)/3
10	RCA Technical Cooperation Programme Concept papers for the RCA Programme Cycle 2026-2027 – RCANRM(46)/4
11	Report of RAS1028 (<u>MAL</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (1)
12	Report of RAS1029 (<u>MAL</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (2)
13	Report of RAS5088 (<u>CPR</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (3)
14	Report RAS5091 (<u>AUL</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (4)
15	Report of RAS7040 (<u>VIE</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (5)
16	Report of RAS7043 (<u>IND</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (6)
17	Report of RAS6101 (<u>CPR</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (7)
18	Report of RAS6105 (<u>PAK</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (8)
19	Report of RAS6098 (<u>JPN</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (9)
20	Report of RAS6110 (<u>JPN</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (10)
21	Report of RAS6100 (<u>ROK</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (11)
22	Report of RAS6109 (<u>AUL</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (12)
23	Report of RAS6108 (<u>AUL</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (13)
24	Report of RAS9092 (<u>ROK</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (14)
25	Report of RAS0086/RAS0092 (<u>ROK</u>) - RCANRM(46)/6 (15)
26	RCARO Director's Report – RCANRM(46)/7
27	Report of the RCARO SAC – RCANRM(46)/8
28	Report on the FNCA's Activities – RCANRM(46)/9
29	Closing Remarks by DDG-TC

ACRONYMS

ANPC	Alternate National Project Coordinator
CRP	Cooperative Research Project
DDG-TC	Deputy Director General, Technical Cooperation Department
DIR-TCAP	Director for Asia and the Pacific Division
DIR-RCARO	Director of RCA Regional Office
EBT	Extra Budgetary
FNCA	Forum for Nuclear Cooperation in Asia
GCM	General Conference Meeting of the National RCA Representatives
GP	Government Party to the RCA Agreement
IAEA BOG	IAEA Board of Governors
LCC	Lead Country Coordinator
MTSC	Mid-Term Strategy Coordination
NPC	National Project Coordinator
NPT	National Project Team
NR	National RCA Representative(s)
NRM	National RCA Representatives Regional Meeting
PCMF	TC Programme Cycle Management Framework
PPAR	Project Progress Assessment Report
QF	Quadripartite Forum
RCA	Regional Cooperative Agreement for Research, Development and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology
RCA GOR	RCA Guidelines and Operating Rules
RCA PAC	RCA Programme Advisory Committee
RCARO	RCA Regional Office
RCARO SAC	RCARO Standing Advisory Committee
RCA-FP	RCA Focal Person
RRC	Research Review Committee
TACC	Technical Assistance and Cooperation Committee
TC	Technical Cooperation Programme
TCPC	Division of Programme Support and Coordination
UNOSSC	United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation
WG	Working Group

Introduction

The 46th RCA Meeting of National Representatives was held at Tangla Hotel in Beijing, China on 14-17 May 2024.

The Meeting was attended by 20 RCA Government Parties: Australia (AUL), Bangladesh (BGD), Cambodia (KAM), China (CPR), Fiji (FIJ), Indonesia (INS), Japan (JPN), Korea (ROK), Laos (LAO), Malaysia (MAL), Mongolia (MON), Myanmar (MYA), Nepal (NEP), New Zealand (NZE), Pakistan (PAK), Philippines (PHI), Singapore (SIN), Sri Lanka (SRL), Thailand (THA) and Vietnam (VIE).

Mr Hua Liu (DDG-TC), Mr Gashaw Gebeyehu Wolde (Acting SH-TCAP1), and Ms Khemphone Phaokhamkeo (RCA-FP) represented the IAEA.

Representatives of RCARO joined the Meeting.

Chair of the RCA Programme Advisory Committee (virtual) and FNCA Coordinator also attended the Meeting.

The list of participants is given in **Annex 1**.

Opening

Ms Natascha Spark, RCA Chair and NR of AUL, opened the meeting.

Mr Liu Jing, Vice Chairman of China Atomic Energy Authority (CAEA), delivered his welcome remarks to participants as representative of the host country (CPR) (**Annex 2**).

Mr Hua Liu, DDG-TC, delivered his remarks as representative of the IAEA (**Annex 3**).

