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International Atomic Energy Agency

Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique

Международное агентство по атомной энергии

Organismo Internacional de Energía Atómica

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La Secretaría del Organismo Internacional de Energía Atómica (OIEA) saluda a los Estados Miembros del OIEA y tiene el honor de señalar a su atención la celebración de la **Reunión Técnica sobre Radionucleidos Presentes en los Alimentos y el Agua de Bebida en Situaciones que No Son de Emergencia** (denominada en adelante el “evento”), que tendrá lugar de forma virtual a través de Cisco WebEx del **6 al 10 de septiembre de 2021**.

La finalidad del evento es examinar la gestión de los radionucleidos naturales y artificiales presentes en los alimentos y el agua de bebida con miras a elaborar un enfoque de gestión armonizado.

En la reseña informativa adjunta se ofrecen más detalles sobre el evento.

El evento se celebrará en inglés.

Se invita a los Estados Miembros a designar a una o más personas para que participen en este evento en representación de su Gobierno y se los alienta encarecidamente a que seleccionen con ese fin a mujeres calificadas.

Las designaciones deben presentarse al OIEA por conducto de la autoridad nacional competente (el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, la Misión Permanente ante el OIEA o la Autoridad Nacional de Energía Atómica), a más tardar el **2 de julio de 2021**, por medio del formulario de participación adjunto (Formulario A). Los formularios de participación debidamente cumplimentados y autorizados deben enviarse por correo electrónico a la dirección Official.Mail@iaea.org o por fax al número: +43 1 26007 (no se precisan copias impresas). Asimismo, han de enviarse copias por correo electrónico al Secretario Científico del evento, Sr. Tony Colgan, División de Seguridad Radiológica, del Transporte y de los Desechos, Departamento de Seguridad Nuclear Tecnológica y Física (correo electrónico: T.Colgan@iaea.org), y a la Secretaria Administrativa, Sra. Allison Gruber (correo electrónico: A.Gruber@iaea.org).

Una vez recibidas las designaciones oficiales, el Secretario Científico del evento contactará directamente a los participantes en relación con otras cuestiones de organización, según proceda.

El OIEA no se hace responsable de virus informáticos, gusanos, troyanos, puertas traseras, temporizadores, relojes, contadores o cualquier otra rutina, instrucción o diseño que limiten el funcionamiento, u otro código no solicitado malicioso, ilícito o similar, incluidos programas de vigilancia o rutinas que puedan permitir a cualquier persona, o por iniciativa propia, el acceso con el objetivo de borrar, o dañar o modificar de cualquier otro modo datos o sistemas, servidores, instalaciones u otra infraestructura del usuario final (colectivamente, “código inhabilitante”). Asimismo, el proveedor de los servicios para la reunión virtual ha asegurado y garantizado que los Servicios no contendrán, ni ningún usuario final recibirá del programa informático empleado para celebrar la reunión virtual, ninguno de estos códigos inhabilitantes.

La Secretaría del Organismo Internacional de Energía Atómica aprovecha esta oportunidad para reiterar a los Estados Miembros del OIEA el testimonio de su distinguida consideración.



4 de mayo de 2021

Documentación adjunta (en inglés únicamente):

Reseña informativa

Formulario de participación (Formulario A)



Technical Meeting on Radionuclides in Food and Drinking Water in non-emergency Situations

Virtual Event

6 - 10 September 2021

Ref. No.: EVT1904248

Information Sheet

Introduction

Historically, IAEA safety standards addressed criteria for controlling public exposure due to radiation from radionuclides in food only in the context of nuclear or radiological emergencies. This changed in 2014 with the inclusion of safety requirements for existing exposure situations in IAEA Safety Standard Series No. GSR Part 3, Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards [1], including for radionuclides in food.

Requirement 51 of GSR Part 3 states that “the regulatory body or other relevant authority shall establish reference levels for exposure due to radionuclides in commodities.” Paragraph 5.22 further states that “the regulatory body or other relevant authority shall establish specific reference levels for exposure due to radionuclides in commodities such as construction materials, food and feed, and in drinking water, each of which shall typically be expressed as, or be based on, an annual effective dose to the representative person that generally does not exceed a value of about 1 mSv.” These requirements are in section 5 of GSR Part 3, which addresses existing exposure situations.

Criteria for the assessment and management of radionuclides in drinking water in existing exposure situations have been published by the WHO [2]. These criteria cover both natural and human-made radionuclides. The international food standards of the Joint FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission include guideline levels for 20 radionuclides for food in international trade and which is contaminated as a result of a nuclear or radiological emergency [3]. These Codex guideline levels are based on conservative assumptions, and the radionuclides included are those important for uptake into the food chain and which are typically contained in releases from nuclear installations or are used in radioactive sources in large enough quantities to be significant potential contributors to levels in foods.

