

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

FORO side event

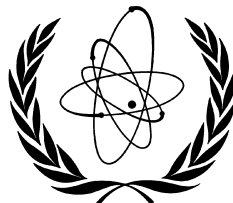
“The Ibero-American Forum of Radiological and Nuclear Regulators (FORO) and the NEW NETWORK for sharing results, experiences and best practices in radiation, nuclear safety and security”

IAEA, room M6

Tuesday, 17 September 2013

10:15h – 12:00h

(FORO invites to a wine and cheese at the restaurant at 12:00h)



**INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**

At the closing of this remarkable event, where we had the opportunity to share experiences and information on the work developed within the cooperation between Agency and FORO in areas of mutual interest, I would like to first congratulate all of you who work for the implementation of the new FORO network. With a more functional, attractive and modern design, the new tool offers new collaborative capabilities enhancing collaboration between experts from countries of the Ibero-american region and beyond.

The new RED, as previously mentioned, should enhance sharing and exchanging information on new or existing nuclear and radiation safety and nuclear security issues of regulatory interest, thus contributing to the development of national systems of regulation, authorization and control of activities involving the use of ionizing radiation.

Among the several outputs of the FORO/Agency projects highlighted in this session, the methodology for risk analysis in radiotherapy and its innovative computational tool SEVRRRA, the outcome of the project on NPP ageing management and long term operation and the results of the NPPs stress are just part of the Agency-FORO close collaboration, which aims to enhance technical cooperation, but also contributes to the discussions of policy and strategies at highest level.

Collaborative efforts, like the FORO, are crucial to meet the current challenges we face today. Therefore, the Agency also looks forward for a continued cooperation in the implementation of key activities on areas of mutual interest and identified as priority in the Ibero-american region,

specially, towards the development of competence building efforts and methodologies for guiding project development and implementation towards replicating successful dynamics and, at same time, capturing and disseminating lessons learned and good practices from radiation protection and nuclear safety projects within the region.

The Agency follows with keen interest the evolution and activities of the FORO and sees the prospect of expanding the scope of knowledge sharing to include other countries as a positive step.

To finalize, I also would like to assure my appreciation for FORO collaboration with the Agency and share my hope that this will continue to consolidate and expand in the years to come.