

Second Meeting of the Technical Working Group on Small and Medium sized or Modular Reactor (TWG-SMR)

8 – 11 July 2019

IAEA HEADQUARTERS, VIC-M6

Opening Remarks by DIR-NENP Mr Dohee Hahn

On behalf of the International Atomic Energy Agency, I warmly **welcome** all of you to this the Second Meeting of the Technical Working Group on SMR.

I can hardly believe it has been 14 months since the first meeting, when I also had the opportunity to welcome you.

As you know, this Technical Working Group on SMR was established in 2018, with the **key function** to provide advice and guidance, and to marshal support in interested Member States,, for implementation of the IAEA's programmatic activities on technology development, design and safety for design, deployment and economics of SMRs for the production of electricity, non-electric applications and cogeneration.

In this Technical Working Group on SMR, we are further encouraged that an **additional six (6)** Member States now have the full membership of twenty (20) as also set out in the Terms of Reference.

We keep a **healthy balance** between the number of technology **developer** countries, **expanding** nuclear countries and **potential user/embarking** countries.

At this meeting we have **new** designated members from **Canada, Japan, Kenya, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Ukraine**, while we welcome back the **fourteen (14)** Member States, namely: **Argentina, Australia, China, France, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Jordan, Republic of Korea, Pakistan, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and the United States of America.**

We also welcome the **European Commission** as observer.

The IAEA has seen the **continual increase in the interest** in SMRs and also witnessed a **growing number of embarking countries** interested in SMR deployment as part of their energy supply portfolio.

The potential role, that nuclear power production should play to **reduce Green-House-Gas emissions**, is more and more recognised.

Often the deployment of SMRs as part of the energy mix requires **considerations** of the deployment, with a substantial contribution by **intermittent renewables**, and this aspect also recently draws more attention at the agency.

SMRs also excel in **non-electric applications**, and the potential to make contributions to industry process heat applications and district heating is today hot topics.

Finally, the deployment of SMRs in **niche markets**, like floating platforms, or to provide heat and power to isolated communities or mines, are gaining momentum.

The TWG-SMR is an opportunity for **information sharing** between interested Member States of their plans for SMR technology development, plans for deployment, possible user requirements, or the status of R&D or test facilities.

It **informs** the agency of activities in the Member States and it informs Member States of activities within the agency.

The TWG-SMR also functions to review the Agency's publications on SMR, assess existing gaps and advise on new publications, new coordinated research projects and, in general, new initiatives supporting the Member States interested in this reactor technology.

To maintain and enhance synergies, I remind you that the TWG-SMR is also coordinating its activities with other in-house IAEA programmes in cross-cutting areas.

I would like to thank colleagues and in-house experts from the **Department of Nuclear Safety and Security**, the **Department of Nuclear Energy**, and this time also the **Department of Safeguards**, for contributing to this meeting.

I am also assured that you will learn more of our efforts to enhance the one-house approach supported by the **SMR NS-NE coordination committee**.

For the TWG-SMR arrangements, **Mr. Frederik Reitsma** is the responsible Scientific Secretary of this meeting and **Ms. Nicole Cordova** assists on the administration.

We are delighted to welcome back Mr **Marco Ricotti** from **Italy** to chair this the second TWG-SMR meeting.

I wish you all fruitful discussions and look forward to successful outcome.

[580 words]