

## Summary Report of 17th FNCA Coordinators Meeting

The 17th FNCA Coordinators Meeting held on March 8-9, 2016, in Tokyo, Japan, was officially hosted by the Cabinet Office of Japan (CAO) and the Japan Atomic Energy Commission (JAEC), and co-hosted by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan. Chairperson of the Meeting was Mr. Tomoaki WADA, FNCA Coordinator of Japan.

The Meeting was attended by delegates from 12 member countries and an international organizations; Australia, Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), RCA Regional Office, and OECD/NEA.

The summary of the eleven sessions of this Meeting is as follows:

### Session 1: Opening Session

Dr. Yoshiaki OKA, Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission (JAEC), made a welcome address, in which he called on the participants to have a moment of silence for the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake, just before the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its occurrence. He also expressed heartfelt welcome to the participants, and introduced the role and responsibilities of JAEC, which include discussion and formulation of nuclear policy and application of lessons learned from Fukushima Daiichi accident. And he mentioned about decommissioning of Fukushima Daiichi NPPs and restoration of the area affected by the Fukushima accidents, as one of the challenges for government and the nuclear industries.

After the self-introduction by each participant, the Meeting agenda was adopted with some amendments.

### Session 2: Summary Report of the FNCA MLM in 2015

Mr. Hironori NAKANISHI, Japan, reported on the 16<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Level Meeting (MLM), and the action items of Joint Communique on the new direction of FNCA, such as launching a new research project on climate change, and improvement of the management of FNCA activities. He also elaborated the actions to be taken hereafter, i.e., TOR for each FNCA meeting.

### Session 3: Development of Radiation Application-Part-1

Dr. Hirohiko TSUJII, Japan, reported that CERVIX-IV, the protocol study for cervical

cancer by Radiation Oncology Project achieved excellent results, and the project will develop new and higher level protocol, CERVIX-V. Prof. CAO Jianping, China, reported that radiotherapy is enhanced in China, FNCA has been playing a very important role to promote radiotherapy in China as well.

Dr. Hirokazu NAKAI, Japan, presented the results of Mutation Breeding of rice for sustainable agriculture, reporting that member countries are achieving new varieties with resistance to various environmental stress, as well as adaptability to low input sustainable agriculture. Dr. BAYARSUKH Noov, Mongolia, showed the achievement of new wheat mutant varieties and future plan in Mongolia.

#### Session 4: Development of Radiation Application –Part 2-

Prof. Issay NARUMI, Japan, presented the results of the workshop on Biofertilizer project, reporting that radiation technology for biofertilizer carrier sterilization was already transferred to the biofertilizer manufacturing companies in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines. Dr. Phatchayaphon MEUNCHANG, Thailand, introduced the pilot project to extend the utilization of irradiation carrier by Department of Agriculture (DOA), TINT and some private companies.

Dr. Masao TAMADA, Japan, presented progress situation of development of Plant Growth Promoter (PGP) and Super Water Absorbent (SWA) in member countries of Electron Accelerator Application Project. Ms. Chartio T. ARANILLA, the Philippines introduced achievements of preliminary field tests on efficacy of PGP in rice, such as yield increase, as well as improved resistance against disease and typhoon.

#### Session 5: Strengthening of Nuclear Safety and Nuclear Infrastructure –Part 1-

Prof. Toshiso KOSAKO, Japan, introduced the achievements of Radiation Safety and Radioactive Waste Management Project, including workshop, Consolidated Report on Nuclear/ Radiological Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Publication of Newsletter. Mr. Husen ZAMRONI, Indonesia, reported achievements in the field of radiation safety and radioactive waste management in Indonesia, such as renew of some ageing facilities and zero accident.

Mr. Peter McGLINN, Australia, introduced findings from the workshop and peer review of Safety Management System (SMS) Project in Vietnam, as well as feedback of previous peer review in Bangladesh, stressing that peer review process have helped member countries to improve safety. Dr. NGUYEN Nhi Dien, Vietnam, reported about

improvement of safety management system in Dalat Nuclear Research Institute (DNRI), in response to peer review of SMS project and regular inspection.

#### Session 6-1: Strengthening of Nuclear Safety and Nuclear Infrastructure –Part 2-

Mr. Masao SENZAKI, Japan, outlined the workshop of Nuclear Security and Safeguards Project which covered good practices for developing nuclear security culture, management of sensitive information regarding nuclear security, and NMAC for Nuclear Facility Operators, etc. Mr. Sergey BEREZIN, Kazakhstan, introduced Kazakhstan's initiatives for nuclear security and safeguards, such as international cooperation, personal training, and dissemination of nuclear security culture.