Designation of New RCA Chair and Rapporteurs

The NR of AUL delivered her remarks as the outgoing RCA Chair (**Annex 4**) and recommended the NR of CPR as the new RCA Chair.

The Meeting unanimously endorsed the NR of CPR to be the new RCA Chair.

The new RCA Chair, the NR of CPR, delivered her remarks (**Annex 5**).

**Ms Lili XIAO, on behalf of the NR of CPR, was unanimously elected as the new RCA Chair.
CPR, AUL and RCARO were appointed as rapporteurs for the Meeting.**

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Meeting adopted the provisional agenda with one amendment (**RCANRM(46)/1**) (**Annex 6**) and appointed AUL, FIJ and RCARO to be the rapporteurs.

The SAC adopted the draft agenda with a revision to add the below item under the Any Other Business:

- **Follow-up discussion on the Rapid Review of RCA Governance undertaken in 2023 and reported to the 52nd RCA GCM**

2. Report on the follow-up actions of the 52nd GCM by the RCA-FP

The RCA-FP provided a report on the follow-up actions of the 52nd GCM (**Annex 7**).

The Meeting reviewed the seven (7) recommendations from the last Meeting and the progress made under each recommendation. The Meeting highlighted the importance of the NRs taking a proactive role coordinating with the relevant LCCs and NPCs. As per the RCA GOR, the Meeting reaffirmed that background documents for the NR meetings should be circulated at least four weeks ahead of the meetings to allow enough time for the NRs to review and provide inputs and comments.

The Meeting took note of the Report (RCANRM (46)/2). The Meeting urged the NRs of LCs to submit the remaining PPARs as soon as possible. The Meeting requested the RCA NRs to review the below documents and provide feedback by 5 July 2024:

- **Updated RCA GOR (conclusions and recommendations from the 46th RCA NRM and 52nd RCA GCM)**
- **Handbook on RCA and RCA GOR**

3. Report on the implementation of the RCA programme in 2023 by the RCA FP - RCANRM(46)/3

The RCA-FP provided a presentation on the implementation of the RCA programme in 2023 (**Annex 8**). Specifically, her presentation addressed the following;

- a) Review of the implementation of the RCA programme in 2023
- b) Draft RCA Annual Report 2023
- c) Planned arrangements of regional events in 2024
- d) Systematic Approach to Budgeting for the RCA

The Meeting took note of the RCA-FP's presentation on the implementation of the RCA programme in 2023. The Meeting noted that in 2023, there were sixteen (16) active projects under five thematic areas and management. Updates on the structure of the RCA Annual Report were made in line with the recommendations from the 52nd RCA GCM.

The RCA-FP noted that there is an urgent need for resource mobilization for the sustainability of the RCA Programme. There is a gap between the RCA's available

resources and required funds. The RCA-FP's analysis showed that while the required budget continues to increase, the EBT is decreasing while the TC Fund is staying almost the same.

The Meeting invited NRs who were yet to provide comments on the draft RCA Annual Report 2023 (Annex 9) to do so by 21 June, 2024.

4. RCA Technical Cooperation Programme 2026/2027 Cycle Concept Papers – RCANRM(46)/4

The Chair of RCA Programme Advisory Committee provided the Report of the RCA PAC on RCA Technical Cooperation Programme Concept Papers for the RCA Programme Cycle 2026-2027 (Annex 10). To avoid repetition with the previous speaker, the RCA-FP did not deliver her planned presentation on “Preparing the programme note.”

The Meeting took note of the report of RCA PAC including the consolidated ranking of the NRs on the project concepts for RCA Programme Cycle 2026-2027 and appreciated the strong support and contribution provided by RCA PAC.

The IAEA DDG-TC spoke and suggested that RCA project concepts could be combined under four thematic areas to reflect the IAEA's flagship initiatives. The IAEA DDG-TC said this approach would be more holistic, more integrated and more flexible, and ultimately more impactful. In this way, the RCA could attract more resources from outside partners. The IAEA indicated that additional budget from the TCF and targeted technical support from TOs could be sought to develop and implement a combined approach. The IAEA confirmed that the deadline for the submission of the Regional Programme Note (set at 31 May) could be extended by two weeks to accommodate a combined approach. The design phase, of 1-2 years, would follow on from the submission of the RPN.

