

## **Update on IAEA PACT (Program of Action on Cancer Therapy)**

The International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) Program of Action on Cancer Therapy (PACT) seeks to assist developing countries in integrating radiotherapy into the broader framework of cancer prevention and control. In 2006, it helped raise awareness of the growing cancer epidemic in the developing world and the need for comprehensive and multidisciplinary cancer control planning through Nobel Peace Prize special events in Bangkok and Cape Town.

In addition, relationships have been built with leading organizations in the field of cancer control and research – for example the International Agency for Research on Cancer, the International Union Against Cancer and WHO (World Health Organization) – to assist IAEA Member States with comprehensive cancer control programs. Training syllabuses for doctors and nurses working in radiation oncology were also prepared in 2006. Progress was also made towards the establishment of PACT Model Demonstration Sites in Nicaragua and the United Republic of Tanzania, in collaboration with WHO and other partners.

PACT's fundraising efforts throughout the year secured a number of grants, donations and in-kind contributions. These contributions included \$500,000 from the OPEC Fund for International Development, \$500,000 from the USA, \$200,000 from the US National Cancer Institute, and radiotherapy machines from MDS Nordion Company of Canada. In addition, PACT received more than \$1,000,000 in extra budgetary contributions from various Member States in 2006.