

**Report to the PNC Meeting, Washington, 10 October 2007, on the  
2007 IAEA General Conference and NGO Briefings, Vienna, 17-21 September 2007**

**By Dr Clarence Hardy, PNC President**

- 1. Background** – The Pacific Nuclear Council (PNC) is accredited as a Non-Government Organisation (NGO) to the IAEA. Dr Clarence Hardy, PNC President, and Dr Shami Dua, Chair of the PNC's Working Group on Codes and Standards, represented the PNC at the 51<sup>st</sup> IAEA General Conference (GC) held in Vienna from 17-21 September 2007. Dr Dua presented an invited paper on the PNC Working Group's work on Nuclear Codes and Standards at a special briefing meeting for NGOs during the conference.
- 2. The General Conference** – The 51<sup>st</sup> General Conference had its usual very long agenda of administrative and technical items and these were dealt with over four full days while a Scientific Conference was held in parallel. Generally, formal position reports were presented by many of the over 100 member state delegations. The GC accepted five new member states as members of the IAEA, Burundi, Cape Verde, Congo, Bahrain and Nepal. The GC adopted a number of important resolutions to strengthen the IAEA's programs of technical cooperation; nuclear science, technology and applications activities; international cooperation in nuclear safety; and waste management. Two further resolutions, one on safeguards and another on measures to protect against nuclear terrorism, were also adopted. Details of these resolutions can be obtained from the IAEA website: [www.iaea.org](http://www.iaea.org).
- 3. PNC Display** – The PNC arranged with the IAEA through the efforts of Mr Mike Diekman, PNC Executive Director, to have a display table alongside the larger displays by many IAEA member state delegations. The large PNC poster was displayed behind the table on which briefing papers were available on the work of the PNC and its Working Groups and Task Groups. The briefing papers were also placed in the conference post boxes of the member state delegations.
- 4. Briefing for NGOs** – The PNC was one of a small number of NGOs invited to make a presentation to the briefing of NGOs. The PNC topic was "Harmonisation of Nuclear Codes and Standards", and was presented by Dr Shami Dua (AECL), Chair of the PNC's Working Group on Codes and Standards. The presentation was well received and the session was well attended, especially by members of the IAEA's staff involved in this field.
- 5. Scientific Forum 2007** – The topic of the forum for 2007 was "Global Challenges and the Development of Atomic Energy: The Next 25 Years". The forum was held on 18 and 19 September in parallel to the General Conference formal sessions and had four major topics, each occupying half a day: (1) Nuclear Power; (2) Meeting New Challenges in Food, Agriculture and Health; (3) Global Safety and Security Regime: Building Robust Safety and Security Infrastructure; and (4) Safeguards and Nuclear Verification: A Long Term View. There were about 250 specialist attendees at this Forum. A concluding report of the Scientific Forum was presented to the GC by the Chairman, Mr Gareth Evens, on the final day of the GC. Details of the report can be obtained on the IAEA website.
- 6. Additional Meetings** – Briefings were also held on the Program for Action on Cancer Therapy (PACT) and on the Report on IAEA Support for Research Reactor Conversion (conversion of HEU fuel to LEU fuel in research reactors).

**Conclusions**– The PNC was able to inform IAEA member delegations of its work and its contributions in particular to Codes and Standards and to Public Information and Education.