



ICNIRP ACTIVITIES

REPORT 2013



Introduction

This report summarizes the activities of the Commission for the period between January 2013 and December 2013.

ICNIRP Structure – SEG and PG

In 2013 the newly decided working structure was implemented. The members of the Scientific Expert Group (SEG) were elected and the Project Groups were formed. The SEG gathers experts from diverse scientific backgrounds covering the whole NIR spectrum. Those are chosen to form Project Groups (PG) together with members of the Main Commission. Each Project Group is responsible for a specific work plan task, including drafting documents and/or planning seminars as necessary for the task.

The SEG members are elected along the same line as the Commission members and must comply with the ICNIRP policy regarding independence. They work on a voluntary basis and only receive reimbursement of the expenses associated with participation in meetings. All SEG members' profiles and the composition of the PGs are available on the ICNIRP website <http://www.icnirp.org/seg.htm> and <http://www.icnirp.org/pg.htm>

ICNIRP Scientific Secretariat

The Scientific Secretariat is based in Oberschleissheim, Germany. It coordinates the activities of the Commission and overviews its finances.

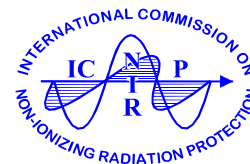
Declaration of personal interests

The declarations of personal interests are filled out by all commission and SEG members. The declarations of personal interests are screened and evaluated by the Board and Commission with the objective of safeguarding ICNIRP's scientific independence. All declarations of personal interests are available from the ICNIRP website. → www.icnirp.org/cv.htm and www.icnirp.org/seg.htm.

Commission Meetings

The Annual General Meeting was held in Thessaloniki, Greece, 14-16 June 2013 prior to a Workshop organized on 17 June by the Technical Institute in Patras, Greece. Meetings of the PG "Web", PG "RF" and PG "Philosophy" were held on 15 June.

Main achievements at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) concerned the management of the administrative and regular commission business, such as those concerning the declaration of personal interests, and the budget approval and also the establishment and launching of all project groups as per the work plan. Scientific topics were discussed primarily within the project groups organized around the AGM and reported to the Commission at the AGM.



Executive Board Meeting

The Executive Board (chairpersons and secretariat) met in Munich on 3 May 2013. Scientific and administrative issues were discussed, including the organization of the upcoming workshops and meetings.

Work plan: activities of the Project Groups

Guidelines for limiting exposure to electric fields induced by movement of the human body in a static magnetic field and to time-varying and electric fields below 1 Hz

The Guidelines were submitted to Health Physics in 2013 for publication in 2014. The guidelines are established for the protection of workers moving in static magnetic fields or being exposed to magnetic fields with frequencies below 1 Hz. The objective is to set the limit well below the threshold of peripheral nerve stimulation and to minimize the possibility of vertigo and perception of visual sensations (magnetophosphenes). The guidelines bridge the gap between the guidelines on static magnetic fields ([Guidelines on Limits of Exposure to Static Magnetic Fields. Health Phys 96\(4\):504-514; 2009](#)) and those for ELF fields ([Guidelines for Limiting Exposure to Time-Varying Electric and Magnetic Fields \(1 Hz - 100 kHz\). Health Physics 99\(6\):818-836; 2010](#)).

Guidelines for limiting exposure to high frequency fields (100 kHz -300 GHz)

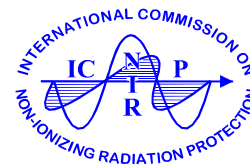
In the course of the revision of the 1998 EMF guidelines, after completion of the updates on the parts related to low frequency in 2010 (Guidelines for Limiting Exposure to Time-Varying Electric and Magnetic Fields (1 Hz - 100 kHz), to static fields in 2009 (Guidelines on Limits of Exposure to Static Magnetic Fields), and the drafting related to the intermediary range below 1 Hz (Guidelines for Limiting Exposure to Electric Fields Induced by Movement of the Human Body in a Static Magnetic Field and by Time-Varying Magnetic Fields below 1 Hz.), a Project Group was set up to update the Guidelines for limiting exposure to high frequency (100 kHz – 300 GHz). Publication of the ICNIRP guidelines is connected to the WHO risk assessment, which will be issued in the Environmental Health Criteria (EHC) as a joint collaboration with ICNIRP and ILO.

