



H.E. Mr. Vladimir GALUSKA
Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the
International Organizations in Vienna
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AUSTRIA

Your ref.

Our ref.
2017/2017/00295/SH

Our date
2017-12-07

Excellency,

I have the honour to inform you that the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority, on behalf of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency, will host the 3rd International Symposium on Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU) Minimisation in Oslo from June 5 to 7 2018.

The two previous Symposiums on HEU Minimisation were hosted and co-hosted by Norway in Oslo in 2006 and in Vienna in 2012 also in cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

As recognized in the IAEA Nuclear Security Resolution of 2017 HEU in all its applications require special precautions to ensure its nuclear security. The importance of minimising the use of HEU and using low enriched uranium (LEU) where technically and economically feasible is also recognized in the Resolution.

The purpose of the Symposium is to continue to focus attention on the issue of HEU minimisation in the civil nuclear sector, to gain insight in the status of the national and international efforts to minimise the use of HEU in the civil nuclear sector, and to address the technical, legal, political and financial challenges to further HEU minimisation.

Earlier this year, a group of 21 states, including Norway, made a commitment to minimise the use of HEU in civilian applications. The text of the Joint Statement was published by the IAEA as INFCIRC/912, and is now open for additional subscribers.

Participation at the 2018 Symposium on HEU Minimisation should not be linked to committing to all the principles of the INFCIRC. The 2018 Symposium will address practical steps to further HEU minimisation and aims to attract broad participation.

The participants of the Symposium will be open to participation from government, industry and relevant NGOs. The Conference will be held in English.

Program Committee

A Program Committee will guide the technical program of the conference. Norway will invite participants from a broad range of countries with an ambition or interest in, and knowledge of, HEU minimisation to take part in this Committee. The main goal of the Program Committee will be to discuss and establish the technical program of the conference.



Working Groups

To aid in taking stock of status and to come up with suggestions for further efforts in HEU minimisation, three working groups (WGs) will be established on topics of importance in HEU minimisation:

- WG1 “HEU Research Reactor Conversion and Technological Advances”
- WG2 “HEU Removals and Disposition”
- WG3 “Radio-isotope Production”

The WGs will be established in late 2017, and will be chaired by the Republic of Korea, Argentina and the Netherlands respectively. The WGs will review progress and status on HEU minimisation, but importantly also suggest solutions or recommendations for further efforts in each of the three areas. The WGs will present their work at the conference in 2018. A Joint Working Group Meeting is planned to take place in Vienna from February 20 to 23 2018.

I would like to invite the Czech Republic to nominate a representative to the Program Committee, but also based on your specific interests and expertise to participate in one or more WGs.

I would appreciate if you could inform us about your decision by 20 December 2017.

In case of questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Styrkaar Hustveit of the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority: Styrkaar.Hustveit@nrpa.no +47 67 16 25 61.

Yours sincerely

Ole Harbitz
Director General