The Secretariat of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as the Sponsoring Organizations present their compliments to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the FAO’s Member States and of the IAEA’s Member States and have the honour to request that they draw the attention of the appropriate governmental authorities to the forthcoming FAO/IAEA Workshop on Application of Quality Assurance and Control in Analytical Laboratories to Address Food Safety and Quality to be held at the IAEA’s Headquarters in Vienna and at the Food and Environmental Protection Laboratory in Seibersdorf, Austria, from 10 to 21 November 2014.

The purpose of the workshop is to discuss protection of the integrity of the food supply chain, involving multiple stakeholders and requiring the application and integration of different analytical methods and processing technologies. The workshop will provide an opportunity to present contemporary applications for food safety and quality and discuss future perspectives and opportunities, and to provide a forum for interdisciplinary networking between all stakeholders in the farm to fork food chain. Intensive analytical training will be provided at the laboratory premises.

Governments to which this note verbale is addressed are invited to designate persons interested in participating in this workshop and to submit their nomination forms in accordance with the procedure and deadlines indicated in the Prospectus. The Sponsoring Organizations would be grateful if this note verbale and the attached Prospectus could be brought to the attention of the authorities, institutions and persons that might be interested. Members States are strongly encouraged to identify suitable women participants.

The Sponsoring Organizations are generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the workshop.

The Sponsoring Organizations have, however, limited funds at their disposal to help meet the cost of attendance of selected participants, mainly from least developed countries with limited economic resources. Applications for grants can be considered only if they are submitted through official channels to the FAO Representatives/National FAO Committees, Ministries of Foreign Affairs, or National Atomic Energy Authorities for onward transmission to the Secretariats.

Governments are kindly requested to inform the designated participants that, if they require visas to enter Austria, they should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria as soon as possible.

It should be noted that compensation is not payable by the IAEA for any damage to or loss of personal property. The IAEA also does not provide health insurance coverage for participants in meetings, workshops or training courses or for consultants. Arrangements for private insurance coverage on an individual basis should therefore be made. The IAEA will, however, provide insurance coverage for accidents and illnesses that clearly result from any work performed for the IAEA.
The Secretariats of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency avail themselves of this opportunity to renew to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the FAO’s Member States and of the IAEA’s Member States the assurances of their highest consideration.

Enclosures: Prospectus

Questionnaire for nominated participants