

FANR signs cooperation arrangement with Korean Safeguards Regulator

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The Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR) and the Korea Institute of Nuclear Non-proliferation and Control (KINAC) signed an agreement to cooperate in the areas of nuclear safeguards, export controls and physical protection.

Under this Implementing Arrangement between the two regulatory bodies, FANR and KINAC will exchange information, experience, staff and technology related to ensuring a peaceful nuclear programme under international non-proliferation obligations. It is based on a UAE-Republic of Korea Government-to-Government agreement signed in 2009.

"This is yet another example of the UAE's emphasis on securing Korean support in the establishment of a peaceful nuclear energy programme," said FANR Director General Dr William D. Travers during the signing ceremony.

"We want to use KINAC's proven experience through day-to-day projects," he added.

Dr Chang Sang-Ku, President of the Korea Institute of Nuclear Non-proliferation and Control (KINAC), also emphasised the importance of cooperation between his organisation and FANR.

"This arrangement is an important step in our close cooperation." he said.

"We look forward to sharing our experience with our colleagues in the UAE."

Among the areas FANR will profit from this arrangement is training of FANR staff and inspectors and learning from software KINAC has developed in the areas of nuclear material accountancy and import-export controls.

The FANR-KINAC arrangement coincided a week when FANR and the UAE Foreign Ministry have gathered about 100 representatives from 60 government entities, academic institutes and the industry at a national workshop that focused on the implementation of the UAE's safeguards obligations under international agreements.

Based on the UAE Government's policy for a civilian nuclear energy programme, FANR attaches the utmost importance to cooperation with foreign nuclear regulatory bodies and international organisations.

The UAE's independent regulatory body has already been benefiting from similar arrangements with the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the Korean Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST), as well as and the Korean technical safety regulatory body, Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS).