ICNIRP ACTIVITIES

REPORT 2019
Introduction

This report summarizes the activities of the Commission for the period between January 2019 and December 2019.

Membership – Commission, Scientific Expert Group and Project Groups

Every four years the election of the Commission Members (including the Chair and Vice Chair) takes place following the nomination call extended to the current ICNIRP members, the IRPA Executive Board and its national societies, and to National Governmental Radiation Protection Authorities. Candidature must be accompanied with a curriculum, bibliography list and a validated Declaration of Personal Interests.

The ICNIRP elections for the Commission 2020-2024 took place at the ICNIRP Annual General Meeting (AGM), 19-20 November 2019, Munich, Germany.

From May 2020 until May 2024, the ICNIRP Main Commission will be comprised of:

Rodney Croft (Chair), Australia
Eric van Rongen (Vice Chair), Netherlands

Tania Cestari, Brazil
Nigel Cridland, United Kingdom
Guglielmo d’Inzeo, Italy
Akimasa Hirata, Japan
Anke Huss, Netherlands
Ken Karipidis, Australia
Carmela Marino, Italy
Sharon Miller, USA
Gunnhild Oftedal, Norway
Tsutomu Okuno, Japan
Martin Röösli, Switzerland
Soichi Watanabe, Japan

ICNIRP Scientific Secretariat

The Scientific Secretariat is based in Oberschleissheim, Germany. It keeps the records of the Commission, overviews the work program, provides administrative support, responds to scientific and other requests, prepares and organizes workshops both scientifically and logistically, coordinates the activities of the Commission including communication and partner contacts, liaison with the publishers, maintains and updates the website and manages its finances.

At the last AGM, the ICNIRP Scientific Secretary, Dr Gunde Ziegelberger, was re-elected for the term of office 2020-2024.

Declaration of personal interests
The declarations of personal interests are filled by all Commission and SEG members on a yearly basis. 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 on the ICNIRP website at www.icnirp.org.

Commission meetings
The Commission and Project Group meetings took place on 3 and 4-5 April in the premise of the Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, USA. The following Project Groups met onsite and also via web conference: PG Short Wave, PG Data Gaps, PG RF Dosimetry and PG Laser pointers. The Commission Meeting was mostly dedicated to the RF Guidelines. The Annual General Meeting took place on 19-20 November in Munich, Germany. The following PGs met on 18 November: PG Short Wave, Laser pointers and Data Gaps. At the AGM the agenda included besides the current work plan activities (see below) also all administrative issues as required by the statutes, and in particular the elections of the Commission members, Board and Scientific Secretariat (see above).

Work plan activities

Statement on Protection Principles
In 2019, the ICNIRP statement on Protection Principles was finalized and submitted to Health Physics. The Statement is in press.

Guidelines for limiting exposure to electromagnetic fields (100 kHz - 300 GHz)
The draft Guidelines for limiting exposure to electromagnetic fields (100 kHz – 300 GHz) were available online for public consultation from 11 July until 9 October 2018. More than 90 participants provided altogether more than 1200 individual comments. The Commission reviewed the comments and improved further the draft guidelines at its meetings in 2019. The Guidelines were submitted to Health Physics and ready for publication in 2020.

Statements on Data Gaps
A PG on "Data gaps identified during guidelines’ development" was set up under the leadership of Dr Carmela Marino 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. The statement related to the low frequency range was finalized by the Commission in 2019. It was submitted for publication in Health Physics and is now in press. The PG started to develop a similar document on RF Data Gaps intended thereafter.

NIR Exposure for Cosmetic Purposes
Within the Work Plan 2016-2020, a PG on "Intended human exposure to NIR for cosmetic purposes" was established to draft a statement. This PG under the leadership of Dr Ken Karipidis has finalized its statement, which is now in press at Health Physics.

RF Dosimetry Review
The PG "RF dosimetry review" under the leadership of Dr Akimasa Hirata is in charge of RF dosimetry aspects as relevant to the RF guidelines and the WHO RF EHC monograph. The Statement is well advanced and is expected to be final in the course of 2020.

*Health Implications of LEDs*

The PG formed under the leadership of Dr Sharon Miller completed its revision of the ICNIRP Statement on Light-Emitting Diodes and Laser Diodes: Implications for Hazard Assessment (Health Phys78(6):744-752; 2000). The new statement limited to LEDs was finalized in 2019 and is now in press at Health Physics.

*Revision of the Statement on Laser Pointers*


*Short Wavelength light and Circadian Rhythm*

Under the leadership of Dr Sharon Miller a statement on the effects of short wave on circadian rhythm is being prepared. It is expected to be finalized in 2020.

*Publications*

ICNIRP Note: Critical Evaluation of Two radiofrequency electromagnetic fields Animal Carcinogenicity Studies Published in 2018. Pre-print refs: doi 10.1097/HP.0000000000001137 - Health Phys 118(00):000–000; 2020. The statement is available [here](#).

