

REGIONAL AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION FOR PROMOTION OF NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY ARCAL BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES (ORA) DURING THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 2017 TO SEPTEMBER 2018

XIX MEETING OF THE ARCAL BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2018 VIENNA, AUSTRIA

> ORA 2018-01 SEPTEMBER 2018

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I. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

 The XVIII Ordinary Meeting of the ARCAL Representative Body (ORA) was held on September 19, 2017. Representatives of the following countries participated in the meeting: Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic and Uruguay. The meeting was attended by a representative of the Government of Spain in its capacity as ARCAL strategic partner. The President of the Regional Cooperation Agreement for Research, Development and Training in relation to Nuclear Science and Technology for Asia and the Pacific (RCA) was also present.

The meeting was an opportunity to carry out the transfer of the Presidency of ORA. The Ambassador of Brazil introduced the new Board of Directors conformed by the President of ORA, H.E. Mrs Alicia Buenrostro Massieu, Resident Representative of Mexico, by the Vice President of ORA, H.E. Mr Juan Antonio Fernández Palacios, Resident Representative of Cuba, and by the Secretary of ORA, S.E. Mr Marcel Fortuna Biato, Resident Representative of Brazil.

2) In the framework of the 61st General Conference of the IAEA, the representatives of the Quadripartite Forum met on September 21, 2017. The meeting was opened by the President of the ARCAL Board of Representatives (ORA), H.E. Mrs Alicia Buenrostro Massieu, Resident Representative of Mexico to the IAEA, who on this occasion, transferred the Chairmanship of the Forum to the representative of the RCA, Mr Jafar Sadique, member of the Atomic Energy Commission of Bangladesh. The meeting was also attended by Mrs Lydia Paredes, President of the ARCAL Technical Coordination Body (OCTA).

The regional agreements decided to continue collaborating to open more concrete opportunities for collaboration. In this regard, the importance of designing a mechanism to promote common training opportunities between the agreements and to promote Portuguese-speaking activities in order to further strengthen the collaboration between ARCAL and AFRA was highlighted.

3) An Extraordinary Meeting between the Secretariat and the ORA Board of Directors was held on November 24, 2017 in Vienna, Austria. The meeting was attended by the member countries of the ARCAL Representative Body and representatives of the Secretariat. The objective of the meeting was to analyze the Technical Cooperation program for Latin America and the Caribbean for the 2018-2019 cycle, which had been recently approved by the Board of Governors of the IAEA.

The ARCAL project for strengthening the sustainability of the national nuclear institutions (RLA0062) was highlighted, and the importance of disseminating the objectives of this project in the ARCAL network was emphasized.

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4) A joint session was held between ORA and OCTA on May 17, 2018, during which the work developed during the XIX Meeting of the OCTA was presented. During the session, topics such as the participation of ARCAL in the Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Applications, the ratification of the extension of the ARCAL Agreement for the period 2020-2025, the extension of the Regional Strategic Profile and the communication and campaign strategy for the 35 years of ARCAL were discussed.

II. REPORT ON THE COMPLIANCE WITH DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY ORA AT ITS XVIII MEETING

Conclusions and recommendations

As a result of the discussion topics of the XVIII Meeting of the ORA, the Representatives agreed to:

1. Adopt all the reports presented at the meeting: Document ORA 2017-01, Document ORA 2017-02, Document ORA 2017-03.

Complete.

2. To approve the proposal of the twelve regional projects that will be put to consideration for the approval of the Board of Governors of the IAEA.

Complete.