

October 11, 2017

Forum for Nuclear Cooperation in Asia (FNCA)

Joint Communique

On the New Direction of the FNCA

We, the Heads of delegation of countries participating in the FNCA: Australia, the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, The Republic of the Philippines, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam,

Recalling that the FNCA's objective is to promote social and economic development through active regional partnership for the peaceful and safe utilisation of nuclear technology,

Acknowledging, amidst change in the global environment, the important role nuclear technology can provide in achieving the sustainable development and conservation of natural ecosystems, and maintaining proper environment quality,

Realizing the importance of sharing the knowledge and experiences to be, in turn, put into practice to address the individual or shared issues faced by member countries such as the enhancement of measures in the field of public relations, nuclear law and damage compensation regimes,

Continuing to be conscious of the need for nuclear security including cyber security by taking constant precautions in regards to issues such as terrorism threats or other critical circumstances, for the benefit of member countries,

Welcoming international cooperation with those multilateral nuclear-related organizations, such as the IAEA and OECD/NEA, which yields valuable insights into the area of nuclear management and application,

Appreciating the steady progress of the FNCA activities being carried out by the Study Panel and the Projects in relevant areas, and commending the FNCA Award winners for their outstanding achievements throughout the year 2016,

Noting that, of the FNCA's existing roles, the high priority to be placed on technology and knowledge sharing, and information exchange, but also recognizing the importance of R&D in each member country,

Decided to work toward:

1. Themes and activities to be promoted

- Further accelerating FNCA's activities related to the application of nuclear science and technology with the main focus in the areas of environment protection, health/medicine and agriculture, actively endorsing the existing projects such as "Mutation Breeding", "Radiation Oncology" and "Research on Climate Change", and also possible future projects such as nuclear safety and security culture which will lead to sustainable development in each member country,

2. Cooperation with international organizations

- Continuing to promote cooperation with relevant international organizations, including the IAEA and the OECD/NEA, particularly in the field of legal frameworks, as the awareness of the importance of enhancing domestic measures in the field of nuclear law increases in member countries, the importance of the subject demonstrated by its adoption as the main topic of the Study Panel in 2018,

3. Enhancement of FNCA's knowledge management and public relations functions

- Initiating mechanisms which include upgrading the FNCA website in an effort to enhance its knowledge-sharing and public relations function as well as ease of use by member countries,

4. Assistance and cooperation for addressing issues of protection of environment

Encouraging member countries to strengthen cooperation for addressing issues covered during the Roundtable Discussion with a focus on the protection of environment, such as harmonizing related regulations, and through cooperative arrangements with the on-going activities or the ones newly set up on demand in the future.

Also encouraging the member countries to promote technologies tackling with environment pollution directly, in addition to the technology of monitoring.