Dr. Takeshi, IIMOTO, Japan, outlined the workshop of Human Resources Development Project, proposing specific topics to be taken up in future workshop, namely information exchange on nuclear science materials for schools. Dr. Syed Mohammad HOSSAIN, Bangladesh, reported on their efforts to fulfill nuclear human resources.

#### Session 6-2: Development of Research Reactor Application-Part 1-

Dr. Masanori KAMINAGA, Japan, outlined the workshop of Research Reactor Network Project, which recommended to continue information exchange on new research reactors and production situation of Mo-99 and other RIs, and to prepare detailed catalog of multi-purpose research reactor. Dr. Azahari Bin KASBOLLAH, stated that Malaysian Nuclear Agency has plan to produce Mo-99 by n-gamma method as a final goal of domestic production, using its research reactor, RTP.

#### Session 7: IAEA/RCA Activities Reports and the Cooperation with IAEA

Mr. CHOI Kun Mo, Director of RCA Regional Office, introduced its effort to amend the RCA agreement in consideration of new member countries, such as establishment of Medium Term Strategy. RCA identifies FNCA as one of strategic co-operator of RCA stakeholders, and expects to continue its cooperation with FNCA in coming years. This was followed by the discussion, in which Mr. WADA expressed the intention to continue the cooperation between FNCA and RCA on specific projects which would provide synergy.

#### Session 8: Development of Research Reactor Application-Part 2-

Prof. Mitsuru EBIHARA, Japan, proposed to continue Neutron Activation Analysis (NAA) Project focusing on rare earth elements (REEs) and suspended particular matter

(SPM), stating that each member country have confirmed end-users of NAA such as environmental sectors, mineral resources sectors, and so on. Mr. JongHwa MOON, Korea, introduced application of NAA in Korea in the fields of environment, material science, geology and archeology.

Session 9: Follow-up on activities based on the Joint Communiqué of the 16<sup>th</sup> MLM

In Session 9, the action items decided in the Joint Communiqué of the 16<sup>th</sup> MLM were reviewed, namely, establishment of a new research project on climate change, promotion of the cooperation with international organizations such as IAEA and OECD/NEA, and improvement of the management of FNCA.

Mr. Peter McGLINN, Australia, proposed new project, “Research on Climate Change using Nuclear Technology” aiming at analysis of environmental samples like lake sediments, tree rings, etc., by nuclear and isotope technology, for better understanding what happened to the environment in the past.

Ms. Ximena VÁSQUEZ MAIGNA, OECD/NEA, introduced NEA’s activities related to nuclear legislation. She proposed cooperation between FNCA and OECD/NEA to exchange information and experiences in the field of nuclear liability.

Mr. Nobuhiro MUROYA, Japan, explained that the the action item of Joint Communiqué on improvement of the management of FNCA activities aims to reinvigorate the activities and to create further results. He proposed how to evaluate FNCA projects and Study panel in new and visualized manner.

Mr. MUROYA, also proposed “FNCA Award” which aims to commend project teams who have achieved excellent results in the project activities, as well as its selection process. Followings were confirmed

- The theme of Study Panel will be decided in MLM.
- It is possible to make recommendation to a project activity.
- A new project can be proposed even if the proposer will not sponsor it.

Session 10: Discussion on Future Policy of FNCA Activities

The member countries gave their review of Mutation Breeding (MB) Project, the phase of which will expire in this March and Neutron Activation Analysis (NAA) Project which was extended by one year pending development of linkage with end-users. They announced their intention to continue these 2 projects.

Dr. Hideki NAMBA, FNCA Advisor of Japan, summarized the results of MB project, in which he concluded that the project is worth to extend for another two years to achieve the target, taking into consideration the fact that new varieties of rice were established or being established in member countries.

Then Mr. WADA recognized that NAA project has established linkage with end-users in the field of NAA of PM 2.5 and rare earth elements, and concluded that the project will extend for another three years, with expectation of creating considerable socio-economic impact on Asian region.

Mr. WADA proposed the plan of host countries for FNCA workshops in 2016, adding that joint workshops will be held for Electron Accelerator Application Project and Biofertilizer Project, and for Research Reactor Network Project and Neutron Activation Analysis Project. It was concluded that the plan will be circulated to member countries after the meeting, in order to confirm their availability.

#### Session 11: Closing Session

Mr. WADA provided the Conclusion and Recommendation of the meeting. It was agreed that the Conclusion and Recommendation and the summary report of the meeting would be emailed to member countries for comments within two weeks.

Lastly, Mr. WADA gave his closing remarks, and officially closed the meeting.