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## **The Activities and Future Plan of the Korea Young Generation Network**

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### **Abstract**

This introductory article presents Korea Young Generation Network, its activities and future plan. Now KYGN is organizing International Youth Nuclear Congress (IYNC) 2002, which is to be held in Taejon, Korea. IYNC is an international network organized by a new generation of professionals in the nuclear field from different countries. Thus this article also introduce the IYNC.

### **1. Korea Young Generation Network**

The Korea Nuclear Society (KNS) decided to promote young people in nuclear fields and set up a youth program. After some representatives participated in International Youth Nuclear Congress 2000 held at Bratislava, the KNS decided to make the youth program similar to the Young Generation Network in other countries. The Korea Young Generation Network (KYGN) was established in 2000. The executive committee of the KYGN is made up of representatives from companies and research institutes active in the nuclear sector.

#### **(1) The Objectives of the KYGN**

The following objectives were formulated at the first meeting of the KYGN:

- To establish and maintain a domestic network for young people interested in nuclear technology in order to activate the communication among diverse fields;
- To stimulate the transfer of knowledge and experience between the young generation and the older generation;
- To stimulate worldwide interest in nuclear technology and its applications.

#### **(2) KYGN Activities**

Possible KYGN activities include:

- Exchange programs for young nuclear scientists and engineers;

- Workshops and seminars;
- Discussions covering various subjects related to nuclear technology.

The first KYGN activity, a workshop for Korean young nuclear guys will take place on the 25th of May 2001 at Cheju Island. Approximately 40 young people are expected to participate in the workshop.

The first international activity of the KYGN will be East-Asia Youth Nuclear Workshop 2001, which will be held in Seoul in autumn of this year. The status of nuclear program in East-Asian nations differs from that in European countries and North American countries, so we expect that this workshop will be helpful to understand the technical and political status of each other. The tentative program and call for papers will be prepared and distributed in June 2001.

## **2. International Youth Nuclear Congress**

International Youth Nuclear Congress was organized by a new generation of professionals in the nuclear field from different countries to:

- develop new approaches to communicate benefits of nuclear power, as part of a balanced energy mix;
- promote further use of nuclear science and technology for the welfare of mankind;
- transfer knowledge from the current generation of leading scientists to the next generation;
- encourage the creation of a global network among young professionals.

### **(1) HISTORY**

During the European Nuclear Congress held in Nice, France in autumn of 1998, the organizing meeting took place. The youth from Russia, France, the United States and Slovakia stated the mission of the IYNC. The representatives of nuclear industry from around the world supported the Congress. This allowed the Congress to attract youth, experts and sponsors. Several preparatory meetings of the Executive Committee took place in Boston, USA; Obninsk, Russia; and Bratislava, Slovakia. Invitations were sent throughout the world with the call to talk about the current direction of nuclear youth activities and ideas concerning its future. Many organizations responded and sent their young specialists to the Congress. And finally the Congress took place!

The Congress was successful. There were about 300 participants from 34 countries. What is left after it? The main lesson was that the "nuclear choice" remains popular among youth. The Congress has contributed to putting a new "face" on the nuclear industry: interesting, promising and high-tech. The participants had the unique opportunity to make many new and useful contacts. They absorbed a lot of cultural exposure and technical knowledge, and of course, the desire to take part in IYNC 2002 in Korea.

### **(2) Meanings of IYNC**

Nuclear science and technology is not as popular as it was a few decades ago. There is the threat of its loss caused by the lack of new specialists entering the nuclear field. But the future of power engineering and other important areas of

human activities belong to the nucleus. Thus it is very important to promote young nuclear scientists and engineers in order to maintain the vitality of nuclear science and technology. IYNC is a very important 'channel' to young nuclear guys all over the world.

### **3. KYGN and IYNC**

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At the successful IYNC2000 Congress that was held in Bratislava, Slovakia in April 2000, it was decided to hold the next issue of the Congress in South Korea in the year 2002 following the kind invitation from the Korean colleagues. It was also decided to create an international network (International Youth Nuclear Congress) which is now represented in about 40 countries. Organizers had agreed to implement and develop the same organizational principles for IYNC2002 preparation as ones, which were used for Bratislava Congress (young people from different countries including strong local organizing team lead the preparations).

#### (1) TITLE

"International Youth Nuclear Congress 2002"

At the preparatory meeting in Washington DC the following sub-title was proposed

"Global career opportunities in NS&T"

Our slogan: Youth, Future, Nuclear

#### (2) PLACE (Tentative)

City of Taejon, South Korea was proposed by the Korean members of the Ex.Com. as a place for IYNC2002.

#### (3) DATES (Tentative)

April 28th - May 3rd, 2002 are the proposed dates for IYNC2002. It is going to be right after Japan Atomic Industrial Forum (JAIF) meeting, which is an important conference in Asia, and connection by dates can help to attract more key-speakers to our Congress.

#### (4) ORGANIZATION

We are currently organizing the IYNC 2002 Executive Committee. Sub-Committees will help to some chairs if needed (like TP, PR, etc. Sub-Committees). International Advisory Committee consisted of prominent specialists from different countries is also being formed.

The main work is to be done by e-mail with regular progress reports from the Ex.Com. members. Some face-to-face meetings are also needed. By now 2 meetings have been proposed: April 21-23, 2001 Taejon, South Korea, and middle

of September 2001, St.Petersburg, Russia. The preliminary technical program has been developed and will be fixed at the Taejon meeting.

The executive committee of the KYGN, which is nearly the same as the local committee of IYNC 2002, is made up of representatives from companies and research institutes active in the nuclear sector. We will play roles of General Co-Chair, Registration Chair, Reservation Chair, Finance Chair, Technical Tour & Special Events Chair, and so forth for IYNC 2002.