

**WEACAU-III: International Workshop on
Environmental Aspects of Coal Ash Utilization**

Tel Aviv, Israel
December 11th – 12th 2012

Opening remarks – Objectives of the Radioactivity Team

Jacob Gilat

On behalf of the scientific coordinating committee of the Radioactivity Team I would like to welcome all participants of this third meeting of the International Workshop on Environmental Aspects of Coal Ash Utilization. In particular, I would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to our guests from abroad who are here to take an active part in our deliberations, share the latest developments in conceptual and regulatory approaches to the control of safe uses of NORM residues in the world and help us formulate and implement improved standards and procedures to assure effective coal ash utilization without undue radiation exposure to members of the public.

Much work has been accomplished during the three years since the last meeting, including laboratory investigations and in-situ measurements at construction sites and in occupied buildings, as well as conceptual development of control methodologies and strategies in the framework of current international radiation protection standards and practices. Results of this work will be presented and examined for possible gaps and inconsistencies, the removal of which will guide continued analysis and development in the future.

We hope and believe that the material presented and discussed at the meeting will demonstrate that we are approaching the completion of a converging process leading to a universal and consensual scheme for a safe and controlled treatment and recycling of NORM residues in general and of coal ash in particular.

I wish us all a successful, fruitful and pleasant meeting.