RF Dosimetry review (100 kHz -300 GHz)

The Project Group met once in Helsinki to continue drafting the dosimetry review, which will be instrumental to the RF guidelines.

Guidelines on Radiation Protection Philosophy

A Project Group was set up to update the ICNIRP statement on “General approach to protection against non-ionizing radiation”. A workshop jointly organized with ICRP/IRPA/ILO/UNSCEAR/WHO is intended in 2014 to identify similarities and differences in ionizing and non-ionizing radiation protection principles and possibly develop a reasoned and



logically consistent framework across the ionizing and non-ionizing radiation spectrum. The result of the workshop will flow in the statement update.

Guidelines on Ultrasound

A Project Group was set up to draft a revision of the former INIRC Ultrasound Guidelines (including recommendation for patients). A publication is planned within the next two years.

Guidelines on Data Gaps

A Project Group on "Data gaps identified during guidelines' development (research agenda)" was set up to draft a research agenda for the whole NIR spectrum, based in particular on the gaps identified during guidelines development. The ICNIRP research agenda aims at identifying knowledge gaps relevant for giving protection guidance.

NIR Exposure for Diagnostic Purposes

A Project Group on "Intended human exposure to NIR for diagnostic purposes" was set up to draft a statement about intended human exposure to NIR for diagnostic purposes. Presentations and discussions held at the Workshop on NIR and Medicine held on 2 December 2012 in Bonn, Germany, will flow into the work of the Group.

NIR Exposure for Cosmetic & Non-Medical Purposes

A Project Group on "Intended human exposure to NIR for cosmetic and other non-medical purposes - Statement" is set up to draft a statement about intended human exposure to NIR for cosmetic and other non-medical purposes.

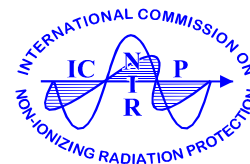
External Communication - Website Improvement

ICNIRP at its Commission Meeting in Edinburgh decided to re-launch its website in order to improve ICNIRP's visibility and communication with users. An additional goal is to streamline the internal business processes linked to the online activities (shop, consultation and newsletter).

In 2013 the final budget was approved by the Commission and a graphic agency was selected out of 7 by the newly established Project Group with the approval of the Commission. The general concept and looks of the new website were developed in a series of meetings with members of the PG and the web agency. Implementation started at the End of 2013. The website re-launch is intended in the course of 2014.

Publications

In 2013 the following ICNIRP documents have been published:



Guidelines on Limits of Exposure to Laser Radiation of Wavelengths between 180 nm and 1,000 μ m. Health Phys 105(3):271-295; 2013. → [IcnirpLaser180gdl_2013.pdf](#)

Guidelines on Limits of Exposure to Incoherent Visible and Infrared Radiation. Health Phys 105(1):74-96; 2013. → [IcnirpVisible_Infrared2013.pdf](#)

Rapporteur's Report on the ICNIRP/WHO International Workshop on NIR Protection in Medicine, 2.12.2012, Bonn, Germany. Med Phys 40, 117001; 2013. → [ICNIRPWHOmedNIR_2013.pdf](#)

Workshops and Meetings 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, SC and Board meetings

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| ICNIRP Executive Board Meeting | Munich, Germany | 3 May |
| ICNIRP "Web" Project Group Meeting | Munich, Germany | 17 April |
| ICNIRP Annual General Meeting | Thessaloniki, Greece | 14-16 June |
| ICNIRP "RF" Project Group Meeting | Munich, Germany | 15 June |
| ICNIRP "Web" Project Group Meeting | Munich, Germany | 15 June |
| ICNIRP "Ultrasound" Project Group Meeting | Munich, Germany | 15 June |
| ICNIRP "Philosophy" Project Group Meeting | Munich, Germany | 15 June |
| ICNIRP "RF dosimetry" Project Group Meeting | Helsinki, Finland | 10-13 Dec |

ICNIRP Workshops and Joint Workshops

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| URSI/ICNIRP workshop | Paris, France | 29-30 August |
| TEI/ICNIRP Workshop on "Current topics in NIR protection" | Patras, Greece | 17 June |