The Meeting took into consideration the merits of a combined approach and decided to include in the RPN four thematic projects to align with IAEA flagship initiatives and to attract more funding avenues. The 10 priority ranked projects would be combined as follows: four human health projects combined into two; four agriculture projects combined into two; and one project each under industry and the environment. A number of LCCs would participate in the combined projects in human health and agriculture.

The RCA-FP offered to coordinate virtual meetings and consultations with IAEA Technical Officers, potential LCCs, NRs and RCA PAC to further explore how to combine projects under thematic areas aligned to IAEA flagship initiatives.

5. Report of RCA Chairs' Committee on the review on the procedure and process of developing and selecting the RCA TC projects by the RCA Chair Committee - RCANRM(46)/5

Due to time constraints, the presentation on the Rapid Review (RCANRM (46)/5) was not delivered. The Meeting agreed that the analysis and recommendations in the Rapid Review were important and warranted further consideration.

The Meeting requested AUL further refine the analysis and recommendations in the Rapid Review (RCANRM(46)/5).

6. Report on the RCA Technical Cooperation Programme by NRs of the Project Lead Countries, aligned to IAEA flagship initiative themes, by RCA Chair - RCANRM(46)/6

Presentations of the on-going projects of RCA TC Programme were provided by the NRs and LCCs of Project Lead Countries. Due to the limited time, each country was requested to present up to 2 projects. The list of presentations delivered is as follows;

Thematic Area or IAEA Initiative	No	Project Title	Annex
Industry	1	RAS1028 (MAL)- Improving the Quality Management Practices in Radiation Processing Facilities for Better Performance and Applications	11
	2	RAS1029 (MAL) Enhancing Regional Capabilities in Advanced Non-Destructive Testing Techniques for Improved Safety and Inspection Performance in Industries	12
Agriculture / Food4Atoms	1	RAS5088 (CPR) Regional Workshop on Accelerating Climate-Resilient Crop Improvement: Optimizing Speed Breeding for Plant Mutation Breeding Applications	13
	2	RAS5091 (AUL) Assessing and Mitigating Agro Contaminants to Improve Water Quality and Soil Productivity in Catchments Using Integrated Isotopic Approaches	14
Environment / GloWAL	1	RAS7040 (VIE) Improving Water Resources Management Practices by Enhancing the Regional Collaboration in Environmental Isotope Analysis and Applications	15
	2	RAS7043 (IND)- NEW- Evaluating the Efficacy of Artificial Recharge to Groundwater in Water Scarce Regions Using Isotope Techniques	16
Human Health / Rays of Hope	1	RAS6101 (CPR) Improving the Quality and Safety of Radiation Medicine through Medical Physicist Education and Training	17
	2	RAS6105 (PAK) Improving Cancer Management through Theranostics by Using Radioisotope Based Diagnostic and Therapeutic Techniques	18
	3	RAS6098 (JPN) Standardizing Radiotherapy in Palliative Care	19
	4	RAS6110 (JPN)- NEW – Improving the Radiotherapy Capacity of Newcomer Government Parties (RCA	20
	5	RAS6100 (ROK) Strengthening Clinical Application of Hypofractionated Radiotherapy	21
	6	RAS6109 (AUL) – NEW - Improving the Quality and Safety of Diagnosis and Interventional Radiology Services to Benefit Health Care by Enhancing the Status Knowledge and Skills of Medical Physicists	22

	7	RAS6108 (AUL)- NEW- Strengthening Cancer Care by Training Radiation Oncology Health Professionals in Consistent and Accurate Data Collection through Oncology Information Systems	23
Radiation Protection	1	RAS9092 (ROK) Strengthening the Capacity to Respond to Radiological Emergencies of Category II and III Facilities	24
Others	1	RAS0086/RAS0092 (ROK) Enhancing the Strategic Management of the Programme under the Regional Cooperative Agreement of Research, Development and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology for Asia and the Pacific (RCA- AP)	25

The Meeting took note of the progress reports of the on-going RCA TC projects. The presentations delivered a thorough summary of the project including the activity information, risk management, efficiency, key findings, gender equality issue, and recommendations.

The Meeting requested the IAEA to provide more information on the procurement processes.

