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## NOW ON LINE ...

## JOINT FAO/IAEA PROGRAMME

## Supporting Research for Agricultural Development

ON THE HIGH SEAS. Scientists from five countries and the IAEA's Marine Environment Laboratory in Mon are carrying out a <u>scientific expedition</u> at ten sites in the northwest Pacific Ocean. The expedition is part c studies to survey and assess levels of marine radioactivity. See the latest edition of the <u>IAEA Newsbriefs</u> fc other reports and updates on Agency activities.

**NOVEMBER MEETINGS.** Governmental delegates are meeting at the IAEA in mid-November at an <u>international conference</u> on physical protection of nuclear materials. Topics are related to the <u>Convention</u> the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials as well as the IAEA's activities related to illicit trafficking of nuclear material. Check *WorldAtom's* <u>Meetings Calendar</u> for a full listing of upcoming meetings, includir those scheduled for 1998.

JAPAN HONOURS DR. BLIX. The Government of Japan has conferred the Grand Cordon of the Order of th Sacred Treasure upon Dr. Hans Blix, who is retiring in December. The honour recognizes his contribution t the promotion of nuclear energy peaceful uses. In the United States, Dr. Blix recently delivered an invited lecture at a conference on the environment and nuclear energy in OCtober, in which he focused on <u>publi</u> perceptions and nuclear energy's role.

**NEW NAME FOR ICTP.** The International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, Italy, which the IAEA supports, is being renamed in honour of the late Prof. Abdus Salam, its founder and guiding force for more than three decades. Distinguished scientists and policymakers from around the world will be attendin <u>Memorial Meeting</u> at the ICTP in November to mark the occasion.

NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS. States are putting into place improved measures to support global efforts agains proliferation of nuclear weapons. At the IAEA's International Symposium on Safeguards, Director General I Blix surveyed developments and challenges in the verification field, from political and technical perspecti

**NUCLEAR HISTORY.** Two new books have been published on the history of the IAEA and global nuclear cooperation. From various perspectives, they cover issues over the past four decades, in commemoration c Agency's 40th anniversary.

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## 19-22 NOVEMBER 1997 THE ABDUS SALAM MEMORIAL MEETING

W orld renowned scientific researchers and policy makers meet to reminisce about one of the great physicists of the 20th century and founder of the ICTP.

The Abdus Salam Memorial Meeting will take place 19-22 November at the headquarters of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, Italy. On 21 November at 14:00, an official ceremony will be held at which time the ICTP will be renamed the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics. The Centre will bear the name of its founder and guiding force for the first 30 years of its existence. Abdus Salam, who was a Nobel Laureate, died last November.

"The addition of Abdus Salam's name to the name of the Centre is a fitting way to pay tribute to the man who was largely responsible for the success of the ICTP," says Miguel A. Virasoro, the Centre's current director.

"The conference," Virasoro adds, "will give us an opportunity not only to celebrate our past but to examine our future. The ICTP has played a critical role in the development of science and technology in the third world for the past three decades and we believe that the changes now taking place across the globe make the Centre's future activities even more crucial."

Among those who are scheduled to attend the dedication of the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics are Rexhep Mejdani, President of Albania and a frequent visitor to the ICTP during his tenure as a professor of physics at the University of Tirana; Hans Blix, Director General Emeritus of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); and Adnan Badran, Deputy Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Besides the day-long celebration devoted to reflections on Salam's career, the meeting will include three days of scientific presentations that focus largely on the question of the unification of the four forces of nature. This problem preoccupied Salam throughout his career. Some of the world's pre-eminent theoretical physicists are scheduled to give talks during the scientific sessions, including Michael Green of Cambridge University; Nathan Seiberg of Princeton University; Cumrun Vafa of Harvard University; and Spenta Wadia of Tata Institute.

For those interested in learning more about the Salam Memorial Meeting, please contact Anne Gatti, International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Strada Costiera 11, 34014 Trieste, Italy, 39 40 2240 251 (phone); 39 40 2240 410 (fax), or <u>gatti@ictp.trieste.it</u>

