

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON NON-IONIZING RADIATION PROTECTION



# ICNIRP ACTIVITIES

REPORT 2010



## Introduction

This report summarizes the activities of the Commission for the period between January 2010 and December 2010.

## ICNIRP Main Commission, Standing Committees Membership and Consulting Experts

Richard Saunders resigned at the End of 2010 from his office as a Commission member and Chairman of the Standing Committee on Biology (SCII), after his retirement from the Health Protection Agency, United Kingdom. He will now be serving ICNIRP as a Consulting Expert. After an election held at the Annual General Meeting in Uppsala, Sweden to fill the last vacancy left in the Commission, Eric Van Rongen obtained his membership. At the End of the year he was nominated and elected to chair Standing Committee II. Zenon Sienkiewicz was elected as a Commission Member at the End of the year filling the vacancy left by Richard Saunders. Marta Cavagnaro was elected as a Standing Committee III member and Brian Lund as a Standing Committee IV member until the end of the term in 2012.

All commission members', standing committee members' and consulting experts' profiles are available on ICNIRP's website <http://www.icnirp.org>. The next election will take place at the Election meeting to be held before the IRPA Congress.

## ICNIRP Scientific Secretariat

There are no changes. Dr. Gunde Ziegelberger is holding the position until the end of the term of office in 2012.

## Commission Meetings

A Commission meeting to deal specifically with the ELF guidelines was held on 22-23 April 2010 in Oxford, United Kingdom. The Annual General Meeting of the Commission was held in Uppsala, Sweden, 12-14 May 2010. One further scientific meeting of the whole Commission was held, in Munich, Germany, 21-23 October 2010.

## Executive Council Meeting

The Executive Council met on 22 April in Oxford and on 7 October 2010 in Munich. Business and administration issues were discussed, as well as details of organization of scientific workshops and Commission meetings sponsored by or with the participation of ICNIRP.

## Work plan

The work plan for the next years has been updated based on the progress of the different task groups.

### *Revision of the ICNIRP guidelines for limiting exposure to electric and magnetic fields in the frequency range from 1 to 100 kHz*

The draft document was discussed intensively at the Scientific meeting in Oxford in April in the light of comments received after open consultation. A final draft was submitted and approved by



the Commission at the Annual General Meeting in May 2010. The document was then sent to Health Physics, where it was published in the December issue.

*Guidelines on limits of exposure to incoherent visible and infrared radiation (0,38  $\mu\text{m}$ -3mm)*

An update of the guidelines for "incoherent and infrared radiation (0,38  $\mu\text{m}$ -3 mm)" was submitted to the Commission by Standing Committee IV at the commission meeting in Munich, Germany. The Commission sent the draft back to an ad hoc commission task group for further refinements prior to its external review via the online consultation at the beginning of 2011. No publication deadline is defined yet.

*Guidelines on limits of exposure to laser radiation of wavelengths between 180 nm and 1000  $\mu\text{m}$*

An update of the "laser guidelines" was submitted to the Commission by Standing Committee IV at the commission meeting in Munich, Germany. The Commission sent the draft back to an ad hoc commission task group for further refinements prior to its external review via the online consultation at the beginning of 2011. No publication deadline is defined yet.

*Statement on protecting workers from UV radiation*

A statement prepared by Standing Committee IV summarizing the corresponding Blue Book was approved for publication by the Commission and issued in the July 2010 volume of the Health Physics Journal.

*Review of optical radiation - Preparation of a blue book*

A rough draft has been started in 2010. This will need further work before it can be submitted to the Commission in 2011.

*Guidelines on limiting exposure to electric fields induced by motion in a static field*

A task group has been appointed to prepare a draft document to be submitted to the Commission.

## **Publications**

In 2010 the following ICNIRP documents have been published:

*Statement on "Protection of Workers against Ultraviolet Radiation. Health Physics 99(1):66-87; 2010".*

The statement was published in Health Physics in July 2010 and is available for free download at [www.icnirp.org/pubOptical.htm](http://www.icnirp.org/pubOptical.htm).

*Note from the International Commission on the Interphone Study. Publication available online since 18 May 2010, at <http://www.icnirp.org/PubEMF.htm>.*

*Guidelines for Limiting Exposure to Time-Varying Electric and Magnetic Fields (1 Hz - 100 kHz). Health Physics 99(6):818-836; 2010.*

The guidelines were published in Health Physics in December 2010 and are since available for free download at [www.icnirp.org/pubEMF.htm](http://www.icnirp.org/pubEMF.htm). A fact sheet is also available.