The Meeting noted that the current template for the national progress report does not incorporate impact assessment at national level and requested the RCA Chair to review and revise the template.

The Meeting noted that gender considerations should be carefully addressed when designing and implementing the projects, including the current on-going projects.

The Meeting noted that it would be useful for the Secretariat to clarify responsibility for coordinating and collating annual performance reporting.

The Meeting noted the NRs should contact the IAEA if they are unable to gain access to the project information on PCMF as all activities and reports should be uploaded there.

The Meeting agreed that the LCCs, as the main coordinator of each project, should have good access to the reports of project activities, including those they cannot attend, to have a holistic understanding of the project progress. Further, the Meeting noted the value of LCCs attending the regional training courses and sought more information from the Secretariat on options to support.

7. Report on the activities and update of the Regional Cooperative Agreement Regional Office (RCARO), including the achievements of the RCARO projects RP 02 and RP 03, by RCARO Director - RCANRM(46)/7

The Director of the RCARO presented on the activities of the RCARO (**Annex 26**).

The Meeting welcomed Mr KIM Dae Ki, the newly appointed Director and wished him success. The Meeting expressed support for the valuable work that RCARO undertakes in raising the visibility of the RCA and also RCARO's efforts on resource mobilization.

The Meeting highlighted the importance of outreach to the international community and conferences to engage with potential partners. The Meeting also recommended that the RCA Newsletters, a useful document with a variety of RCA success stories, be distributed to a wider scope of stakeholders in and outside the RCA.

The Meeting requested that RCARO consider presenting the progress of RCARO-led projects, including the partnership projects, and reporting to the RCA NRs in uniformity with the reporting format of the IAEA TC projects.

8. Report of the RCARO Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) on the activities of the RCARO by the RCA Chair - RCANRM(46)/8

The Chair of the RCARO SAC presented on the report of the RCARO SAC ([Annex 27](#)).

The Meeting took note of the report of the 38th RCARO SAC and endorsed the recommendations.

The Meeting noted RCARO's continuing support in coordinating outreach activities and requested that RCARO draft a concept note for two outreach opportunities identified in the RCARO SAC report (IAEA GC RCA Side-event and the special exhibition at the IAEA Ministerial Level Conference). The Meeting agreed to formulate a Task Force which would be providing strategic directions of these outreach activities. All GPs would be able to participate, with the RCA Chair having the leading role of the TF. The following have expressed interest: PAK, KAM, INS, MAL, JPN, AUL, FIJ, MON, VIE, ROK, and CPR.

The Meeting recommended that the archiving of the RCA documents be well undertaken under the PCMF and the RCA Website, with the IAEA TC projects uploaded on the PCMF and other policy and RCARO managed projects documents uploaded on the RCA Website.

The Meeting suggested that it would be helpful for the NRs to provide RCARO with more strategic guidance on outreach activities in the form of a resolution at the next GCM. This could include suggestions of other events such as COP29.

The Meeting requested the RCARO to share the report at least four weeks ahead of the NR meetings, as per the GOR, for the NRs to have better understanding well beforehand.

The Meeting reminded the NRs that as per the GOR, all NRs are welcome to attend the RCARO SAC meeting as observers.

9. Presentation on FNCA's activities and suggested area of cooperation with the RCA by the FNCA Coordinator - RCANRM(46)/9

The FNCA Advisor provided a report on the FNCA's activities ([Annex 28](#)).

The Meeting noted the report on the FNCA's activities provided by the representative of the FNCA. The Meeting welcomed ongoing collaboration between RCA and FNCA and encouraged more synergies and a wider exchange of information among regional experts.

10. Update on the acceptance of the 2017 RCA - RCANRM(46)/10

The Meeting noted the advice that twenty-one (21) of the twenty-two (22) GPs have submitted their instrument of acceptance of the 2017 RCA to the IAEA. The Meeting looked forward to FIJ depositing their instrument of acceptance soon.

11. Arrangements for the 53rd RCA GCM, 47th RCA NRM, and 48th RCA NRM by the RCA Chair - RCANRM(46)/11

The Meeting noted that the 53rd GCM will be held on 13th September 2024.

FIJ is currently working to host the 47th NRM and will advise the Chair accordingly.