ICNIRP Guideline for Limiting Exposure to Electromagnetic Fields (100kHz – 300Ghz). Ahead of print publication (Health Phys 118(00):000-000, 2020).

*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, PG and Board meetings**

- ICNIRP PG „Short Wave “ Meeting Silver Spring, USA 3 May
- ICNIRP PG „RF Dosimetry“ Meeting Silver Spring, USA 3 May
- ICNIRP PG „HF Data Gaps“ Meeting Silver Spring, USA 3 May
- ICNIRP PG „Laser Guidelines“ Meeting Silver Spring, USA 4 May
- ICNIRP Commission Meeting Silver Spring, USA 4-5 May
- ICNIRP PG NIR Workshop Montpellier, France 25 June
- ICNIRP PG „Short Wave “ Meeting Munich, Germany 18 November
- ICNIRP PG „Laser pointers“ Meeting Munich, Germany 18 November
- ICNIRP PG „RF Data Gaps“ Meeting Munich, Germany 18 November
ICNIRP Annual General Meeting Munich, Germany 19-20 November
ICNIRP PG Web Meetings Online 2019

Participation of ICNIRP representatives in Workshops, Scientific Meetings and Courses

- Meeting EMF emissions Bahrain 5-6 February
- Time Forum Conference on 5G Warsaw, Poland 4-5 March
- CRASA Workshop on EMF Issues Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe 9-11 September
- Meeting of the German SSK Dresden, Germany 25 September
- BioEM Conference Montpellier, France 25 June
- International Conference on NIR Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 1-3 October
- EMF Forum Brussels, Belgium 15 October
- Knowledge event - 5G meeting Delft, The Netherlands 16 October
- International seminar "5G and Health" Ljubljana, Slovenia 17 October
- Expert panel on NIR and health risks related Ljubljana, Slovenia 18 October
to non-medical applications
- GLORE meeting Lima, Peru 4-6 November
- Fakta om mobilstråling: Copenhagen, Denmark Hør eksperternes vurdering 30 September

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.

WHO, through its DTO Radiation Program, Emilie van Deventer, is acting as an Observer in ICNIRP Project Group meetings related to radiofrequency review, radiation protection principles, cosmetic devices, short wave and circadian rhythm, LEDs and laser pointers. WHO contributed by providing input to seminars and to the development of the statements on cosmetic devices and radiation protection principles, which were finalized and submitted for publication in 2019. Within the cooperation, ICNIRP provides technical input supporting the development of guidance on protection from NIR exposure by drafting a scientific review of dosimetric studies related to radiofrequency fields. ICNIRP also contributed to WHO’s effort on capacity building in WHO member states by participating in a workshop organized in Bahrain related to electromagnetic emissions and health protection. Finally, WHO together with ILO and IRPA, were invited to participate in the special session of the International NIR Workshop planned in May 2020 in Seoul, Korea to present their particular roles in NIR protection.

European Commission (EC)
ICNIRP advances radiation protection science throughout Europe and the World in particular through the support provided by the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation ("EaSI") 2014-2020. ICNIRP provides, upon request, scientific advice for the evaluation and interpretation of scientific data, and for their dissemination, especially to the Directorate General “Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion”.

**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 several publications have been jointly issued in particular related to EMF and Ultraviolet radiation. The past years collaboration was related to the discussions led at the international level on a system of radiation protection relevant to ionizing and non-ionizing radiation protection, which were finalized in 2019. The ICNIRP Statement on Protection Principles was submitted to Health Physics in 2019 and expected for publication in 2020.

**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. In 2019, the ICNIRP statement on protection principles, which was reviewed by IRPA delegates, was finalized and submitted for publication to Health Physics. The Statement is expected to be issued in 2020.

**Other collaboration**

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

**Budget and Governance**

ICNIRP funding stem from public and governmental agencies only. In 2019 the ICNIRP activities were supported by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment (BMUB), the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation ("EaSI") 2014-2020, and the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA). In addition, the Ministry of Health of New Zealand (NZ MoH) and the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Authority (ARPANSA) also provided a general subsidy. The flight and staying expenses of a few ICNIRP and SEG members where covered by their national radiation protection related bodies.

ICNIRP’s annual financial reports are screened for tax purposes every three years. The tables for 2018 and 2019 are indicative.
### Financial Report 2018*

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| Finance Income           | 0,00     |
| Finance Costs            | - 344,21 |
| **Financial results**    | **- 344,21** |

| Result of the Year       | **- 18.049,38** |

### Financial Report 2019*

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| Finance Income           | 0,00     |
| Finance Costs            | - 264,79 |
| **Financial results**    | **- 264,79** |

| Result of the Year       | **- 41.490,77** |

* The above tables are indicative. Subsidy payments and expenses related to an activity period may be reported in the next period.