

## **INPRO Dialogue Forum 8.**

### **Toward Nuclear Energy System Sustainability: Economics, Resource Availability, and Institutional Arrangements**

*Vienna International Centre (VIC), IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, AUSTRIA*

26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2014. IAEA Room M-3, Building M

#### **Opening Remarks**

**Alexander Bychkov**

**IAEA Deputy Director for Nuclear Energy and INPRO Project Manager**

**Dear Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

On behalf of the International Atomic Energy Agency, I would like to welcome you to the eighth INPRO Dialogue Forum entitled “Toward Nuclear Energy System Sustainability: Economics, Resource Availability and Institutional Arrangement”.

INPRO Dialogue Forum is designed to foster a dialogue between technology developers and technology users from all IAEA interested Member States to discuss issues pertaining to the sustainability aspects of nuclear energy systems.

In 2012 INPRO launched the project to revise and update INPRO Methodology as part of a five-year plan strategy, to incorporate lessons learned from past NESAs, results of INPRO collaborative projects, technical feedbacks from Member States and in-house experts, as well as feedbacks from reactor developers during the seventh Dialogue Forum.

This particular forum discusses the roles of economics, resource availability and institutional arrangements to highlight completion of the corresponding updated INPRO manuals, namely, Economics, Environmental Impact by Depletion of Resources, and Infrastructure.

It is the goal of the eighth INPRO Dialogue Forum to further familiarize Member States with sustainability assessment of INPRO Methodology as a whole based on the updated manuals.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

INPRO Methodology is an internationally validated tool to assist Member States in assessing the nuclear energy system sustainability based on a comprehensive set of internationally agreed basic principles, requirements and criteria in the areas of Economics, Infrastructure, Waste management, Proliferation Resistance, Physical Protection, Environment, and Safety of Nuclear Reactors and Nuclear Fuel Cycle.

Last November we witnessed validation of INPRO assessment as performed by vendors of evolutionary reactors in the area of safety of nuclear reactors. In this forum, representatives from the developers of both evolutionary and innovative reactors, reactor user and international organisations will once again discuss the applicability and relevance of INPRO assessment method, allowing harmonization of INPRO methodology with other approaches.

INPRO also recognizes the contribution of other sections within the Agency for cross-cutting issues in INPRO assessment, and, therefore, in-house experts are also brought in to discuss and further elucidate some of the key issues in a sustainability assessment. As the Deputy Director General of the Department of Nuclear Energy and as INPRO Manager, I would like extend my sincere appreciation.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In conclusion, INPRO is part of the IAEA integrated services provided to Member States considering initial development or expansion of their nuclear energy programmes. And INPRO cooperates with Member States to ensure that sustainable nuclear energy is available to help meet the energy needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The INPRO Methodology serves as the tool for this purpose.

Member States are expected to gain better understanding in particular of the role of economics, resource availability and institutional arrangements and the benefits of using INPRO methodology in their long range and strategic planning of nuclear energy programmes. I have also been informed that delegates from non-NESA countries will also stage, for the first time, their own undertaking to assess nuclear energy system of interest using INPRO Methodology. I should applaud the efforts from Member States.

I wish to thank all participants, presenters and colleagues for their significant interest and contribution to this important event.

I also wish to thank the IAEA INPRO Section for organizing this Dialogue Forum

I wish you all a successful and fruitful meeting.

Thank you.