



RER9143/9013/01 Enhancing Radioactive Waste Management Capabilities

Workshop on the “Characterization Methods for Raw and Conditioned Radioactive Waste” Romania, Bucharest – 12-16 June 2017

The purpose of the workshop was to discuss issues and good practices in radioactive waste characterization for promoting waste minimization, identification of optimal processing schemes, and to meet the waste acceptance criteria for processing, storage and disposal.

Every country that uses nuclear technology involving radioactive materials generates radioactive wastes. Such waste needs to be processed through segregation, treatment, conditioning and packaging to be stored on an interim basis, disposed of or recycled/reprocessed. There is a recognized need to assist Member States in defining appropriate strategies to improve existing waste management practices in these areas and to assist in the resolution of particular or common problems for radioactive waste management, both pre-disposal and disposal.

There is a continuous need to improve technology and human resources to enhance and strengthen the technical capacity, efficiency and safety of existing or for building new predisposal waste management facilities related to waste processing or storage. Countries with small amounts of radioactive waste usually do not have solutions for final disposal. Since predisposal management of radioactive waste needs to be aligned with the disposal solutions, timely determination of integrated national policy and strategy is essential for the safe and effective management of radioactive waste.

During the workshop were delivered lectures by invited external experts on international approaches and experiences (case studies, technique, good practices) in waste characterization for promoting waste minimization and compliance with the waste acceptance criteria (WAC) for safe storage and disposal.

Also, the workshop included national presentations of specialists from 26 countries and discussions focused on specific experiences and problems encountered. Ongoing support in this field of activity is assured through IAEA International Network of laboratories for Nuclear Waste Characterization (LABONET).

The workshop was hosted by IFIN-HH Radioactive Waste Management Department and jointly organized with the International Atomic Energy Agency.