



Technical Meeting on the Sustainability of Supply of High Assay Low Enriched Uranium Research Reactor Fuel and Targets for Molybdenum-99 Production

**IAEA Headquarters
Vienna, Austria**

13-16 July 2026

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Information Sheet

Introduction

According to the IAEA Research Reactor Database, at the beginning of 2026, there were 228 research reactors in operation and 7 under temporary shutdown in 54 countries. These reactors contribute to the development of nuclear technology, provide indispensable products and services for science, medicine and industry, and support nuclear education and training programmes. Twelve research reactors are currently under construction, and about 30 countries are considering building new research reactors. The majority of operational and future research reactors, as well as major global producers of molybdenum-99 (Mo-99) for nuclear medicine, use high assay low enriched uranium (HALEU) fuel and targets that contains uranium enriched to the levels between 5% and 20% of uranium-235. Sustainable supply of HALEU fuels and targets is essential for continued operation of the existing and commissioning of new research reactors and radioisotope production facilities.

Growing international interest in advanced power reactors, many of which are also designed to use HALEU fuel, have increased the need for a reliable supply of this material. In the context of global commitments to expand nuclear energy capacity, ensuring access to HALEU has become a strategic priority. While some industrial capabilities exist, the full HALEU supply chain remains challenging. Establishing predictable procurement pathways and ensuring that fabrication capacities can meet future needs are essential to avoid supply bottlenecks.

Equally important are the practical challenges associated with transporting HALEU and delivering it to facilities where the fuel can be fabricated, irradiated, processed, and utilized. Transport regulations, package availability, and licensing requirements can lead to extended lead times, especially when multiple jurisdictions are involved. For producers of research reactor fuels and Mo-99 targets, the timely qualification of new feedstock, fabrication routes, and irradiation parameters is critical. Coordinated international action is needed to address these technical, logistical, and regulatory constraints so that end users can rely on a stable supply chain that supports both routine operations and future expansion.

Objectives

The purpose of this event is to discuss global capabilities for the manufacture of HALEU research reactors fuel and targets used in the production of Mo-99 and the sustainability of the supply chain.

The event is designed to bring together global stakeholders to review existing production and fabrication capabilities, identify gaps, and explore practical solutions to sustain supply of HALEU research reactors' fuel and Mo-99 production targets. Discussions will address procurement pathways, fabrication readiness, material qualification, transport and licensing challenges, and the legal and regulatory frameworks that shape the HALEU fuel market for research reactors. The goal is to establish a shared understanding of the current landscape and to outline concrete steps - technical, regulatory, and commercial - that will strengthen the resilience and sustainability of the HALEU fuel supply chain in the years ahead.

Target Audience

This meeting is intended for technical experts, operators, managers, researchers, technology developers, and other stakeholders involved with global capabilities for the manufacture of HALEU research reactors fuel and targets used in the production of Mo-99 and the sustainability of the supply chain.

Working Language(s)

English

Expected Outputs

The meeting is expected to provide a common understanding of the global landscape for the availability and manufacturing of HALEU research reactor fuel and targets used in the production of Mo-99. It will strengthen Member States' understanding of, and capabilities for addressing, the challenges of a sustainable supply chain for such fuel and targets.

Topics

Topics to be covered include:

- Current and prospective research reactor fuel types
- Global supply chain for and availability of HALEU
- Procurement and transportation of HALEU for the fabrication of research reactor fuel and targets for Mo-99 production
- Procurement and transportation of fresh fuel assemblies and Mo-99 targets

- Identification of predictable procurement pathways to ensure that fabrication capacities can meet future needs
- Availability of current and potential transport packages
- Research reactors continued operation and prospective fuel demands
- Integration of research reactor fuel needs with advanced reactors or SMR needs
- Anticipated timelines for HALEU fuel demand
- Related legal issues, liabilities, ownership transfer
- Domestic fabrication options for research reactor fuel and Mo-99 targets

Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event have to be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be members of organizations that have been invited to attend.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State or invited organization, participants are requested to submit their application via the InTouch+ platform (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>) to the competent national authority (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) or organization for onward transmission to the IAEA by **22 May 2026**, following the registration procedure in InTouch+:

1. Access the InTouch+ platform (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>):
 - Persons with an existing NUCLEUS account can sign in to the platform with their username and password;
 - Persons without an existing NUCLEUS account can register [here](#).
2. Once signed in, prospective participants can use the InTouch+ platform to:
 - Complete or update their personal details under ‘Complete Profile’ and upload the relevant supporting documents;
 - Search for the relevant event under the ‘My Eligible Events’ tab;
 - Select the Member State or invited organization they want to represent from the drop-down menu entitled ‘Designating Authority’ (if an invited organization is not listed, please contact InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org);
 - If applicable, indicate whether financial support is requested and complete the relevant information (this is not applicable to participants from invited organizations).
 - Based on the data input, the InTouch+ platform will automatically generate the Participation Form (Form A) and/or the Grant Application Form (Form C).
 - Submit their application.

Once submitted through the InTouch+ platform, the application, together with the auto-generated form(s), will be transmitted automatically to the required authority for approval. If approved, the application, together with the applicable form(s), will automatically be sent to the IAEA through the online platform.

NOTE: The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the meeting application, by **22 May 2026**.

For additional information on how to apply for an event, please refer to the [InTouch+ Help](#) page. Any other issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be sent to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Selected participants will be informed in due course on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters. Selected participants will also be requested to complete a questionnaire regarding TRIGA fuel needs and plans for the future prior to the technical meeting.

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the [Agency’s Personal Data and Privacy Policy](#) and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and

assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. The IAEA may also use the contact details of Applicants to inform them of the IAEA's scientific and technical publications, or the latest employment opportunities and current open vacancies at the IAEA. These secondary purposes are consistent with the IAEA's mandate. Further information can be found in the [Data Processing Notice](#) concerning IAEA InTouch+ platform.

Papers and Presentations

The IAEA encourages participants to give presentations on the work of their respective institutions that falls under the topics listed above.

Participants who wish to give presentations are requested to submit an abstract of their work. The abstract will be reviewed as part of the selection process for presentations. The abstract should be in A4 page format, should extend to no more than 1 page (including figures and tables) and should not exceed 200 words. It should be sent electronically to Ms Kerry Dunn, the Scientific Secretary of the event (see contact details below), not later than **22 May 2026**. Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their proposed presentations by **5 June 2026**.

Expenditures and Grants

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the event. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help meet the cost of attendance of certain participants. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA's view, the participant will make an important contribution to the event.

The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by **22 May 2026**.

Venue

The event will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), where the IAEA's Headquarters are located. Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

General information on the VIC and other practical details, such as a list of hotels offering a reduced rate for IAEA participants, are listed on the following IAEA web page:

www.iaea.org/events.

Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC one hour before the start of the event on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria at least four weeks before they travel to Austria. Since

Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary and correspondence on other matters related to the event to the Administrative Secretary.