As IND is not present in the Meeting, the Meeting decided to further discuss the arrangements of the 48th RCA NRM at the 53rd RCA GCM.

12. Any other business

The Meeting discussed on other issues as follows;

- IAEA Ministerial Level Conference on Nuclear Science, Technology and Applications and the Technical Cooperation Programme, Vienna, 26-28 November 2024
- Non-RCA member states in region as observers in RCA TC projects, by RCA FP
- Working Group on review of GOR
- Follow-up discussion on the Rapid Review of RCA Governance undertaken in 2023 and reported to the 52nd RCA GCM

The RCA Chair gave a briefing on the IAEA Ministerial Level Conference on Nuclear Science, Technology and Applications and the Technical Cooperation Programme to be held in Vienna on 26-28 Nov, 2024.

The Meeting noted that the current RCA GOR does not have specific content on the participation of non-RCA member states in the NR meetings. However, the Meeting agreed it would be valuable to allow non-RCA member observers from the Pacific Island states to attend the 47th RCA NRM to be held in Fiji in 2025. The Meeting decided to continue the discussion on this topic during the 53rd RCA GCM. AUL volunteered, with NZE, to prepare a concept note on the question of observers, based on IAEA reference documents (Roadmap and Key Steps for broader IAEA Membership).

Due to time constraints, the Meeting decided to defer the remaining two topics to the 53rd RCA GCM.

13. Closure

Mr Hua Liu, DDG-TC, delivered his closing remarks, as representative of the IAEA (**Annex 29**).

The RCA Chair thanked all participants for their active participation and valuable contributions and declared the meeting adjourned.



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REPORT OF THE
53rd
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OF THE
REGIONAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR RESEARCH,
DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING RELATED TO NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (RCA)

**Meeting Room CR7,
IAEA Headquarters Vienna,
Austria**

13 September 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

ACRONYMS	3
Introduction.....	4
Opening.....	4
1. Adoption of the Agenda - RCAGCM(53)/1	
2. Actions from the 46th NRM by the RCA Chair - RCAGCM(53)/2	
3. RCA programme by IAEA Secretariat RCA Focal Person – RCAGCM (53/3)	
4. Concept note on pathways for new membership to the RCA by AUL and NZE (follow on from 46th NRM) RCAGCM(53)/4	
5. Report from RCA Programme Advisory Committee Chair RCAGCM(53)/5	
6. RCARO RCAGCM(53)/6	
7. 47th NRM in Fiji in 2025 and the 48th RCA NRM in 2026 - RCAGCM(53)/7	
8. Any other business RCAGCM(53)/8	
Closing	00

ACRONYMS

ANPC	Alternate National Project Coordinator
CRP	Cooperative Research Project
DDG-TC	Deputy Director General, Technical Cooperation Department
DIR-TCAP	Director for Asia and the Pacific Division
DIR-RCARO	Director of RCA Regional Office
EBT	Extra Budgetary
FNCA	Forum for Nuclear Cooperation in Asia
GCM	General Conference Meeting of the National RCA Representatives
GP	Government Party to the RCA Agreement
IAEA BOG	IAEA Board of Governors
LCC	Lead Country Coordinator
MTSC	Mid-Term Strategy Coordination
NPC	National Project Coordinator
NPT	National Project Team
NR	National RCA Representative(s)
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RCA GOR	RCA Guidelines and Operating Rules
RCA PAC	RCA Programme Advisory Committee
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RCARO SAC	RCARO Standing Advisory Committee
RCA-FP	RCA Focal Person
RRC	Research Review Committee
TACC	Technical Assistance and Cooperation Committee
TC	Technical Cooperation Programme
TCPC	Division of Programme Support and Coordination
UNOSSC	United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation
WG	Working Group

Introduction

53rd RCA General Conference Meeting (GCM) was held on 13 September 2024, in the IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria.

The Meeting was attended by 21 RCA Government Parties: Australia (AUL), Bangladesh (BGD), Cambodia (KAM), China (CPR), Fiji (FIJ), India (IND), Indonesia (INS), Japan (JPN), Korea (ROK), Laos (LAO), Malaysia (MAL), Mongolia (MON), Myanmar (MYA), Nepal (NEP), New Zealand (NZE), Pakistan (PAK), Philippines (PHI), Singapore (SIN), Sri Lanka (SRL), Thailand (THA) and Vietnam (VIE).

