

2. Framework of Regional Cooperation under FNCA

2.1 Introduction of FNCA

The Forum for Nuclear Cooperation in Asia (FNCA) has evolved from the International Conference for Nuclear Cooperation in Asia (ICNCA) which was established in 1990 with the aim of promoting the application of nuclear technology through collaboration among Asian countries. During this period the sharing of information, exchanges of scientific personnel and active cooperative research have been pursued in several fields.

2.2 Vision Statement of FNCA

"The FNCA is to be recognized as an effective mechanism for enhancing socio-economic development through active regional partnership in the peaceful and safe utilization of nuclear technology"

2.3 Goals

- To achieve socio-economic development by safe utilization of nuclear technology
- To utilize nuclear technology in those fields where it has a distinct advantage
- To respond to the needs of the FNCA countries

2.4 Operational Strategies

1) Framework of Operation

The FNCA framework includes meetings and coordinated projects in agreed fields of activity as represented in chapter 2.5 and attached figure.

2) Strengthening National Effort

Each participating country of the FNCA will establish a national mechanism to promote and support the FNCA activities. Each country is also encouraged to contribute to the funding of the FNCA activities within its country.

The FNCA Coordinators are requested to monitor the effectiveness of project implementation in their respective countries.

3) Strengthening Planning and Review of Projects

A proposal for a new project, significant change to, or cessation of, an existing project will be discussed at the Coordinators Meeting. If the proposal is judged appropriate it will be submitted to the next FNCA Ministerial Level Meeting (MM) / Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) where proposals will be officially adopted.

Alternatively, proposals coming forward and endorsed at the Ministerial Level Meeting

will be considered in detail at the next Coordinators Meeting. This will ensure adequate consideration within the participating countries.

For a new project the following information is required:

- objectives of the project
- a lead/host country(ies) and a lead/host organization(s)
- outline of the project including duration, budget size, milestones and expected outcomes
- requirements for participating countries
- available resources and facilities

A new project may be introduced even if not supported by all countries provided that the resources necessary are made available by the supporting countries.

2.5 Current Status of FNCA Projects

Activities are currently pursued in the following eight fields:

- 1) Utilization of Research Reactors
- 2) Application for Agriculture
- 3) Application for Medical Care
- 4) Public Information on Nuclear Energy
- 5) Radioactive Waste Management
- 6) Nuclear Safety Culture (Nuclear Safety Management)
- 7) Human Resources Development
- 8) Industrial Application (Electron Accelerator: Radiation Processing of Natural Polymer)

It has been agreed that more focus can be achieved in the projects under these respective fields and a greater degree of linkage between the activities is desirable.

The FNCA Framework

