



Monthly Newsletter



IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano, opening speech at GCC Regional School of Nuclear Energy Management in Abu Dhabi, 8-19 January, 2012

First School of Nuclear Energy Management in UAE

With the support of the UAE Government, Khalifa University of Science, Technology and Research (KU) hosted the first GCC 'Regional School of Nuclear Energy Management' event organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). This event took place from 8-19 January 2012, in Abu Dhabi.

The two-week School initiative provided a unique international educative experience for young professionals in the Gulf region, who have the potential to become future leaders in nuclear energy, whether in the nuclear industry itself, academia or the public.

More than 40 participants from GCC countries - Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the UAE - have obtained essential knowledge regarding all applications of the peaceful use of nuclear technology.

"The generation of professionals who built and led the nuclear power industry for much of the past 50 years is approaching retirement and there are not enough students coming up through the educational system to take their place", IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano highlighted in his broadcasted opening speech to the School's participants.

The presentations, lectures and group exercises administered by the IAEA and field experts, highlighted the most recent developments in nuclear energy which will help participants develop an international perspective on the many issues related to the peaceful uses of nuclear technology.

The School event was conducted as a part of the IAEA's effort to support the GCC Member States on strengthening nuclear power infrastructure and planning.

UAE Shares Its Experience in Developing Nuclear Infrastructure

The UAE has shared its practices on the development of its national nuclear infrastructure and lessons learned from the Fukushima Dai-ichi accident with other IAEA Member States during a five-day technical workshop in Vienna, Austria.

The workshop on 'Topical Issues on Infrastructure Development' held by the IAEA from 24 to 27 January 2012, included an assembly of more than 100 participants from 45 Member States. It provided its participants with a common platform to exchange information and best practices on the development of a sustainable national infrastructure for Nuclear Power Plants.

The UAE's approach of developing nuclear power has been recognized as a model among other Member States embarking on nuclear power programs.
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- UAE Hosts IAEA Workshop on Nuclear Law
- UAE Engages in Establishment of a Network for Nuclear Security Support

"Our interest in renewable energy is inseparable from our project to develop a peaceful programme of nuclear energy to meet our growing energy requirements, based on the highest standards of transparency, safety and nuclear security, in accordance with international laws, and in full cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency".

H.H. Sheikh Khalifa bin Al Nahyan,
President of the UAE



In light of this, the UAE was invited to share its experience of building a national nuclear infrastructure with countries that are considering to develop their own nuclear power programme.

The Permanent Representative of the UAE to the IAEA, H.E. Ambassador Hamad Alkaabi, presented the country's accomplishments in developing an effective policy and solid infrastructure for its peaceful nuclear energy programme, including post Fukushima actions taken in the UAE.

"The UAE Government will continue to monitor international developments related to nuclear safety and take into consideration Fukushima lessons, and implement them as appropriate in the UAE programme," affirmed Ambassador Alkaabi.

On the final day of the technical meeting, the IAEA held a press briefing for the media to inform the public at large on the outcomes of the meeting. Together with the speakers of the press briefing which included Co-Chair of the Economic Modeling Working Group, Mr. William Rasin;



H.E. Ambassador Hamad Alkaabi during the press briefing of the IAEA Workshop, 27 January 2012, IAEA Headquarters, Vienna

the IAEA's Operational Safety Section, Mr. Miroslav Lipar; and Head of the IAEA's Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Group, Mrs. Anne Starz, Ambassador Alkaabi responded to the journalists' queries.

UAE Engages in Establishment of a Network for Nuclear Security Support

Experts from The UAE took part in a discussion on the establishment of training centres for the nuclear security technical and scientific support during an IAEA meeting in Vienna, Austria, from 31 January to 2 February 2012.

The topical meeting on 'Nuclear Security Plan 2010-2013: Establishment of Self-sustaining Nuclear Security Support Centres' is a follow-up of a similar meeting held from 21-22 July 2011.