Mr Hua Liu (DDG-TC), Ms Najat Mokhtar (DDG-NA), Mr Deng Ge (DIR-TCAP), Ms Feng Dongxin (DIR-IAEA FAO Joint Center), Mr Gashaw Gebeyehu Wolde (SH-TCAP1), and Ms Khemphone Phaokhamkeo (RCA-FP) represented the IAEA.

Representatives of the RCARO joined the Meeting.

Mr Prinath Dias, Chair of RCA Programme Advisory Committee (virtual), also attended the Meeting.

The list of participants is given in **Annex 00**.

Opening

Ms Lili Xiao, RCA Chair and NR of CPR, opened the meeting.

Mr Hua Liu, DDG-TC, delivered his remarks (**Annex 00**).

Ms Najat Mokhtar, DDG-NA, delivered her remarks (**Annex 00**).

1. Adoption of the Agenda - RCAGCM(53)/1

The Meeting adopted the provisional agenda (**RCAGCM(53)/1**) (**Annex 00**) with one issue added under Any Other Business and appointed CPR, AUL and RCARO to be the rapporteurs.

The Meeting adopted the agenda with one issue added under Any Other Business:

- **Discussion on the Rapid Review of RCA Governance: Guiding Documents, Working Groups and Committees (endorsed at the 52nd RCA GCM)**

CPR, AUL and RCARO were appointed as rapporteurs for the Meeting.

2. Actions from the 46th NRM by the RCA Chair – RCAGCM (53)/2

Ms Lili Xiao, the RCA Chair, provided a report on the follow-up actions of the 46th RCA NRM (**Annex 00**).

The Meeting took note of the presentation delivered by the RCA Chair on the actions from the 46th RCA NRM and highly appreciated the Chair country, CPR, for the excellent coordination of the RCA activities. The Meeting also expressed its appreciation to the Chairs' Committee, the Secretariat and the RCA Regional Office for their support.

3. RCA programme by IAEA Secretariat RCA Focal Person – RCAGCM (53)/3

The RCA-FP provided a presentation on the implementation of the RCA programme (**Annex 00**). Specifically, her presentation delivered issues on;

- a) Update on implementation of current RCA programme, including financial management, planned events, opportunities for technical experts for training events (courses, workshops and expert missions)
- b) Update on RCA Programme Development for 2026-2027
- c) The HRD strategy of Annex 10 of GOR and how it is monitored
- d) Update on RCA Social and Economic Impact Assessment
- e) Recommendations for Regional Cooperative Agreements from the IAEA OIOS Evaluation of Regional and Interregional Projects of the Agency's TCP related to resource mobilisation and coordination between RCA regional projects and TC projects outside of the RCA

The Meeting agreed on the significance of recording the results of the completed projects and endorsed collecting the summary reports once the projects are completed.

The Meeting took note of the update made for the RCA social and economic impact assessment that four areas are under progress (air quality, food safety, nuclear medicine, and hydrology) with the reports on air quality and food safety to be presented in the Q4 of this year.

The Meeting took note of the report by the RCA FP on the RCA programme and thanked the RCA FP for its comprehensive analysis, including gender data.

The Meeting took note of the implementation status of the current cycle (a total of 16 projects) and the preparations for the development of the TC projects for the cycle 2026/2027. The Meeting agreed on the importance of results-based management of the on-going projects and the need for good quality proposals for the new projects.

The Meeting agreed that for the 2028-2029 TC Cycle, to proceed with the call for pre-concept papers in mid 2025 and requested the RCA FP to develop a timeline, to continue the integrated, thematic approach.

The Meeting noted the continued challenges the RCA is facing with resource mobilization and encouraged GPs to further discuss and develop sustainable long term solutions.

The Meeting noted that the PDM planned in November this year needs EBT contributions if it is to be held in person. GPs should consider providing EBT. If this cannot be obtained, the PDM would be held virtually. The inclusion of all relevant stakeholders is a crucial element for the success of PDMs and the range of meetings across project lifecycles. These should include TOs, LCCs, interested NRs, Secretariat, project design team members and the PAC members, as relevant. The Meeting agreed to continue to consider virtual meetings as they are inclusive, collaborative and a cost-effective mechanism to help address funding gaps.