Radionuclides may be present in food (1) as a result of a regulated activity (planned exposure situation) such as authorized discharges from a nuclear facility or a hospital; (2) as a result of a nuclear or radiological accident (emergency exposure situation), during the emergency phase or after the emergency has ended; or (3) due to natural radioactivity in the environment or radionuclides remaining from unregulated past activities such as the testing of nuclear weapons or other unregulated releases to the environment (existing exposure situation). For any given radionuclide, it might not be possible to identify precisely its origin.

IAEA-TECDOC-1788 [4] summarizes the international standards and guidance for different exposure situations that relate to radionuclides in food and drinking water and has identified a number of gaps and inconsistencies in the current guidance. One of the major gaps is a lack of practical guidance on controlling exposures in existing exposure situations due to natural radionuclides in food.

Subsequently, and in response to a General Conference resolution, the Agency in collaboration with the FAO and WHO established a project on Radionuclides in Food and Drinking Water in Non-Emergency Situations. An international Steering Group of experts was established in 2017 to direct this project. The aim is to develop science-based guidance to assist national authorities to manage radiation doses from the consumption of food in existing exposure situations, consistent with the approach of WHO for radionuclides in drinking water and of FAO for non-radioactive contaminants in food.

A draft technical document (TECDOC) has been developed. The TECDOC reviews the available scientific literature on natural and human-made radionuclides in food, identifies those radionuclides that are the main contributors to radiation exposure and assesses the associated radiation doses. Circumstances in which consumers receive elevated radiation doses from the diet are documented and discussed. Based on a statistical analysis of the available measurement data, the TECDOC proposes an assessment strategy to determine if the measured activity concentrations of a given radionuclide in a specific food fall within the worldwide distribution for that combination of food and radionuclide.

Criteria for controlling food in emergency exposure situations are outside the scope of the TECDOC.

- [1] EUROPEAN COMMISSION, FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION, OECD NUCLEAR ENERGY AGENCY, PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION, UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME, WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards, IAEA Safety Standards Series No. GSR Part 3, IAEA, Vienna (2014). http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/Pub1578_web-57265295.pdf
- [2] WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality. — Fourth Edition incorporating the First Addendum, WHO, Geneva (2017). https://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/drinking-water-quality-guidelines-4-including-1st-addendum/en/
- [3] JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME, CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION, Codex General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed, Schedule 1 — Radionuclides, CODEX STAN 193-1995, CAC, Rome (2006). http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/livestockgov/documents/1_CXS_193e.pdf
- [4] INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, Criteria for Radionuclide Activity Concentrations for Food and Drinking Water, TECDOC-1788, IAEA, Vienna (2016). https://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/Publications/PDF/TE-1788_web.pdf

Objectives

The Technical Meeting will provide the opportunity to discuss the content of the draft TECDOC and for experts from Member States to provide feedback on the applicability of the TECDOC to national activities to assess public exposure due to radionuclides in food in existing exposure situations. The conclusions from the meeting will form the basis of future guidance on how national authorities can demonstrate compliance with Requirement 51 of GSR Part 3 in relation to radiation doses due to radionuclides in food.

The Technical Meeting is organized by the project's Joint Secretariat involving FAO, IAEA and WHO. The draft TECDOC will be made available to participants on a confidential basis prior to the meeting.

Target Audience

The Technical Meeting will be of interest to national authorities responsible for food quality, natural authorities responsible for radiation protection of the public and technical experts involved in the measurement of radionuclides in food and in the environment more generally

Working Language(s)

English

Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event have to be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be members of organizations that have been invited to attend.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State, participants are requested to send the **Participation Form (Form A)** to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) for onward transmission to the IAEA by **2 July 2021**. Participants who are members of an organization invited to attend are requested to send the **Participation Form (Form A)** through their organization to the IAEA by the above deadline.

Selected participants will be informed in due course on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative matters.

Organization

Scientific Secretary

Mr Peter Anthony Colgan

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Administrative Secretary

Ms Allison Gruber

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary and correspondence on other matters related to the event to the Administrative Secretary.

Participation Form

(Virtual Event) Technical Meeting on Radionuclides in Food and Drinking Water in non-emergency Situations

Vienna, Austria

6 to 10 September 2021

To be completed by the participant and sent to the competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA, or National Atomic Energy Authority) of his/her country for subsequent transmission to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) either by email to: Official.Mail@iaea.org or by fax to: +43 1 26007 (no hard copies needed). Please also send a copy by email to the Scientific Secretary, Mr Peter Anthony Colgan, Division of Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety, Department of Nuclear Safety and Security (Email: T.Colgan@iaea.org) and to the Administrative Secretary, Ms Allison Gruber, (Email: A.Gruber@iaea.org).

Participants who are members of an invited organization can submit this form to their organization for subsequent transmission to the IAEA.

Deadline for receipt by IAEA through official channels: 02 July 2021

Family name(s): (same as in passport)	First name(s): (same as in passport)	Mr/Ms
Institution:		
Full address:		
Tel. (Fax):		
Email:		
Nationality:	Representing following Member State/non-Member State/entity or invited organization:	
If/as applicable:		
Do you intend to submit a paper?	Yes	No
Would you prefer to present your paper as a poster?	Yes	No
Title:		