

Forum for Nuclear Cooperation in Asia (FNCA)
Joint Communiqué on the New Direction of the FNCA
adopted at the 26th Ministerial Level Meeting (MLM26),
November 27, 2025

We, the heads of delegation of countries participating in the FNCA MLM26: the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the Republic of Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam,

Recalling that the FNCA's objective is to promote social and economic development through active regional partnerships for the peaceful and safe utilization of nuclear technology, and that research and development (R&D), knowledge, information sharing, and capacity building are, inter alia, the main roles and activities of the FNCA, which will lead to social and economic well-being of the member countries,

Acknowledging the potential of radiation technology and related FNCA projects in areas such as sustainable agricultural development; food safety; eco-friendly industrial development, radiation therapy, mitigation of the effects of climate change; and conservation of natural ecosystems,

Noting the potential value of nuclear energy, which can contribute to energy mix solutions, and to reducing and/or avoiding emissions of greenhouse gas,

Acknowledging the importance of securing required human resources in the nuclear science and technology fields, and radiation utilization field and the importance of succession of knowledge, including through promoting gender balance and gender equity, as well as attracting young generation/ diverse professionals,

Appreciating the progress of the FNCA project activities in agriculture, industry, medicine and environment, and commending the winners of the FNCA Awards for their outstanding achievements,

Recognizing the importance of cooperation with nuclear international/ intergovernmental organizations such as the IAEA, the OECD/NEA, and other relevant national/ international organizations, and we welcome the possibility of cooperation/ collaboration with these organizations,

We have decided to work towards:

1. Sustainable agriculture development and food safety, environmental protection, medical care and human health, nuclear safety and security culture

Continue to expand our activities in the application fields of nuclear science and technology and radiation utilization related to the development of sustainable agriculture and food safety, environmental protection, medicine, and the development of infrastructure for nuclear safety and conservation culture. In doing so, we will promote existing R&D fields, and with an eye to the future, proactively adopt R&D fields that are of broad interest to member countries and that contribute to sustainable development.

2. Cooperation in Human Resource Development (HRD) of the nuclear science and technology field, and radiation use

Depending on the needs and circumstances of each member country, we will hold face-to-face seminars and workshops, as well as webinars and online workshops, on initiatives related to systematic personnel exchange and enhancement of human resources infrastructure, so that we can promote information exchange. Diversity in participation, leadership and representation in FNCA projects and activities is important. We will seek to achieve equality in the nuclear science and technology field, including through promoting gender balance and age diversity in the workforces.

3. Spread of the R&D results

Encourage the member countries to facilitate uses of the outcomes of projects on mutation breeding, radiation processing, research reactor utilization, isotope production, neutron activation analysis, and those related to nuclear applications, by end-users, taking into account the possibility of their commercialization, which can more effectively contribute to the member countries' socio-economic well-being.

4. Information sharing on the nuclear power generation, including next-generation reactors such as SMRs

In accordance with the discussion at the roundtable discussions at the 2025 Ministerial Meeting, depending on the needs and circumstances of each member country, promote information exchange on the nuclear power generation (technical aspects such as development status on new

type reactors, safety, economic and policy aspects, and so on) by holding in-person seminars and workshops, webinars and online workshops, including Study Panel sessions.

5. Other areas and activities to be promoted

Promote the activities prioritized by the member countries related to the applications of nuclear science and technology, particularly in sustainable agriculture development and food security, environment protection, medical care and human health, and infrastructure development for nuclear safety and security culture, by accelerating existing R&D areas and also by adopting possible future R&D areas of a wide spectrum of interests from the member countries to support their sustainable development.

6. Expansion of public communication and public relations functions

Continuously work on building up public trust on nuclear science and technology in the member countries and the Asian region, and endeavour to expand public relations functions through FNCA website and open lectures held in the member countries. In line with the direction, we will hold the FNCA Study Panel "Public Information/Public Communication including Stakeholders Involvement (tentative title)" in Tokyo in February 2026 to share and discuss best practices from various countries.

7. Enhancement of relationship with international/ intergovernmental organizations

Make efforts to further reinforce the relationships with relevant international/ intergovernmental organizations, including the IAEA, the OECD/NEA, in the areas where synergy effects can be expected between FNCA activities and theirs.

For example, explore a future collaboration between FNCA and the IAEA, which launched "Rays of Hope," expecting that the radiation therapy protocols established by the FNCA project can be widely utilized in the framework of "Rays of Hope."