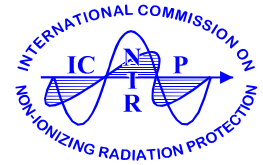
Participation of ICNIRP Representative in Workshops, Scientific Meetings and Courses

| | | |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------|
| ITU Workshop | Turin, Italy | 9-10 May |
| WHO IAC meeting | Geneva, Switzerland | 6-7 June |
| 8th World Conference of the Science Journalist | Helsinki, Finland | 24 June |

Collaboration with International Organizations

World Health Organization (WHO)

ICNIRP is officially recognized by the World Health Organization as a collaborative NGO for all aspects of non-ionizing radiation protection. ICNIRP's co-operation is mainly related to WHO's



International EMF project, and INTERSUN Program. The idea of setting NIR Basic Safety Standard (BSS) presented in 2012 by WHO at the ICNIRP AGM was further developed and received a general approval at the last International Advisory Committee of WHO. A small working group was set up at the WHO level to examine the establishment of NIR BSS. In this process, it is intended that ICNIRP is given the status of an observer.

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”, Directorate General “Enterprise and Industry”, and Directorate General “Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities”.

International Labour Organization (ILO)

The partnership between ICNIRP and ILO dates back to 1994 when ICNIRP was admitted on the ILO’s Special List of Non-Governmental Organizations. Since then many publications have been jointly issued in particular related to EMF and Ultraviolet radiation, such as the Guide on “Protecting Workers from UV Radiation”. Munich: International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection, International Labour Organization, World Health Organization; 2007. ISBN 978-3-934994-07-2. Collaboration within the activities of the newly set Project Group on Radiation Protection Principles and the WHO Environmental Health Criteria and BSS is planned.

International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA)

ICNIRP and IRPA are linked per Charter and the cooperation is within this framework. IRPA provides information on ICNIRP activities regarding its publications, current online consultation, the organization of conferences, and the elections on its website. IRPA Europe was involved in the nomination process of the election for membership in the newly established Scientific Experts Group. ICNIRP received nominations from the Austrian Radiation Protection Association, the Israel Society for Radiation Protection, and the UK Society for Radiological Protection. Collaboration is planned also through the activities of the newly established Project Group on Radiation Protection Principles and in particular the organization of a joint workshop in 2014 with regard to the different approaches in ionizing and non-ionizing radiation protection.

Collaboration with National Organizations Worldwide

As part of its mission, ICNIRP provides scientific advice on NIR protection to public agencies with an interest in radiation protection in many countries worldwide (see above). These activities are performed mostly through participation in seminar or round tables and the provision of lectures in training courses and scientific conferences, as well as meetings with protection agencies.



Budget

In 2013 the ICNIRP activities were supported by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety, the European Union, the World Health Organization, and the International Radiation Protection Association. ICNIRP annual financial reports are audited by the German Tax Authorities every three years. The results for 2012 were submitted to the fiscal audit in 2013 and the table for 2013 is indicative of the annual result.



| Financial Report 2012 | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Income | | |
| Subsidies | | 138.030,30 |
| Workshops and Books | | 80 040,91 |
| Total Income | | 218.071,21 |
| Expenses | | |
| Staff | -65.937,58 | |
| Meetings & Workshops | -119.471,98 | |
| Publications & Communication | -2.495,46 | |
| Insurance & Administrative Expense | -2.439,48 | |
| Total Expense | -190.344,50 | |
| Finance Income | | 180,90 |
| Finance Costs | -89,31 | |
| Financial results | | 91,59 |
| Result of the Year | | 27.818,30 |

| Financial Report 2013 | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Income | | |
| Subsidies | | 60.724,78 |
| Workshops and Books | | 890,28 |
| Total Income | | 61.615,06 |
| Expenses | | |
| Staff | -68.199,31 | |
| Meetings & Workshops | -16.364,03 | |
| Publications & Communication | -22.825,64 | |
| Insurance & Administrative Expense | -4.427,07 | |
| Total Expense | -111.816,05 | |
| Finance Income | | 0,00 |
| Finance Costs | -106,35 | |
| Financial results | -106,35 | |
| Result of the Year | -50.307,34 | - |

The above table is indicative.