

Greetings everyone and welcome to Jackson Lake Lodge! First, I want to congratulate Michael and Erik and their organizing committee for putting together such an impressive workshop and thank him for allowing me to say a few words.

I have the distinct honor of serving as the current President of the Institute of Nuclear Materials Management (INMM). For those of you who aren't familiar with the INMM, I will describe it briefly.

The INMM is an international professional society focused on safe and secure use of Nuclear Materials and the related nuclear scientific technology and knowledge. Its membership includes government, academia, non-governmental organizations and industry, spanning the full spectrum all the way from policy to technology. The Institute's primary role include the promotion of research, the establishment of standards and the development of best practices, all centered around nuclear material and its management. It then disseminates this information through meetings, professional engagements, reports, papers, discussions, and publications. Let me briefly discuss three elements of the Institute.

#### 1. Technical Divisions

The formal structure of the INMM includes six technical divisions:

- Facility Operations
- Materials Control and Accountability
- Nonproliferation and Arms Control
- Nuclear Security and Physical Protection
- Packaging, Transportation and Disposition
- International Safeguards

Almost all of the activities of the Institute is generated by and centered around the technical divisions. They form the core of the organization.

## 2. Chapters

In addition to the central, main INMM organization, we encourage the formation of regional, local chapters and student chapters where it makes sense to do so. Currently, there are 6 regional chapters in the United States, 11 international chapters, and 16 student chapters (both in US and around the world). These chapters provide a more localized opportunity for professional engagement.

## 3. Annual Meeting

The Institute supports several workshops and symposia, but the centerpiece of the Institute is its Annual Meeting. The INMM Annual Meeting serves as the primary forum to bring together a diverse group of nuclear material managers, domestic and international, policy and technical, governmental and non-governmental to discuss and develop best practices in nuclear security, nonproliferation, arms control, nuclear transportation, international safeguards, material accounting and control, and facility operations. This year, the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting of the INMM will be held in at the Atlanta Marquis in Atlanta, Georgia, July 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>.

The INMM and ESARDA have worked together for many years jointly sponsoring workshops since the 1990s. This effort was led by the INMM International Safeguards Technical Division, in particular, initially through the efforts of Cecil Sonnier and then later Jim Larrimore, both former chairs of the division and is carried on now by Michael Whitaker, the current division chair. These workshops occur every three or four years with the location rotating between Europe, the United States and Asia. Here we are at the 8<sup>th</sup> installment of this joint workshop.

I should note here that the professional relationship between ESARDA and the INMM was formalized somewhat a few years ago with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding that links our two organizations together.

I hope I gave you a sense of what the INMM is all about and its relationship to ESARDA. In both organizations, the key to success is the dedicated professionals who believe in their missions, by this I mean all of you. You are the reason we exist.

Finally, I want to encourage everyone to take advantage of their time here, attend the technical sessions, interact with your colleagues, and, of course, enjoy this beautiful natural setting. Thank you.