The Meeting noted and highly appreciated the contributions from several GPs, especially the newly-announced contribution of EUR740,000 by AUL to support RCA TC Projects including for Footnote-A TC Project led by AUL and participation of LDCs and non-RCA Pacific Island Countries to the 47th RCA NRM.

4. Concept note on pathways for new membership to the RCA by AUL and NZE (follow on from 46th NRM) – RCAGCM (53)/4

AUL and NZE delivered their presentation, the ‘Pathways Concept Paper for Expanding Membership of the RCA to include additional Pacific Island Countries’ (Annex 00).

The Meeting noted the ‘Pathways Concept Paper for Expanding Membership of the RCA to include additional Pacific Island Countries’ by AUL and NZE. The Meeting emphasised that a systematic and comprehensive approach should be developed to consider expanded membership including financial aspects.

The Meeting agreed that the incoming RCA chair invite non-RCA Pacific Island Countries to the 47th RCA NRM as observers. The Meeting agreed to encourage the IAEA to present at the Pacific Agriculture and Forestry week in Tonga in the week of 26 May 2025, to share the benefits from nuclear science and technology.

5. Report from RCA Programme Advisory Committee Chair – RCAGCM (53)/5

Mr Prinath Dias, RCA PAC Chair, delivered his presentation on the report of RCA PAC (Annex 00)

The Meeting took note of the report by the RCA PAC Chair.

Taking note of the intention of Mr Prinath Dias to resign from the PAC Chair by April next year, the Meeting expressed appreciation of his efforts and dedication to the RCA Programme for the last five years as the Chair.

The Meeting agreed that with the expertise of the PAC members on the RCA, the role of PAC as an advisory committee to the RCA NRs should continue. However, the Terms of Reference should be refined to include specific criteria of the members, duration of the membership, procedures to select a Chair, etc. The selection of the next RCA PAC Chair would only be possible after the refinement is completed.

6. Report of RCARO - RCAGCM(53)/6

- a) Report on the activities of the RCARO by the Director of the RCARO, including update on side events and booths at 68th IAEA General Conference and Ministerial Level Conference in November 2024 (**Annex 00**)
- b) Report of the RCARO Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) on the activities of the RCARO by the RCA Chair (**Annex 00**)

The Meeting appreciated RCARO for the hard work done, especially hosting the RCA NR Workshop and the support provided for the RCA side-event at the 68th IAEA General Conference and the exhibition at the TCNA Ministerial Conference in November 2024.

The Meeting endorsed the recommendations of the 39th RCARO SAC Meeting (**Annex 00**), including the development of a concept note on outreach and future partnership activities.

7. 47th NRM in Fiji in 2025 and the 48th RCA NRM in 2026 - RCAGCM(53)/7

FIJ confirmed that the 47th RCA NRM will be held in 2025 in Nadi, Fiji.

The 48th NRM may be held in **IND** in 2026, subject to the confirmation of the Government of **IND**.

8. Any other business

Ms Natascha Spark, NR of **AUL**, the immediate past RCA Chair, briefed on the ‘Rapid Review of RCA Governance: Guiding Documents, Working Groups and Committees’ which was endorsed at the 52nd RCA GCM.

The Meeting agreed to form a working group to follow up on the ‘Rapid Review of RCA Governance: Guiding Documents, Working Groups and Committees’ to prepare for the recommendations to be presented to the 47th RCA NRM, including the revised ToR of RCA PAC. The membership of the working group is as follows;

- **AUL** (Chair), **PAK** (Co-Chair), **ROK**, **PHI**, **MON**, **SIN**, **JPN**, **INS**, **CPR**
- **IAEA** as an observer

The Meeting reminded GPs that, as per GOR, for future NR meetings, the background papers be circulated and uploaded on the website at least four weeks before the meetings to give enough time to the RCA NRs for deliberations.

9. Closure

Mr Hua Liu, DDG-TC, delivered his closing remarks, as representative of the IAEA (**Annex 00**).

The RCA Chair thanked all participants for their active participation and valuable contributions and declared the meeting adjourned.