### Translations of ICNIRP Publications

Italian, Japanese and French translations of the Guidelines on Limits of Exposure to Static Magnetic Fields and the Guidelines for Limiting Exposure to Time-Varying Electric and Magnetic Fields (1 Hz - 100 kHz) as well as the corresponding fact sheets were prepared by different institutes and given to ICNIRP for publication on its website. Those are or will shortly be available for download from the ICNIRP website.

### Workshops and Meetings hosted, organized by ICNIRP or with ICNIRP participation

As a widely recognized international organization in non-ionizing radiation protection, ICNIRP is invited to participate in, or co-sponsor, many international scientific events. In the period covered by this report, ICNIRP has organized and/or contributed to the following meetings:

#### ICNIRP Main Commission and SC meetings

- |  |                        |                |
|--|------------------------|----------------|
| • ICNIRP Standing Committee IV Meeting   | San Antonio, USA       | 18-20 January  |
| • ICNIRP Executive Board Meeting         | Oxford, United Kingdom | 22 April       |
| • ICNIRP ELF Commission Meeting          | Oxford, United Kingdom | 23 April       |
| • ICNIRP Annual General Meeting          | Uppsala, Sweden        | 12-14 May      |
| • ICNIRP Standing Committee IV Meeting   | Providence, USA        | 17-19 June     |
| • ICNIRP Conference Organization Meeting | Ljubljana, Slovenia    | 13 August      |
| • ICNIRP Executive Board Meeting         | Munich, Germany        | 7 October      |
| • ICNIRP Commission Meeting              | Munich, Germany        | 21-23 October  |
| • ICNIRP Standing Committee I Meeting    | Boston, USA            | 31 Oct – 1 Nov |

#### Workshops and Seminars

- |  |                   |               |
|--|-------------------|---------------|
| • Adverse Temperature Levels in the Human Body   | Gaithersburg, USA | 11-12 January |
| • Seminar on Health and Environment Perspectives<br>of Telecommunications                                  | Sultanate of Oman | 31 January    |
| • EBEA Conference “Basis for Exposure Limits”  | Bordeaux, France  | 26 May        |
| • ITU-T Workshop on “Delivering Good Quality<br>Telecommunication Service in a Safe Environment in Africa” | Nairobi, Kenya    | 26-27 July    |
| • II International Forum “Health, New<br>Technologies, and the Environment”                                | Quito, Ecuador    | 26-27 August  |
| • IV European Conference of Medical Physics<br>on “Advances in High Field Magnetic Resonance Imaging”      | Udine, Italy      | 23-25 Sept    |



- |  |                         |               |
|--|-------------------------|---------------|
| • Workshop on MR Safety  | Stillwater, USA         | 15 October    |
| • International ICST Conference on Wireless Mobile Communication and Healthcare        | Ayia Napra, Cyprus      | 18-20 October |
| • First Palestinian Conference on Electromagnetic Radiation                            | Jerusalem, Palestine    | 7 December    |
| • Electromagnetic Fields and Health: From Science to Protection                        | San Martin, Argentina   | 15 December   |
| • Non Ionizing Radiation and Health: Key Issues for the Development of Infrastructures | Buenos Aires, Argentina | 16-17 Dec     |

### **Collaboration with International organizations**

#### *World Health Organization (WHO)*

ICNIRP's co-operation is mainly related to WHO's International EMF project, and INTERSUN Programme.

#### *European Commission (EC)*

ICNIRP provides scientific advice for the evaluation and interpretation of scientific data, and for their dissemination, especially to Directorate General Health and Consumer Protection, Enterprise Directorate General, and Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities.

#### *Cooperation with COST action*

Under the COST Action "Cooperation in the Area of Science and Technology" BM0704, which started 2008 under Alastair McKinlay's leadership, the organization of a joint Conference on Children's Health and NIR was decided in 2010. It will be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia in May 2011.

#### *International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA)*

ICNIRP and IRPA are linked per Charter and the cooperation is within this framework. Subsequently, the IRPA grants an annual subsidy to ICNIRP. No particular action was undertaken in 2010. IRPA provides information on ICNIRP activities regarding its publications, current online consultation, the organization of conferences, and the elections on its website.

### **Collaboration with National Organizations worldwide**

As part of its mission, ICNIRP provides scientific advice on NIR protection to national governments, in particular of countries of geographical areas whose role and participation in the international debates have so far been marginal. In the last year ICNIRP contributed with lectures in training courses and scientific meetings in such countries as Sultanate of Oman and Kenya (see above).