The meeting assembling international nuclear experts will facilitate endeavours aimed at the foundation of a collaborative network among technical and support institutions. These are institutions already involved in, or that plan to be involved in providing technical and scientific support in the field of nuclear security.

Establishment of the *Network will help Member States to access a high standard of nuclear security training and to build up nuclear security support capabilities*. It will significantly contribute to reduce duplication or overlaps of efforts among existing and emerging nuclear security support centres at the national and regional levels.

UAE Hosts IAEA Workshop on Nuclear Law



Ambassador Alkaabi, an opening speech at the workshop.

The Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR), and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) have jointly organised the 'Workshop on the Legal Infrastructure Supporting the Development of a Nuclear Energy Programme', on 15 January 2012.

More than 60 representatives from over 20 federal and local government entities participated and discussed how to best implement national and international laws that govern the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

The workshop was opened by the UAE Permanent Representative to the IAEA and Special Representative for International Nuclear Cooperation, H.E. Ambassador Hamad Alkaabi and took place at the Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi (PSUAD), UAE.

Topics such as safety, security, safeguards, export control, waste management, emergency preparedness and response, liability and compensation have been priority on the agenda of the three-day event.



About the Permanent Mission

The UAE has been a member of the IAEA since 1976. The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the IAEA acts as the main liaison between the UAE government and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, Austria.

The office of the Permanent Mission was established in 2008. The objective of the Mission is to represent the interests of the UAE Government at the IAEA and to facilitate the UAE's engagement and cooperation with the IAEA in the areas of, nuclear safety, nuclear security, non-proliferation and safeguards, technical cooperation and in implementation of relevant international obligations.

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Highlights of Key Events: UAE-IAEA in 2011

- From 16-23 January 2011, the IAEA carried out its first Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Review (INIR) Mission in the United Arab Emirates to assess the status of the national nuclear infrastructure in the UAE. The INIR Mission concluded that the UAE progressing well in the development of required nuclear infrastructure consistent with the IAEA recommendations and guidance.
- From 4-14 April, a 25-member UAE delegation, actively participated at the IAEA Fifth Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS) and presented its first National Report. The Review Meeting commended the UAE's nuclear energy program as 'outstanding'.
- From 20-24 June 2011, the UAE participated in the IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety at the IAEA headquarters in Vienna, Austria to discuss the lessons learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident. The delegation was led by H.E. Anwar Gargash, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.
- UAE continues to play an important role as an active member of the Board of Governors of the IAEA for the period of 2010-2012. The Board took significant decisions over 2011 covering issues of Safeguards non-compliance, budget and personnel as well as matters related to nuclear safety, in particular in the wake of Fukushima.
- From 5-14 December 2011, the UAE successfully hosted the IAEA Integrated Regulatory Review Services (IRRS), at the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR) headquarters in Abu Dhabi including site visits to the UAE Braka Nuclear Power Plant facilities. The mission recognized UAE advancement in development of required nuclear safety I regulatory infrastructure.
- On 6 December 2011, the UAE completed another important step in the framework of its cooperation with the IAEA by signing its Country Profile Framework (CPF), in Abu Dhabi, UAE. The CPF constitutes the frame of reference for the short and medium-term planning of technical cooperation between the Government of the UAE and the IAEA for the period 2012-2016.
- Significant increase in the course of 2011, in cooperation activities between UAE and all IAEA Departments, specifically Technical Cooperation, in relation to its ongoing national projects, regional projects, and other IAEA Technical Meetings. The UAE participated in more than 60 events organised by the IAEA, TC meetings, workshops, training courses, consultancy meetings, as well as important committees and conferences. UAE hosted 25 different IAEA events; and provided 11 scientific fellows and 8 scientific visits worldwide, in the field of nuclear and atomic physics, nuclear engineering and technology, nuclear and radiation safety and security, among other related fields.



*H.E. Minister Gargash in a meeting with IAEA Director General Amano
(June 2011)*