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IAEA'S NUCLEAR SAFETY GROUP TO HOLD MEETING IN SEOUL

SEOUL, April 18 (Yonhap) -- A nuclear safety advisory group to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the U. N. nuclear watchdog, will convene in Seoul this week to discuss ways to improve safety involving nuclear power, the Science Ministry said Tuesday.

The three-day meeting by the International Nuclear Safety Advisory Group (INSAG) to exchange ideas on improving nuclear energy safety will begin Wednesday, according to the Ministry of Science and Technology.

INSAG, one of 18 advisory groups to the IAEA secretary general, was formed in 1985 and comprises 14 nuclear experts from the United States, Japan, India, South Korea and other nations. The biannual meeting is usually held at the IAEA headquarters in Vienna.

Former diplomat Mohamed ElBaradei, who was jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005 with the IAEA, is the agency's director general.

Following the meeting, the members are to inspect South Korea's nuclear power facilities on Saturday prior to departing the country, the ministry said.

(THROUGH ASIA PULSE)