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Season's greeting



Dear members in IRPA's Associate Societies,

An intensive year is drawing to a close in which we reached several noteworthy and visible successes. We are a step further in fulfilling our vision to be the international voice of the radiation protection profession in all resorts, we get closer to have effective societies and we have welcomed new Associate Societies in IRPA. Our membership is growing up to around 18000 individual members – a powerful radiation protection community.

This is the time and opportunity to thank all of you for your engaged cooperation and support in the various activities of IRPA, just to mention the Radiation Protection Culture in Medicine Initiative and the well-received IRPA Bulletin which is translated by some of our Associate Societies in their local language.

The coming year will be a particular and challenging year for IRPA – we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of IRPA – from my point of view a long success story for which I would like to express sincere gratitude and appreciation. I'm looking forward to celebrate this important event with you on 11th May 2016 during the IRPA 14 Congress in Cape Town, South Africa.

My wishes to you, your families and your friends for Christmas continue to be for health, happiness, peace and success in your life and a prosperous year 2016.

Renate Czarwinski
IRPA President

International Radiation Protection Association



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www.irpa.net

IRPA 2016

www.irpa2016capetown.org.za



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IRPA14 Registration



IRPA 14 is the premier world congress in radiation safety in all areas of application of ionizing and non-ionizing radiation. IRPA will also celebrate its 50th Anniversary in Cape Town to acknowledge the substantial contributions to both science and the practical and safe application of radiation that IRPA and its associate societies have made over the last 50 years.

Registration for the Congress is open for all categories. Please register at <http://www.irpa2016capetown.org.za/registration.asp> to take advantage of the discounted early-bird rates.

Deadline Dates:

Early: Pay before 31 January 2016

Standard: Pay between 1 February 2016 and 31 March 2016

Late: Pay between 1 April 2016 and 1 May 2016

Onsite: Pay after 1 May 2016

Payment:

Registration fees are to be paid in South African Rands (ZAR), and should be paid according to the procedure described on the registration form included in this announcement. Payment can also be made on-line when you register for the Congress on the website:

www.irpa2016capetown.org.za.

Payment can be made by MasterCard, Visa, American Express or Diners Card or by bank transfer.

For more information on how to register and registration costs, please visit the official Congress website at:

<http://www.irpa2016capetown.org.za/registration.asp>

Organised in Collaboration with:



IRPA14 Technical Tours



Pre-Congress Technical Visits and Tours

Delegates will be able to visit a variety of facilities as part of the Technical Visits Programme as well as a tour to Necsa. These visits will take place prior to the Congress on Friday 6 May 2016 and can either be attended as a one-day visit or as part of a sightseeing tour. All visits will depart from the Cape Town International Convention Centre except the visit to Necsa.

Koeberg Nuclear Power Station (One Day Visit)

Date: 6 May 2016 / Time: 08h00 to 17h00

Facilities that would be included in the tour at the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station are:

- The Low/Intermediate Level Waste Storage Facility
- The Emergency Preparedness and Response Control Centre
- The Turbine Hall
- The cooling water intake basin and filtration system
- The Visitor's Centre
- The Radiation Protection Training Facility

Groote Schuur and Tygerberg Hospital (One Day Visit)

Date: 6 May 2016 / Time: 08h00 to 17h00

The visit entails a tour of the "Heart of Cape Town" Museum (Entrance fee included); a museum built on the Groote Schuur Hospital premises around the first heart transplant. It will also include a tour to the radiotherapy department. iThemba LABS

Date: 6 May 2016 / Time: 13h00 - 16h00

The iThemba Laboratory for Accelerator-Based Sciences is a group of multi-disciplinary research laboratories administered by the National Research Foundation. Based at two sites in the Western Cape and Gauteng, these provide facilities for:

- Basic and applied research using particle beams
- Particle radiotherapy for the treatment of cancer
- The supply of accelerator-produced radioactive isotopes for nuclear medicine and research

South African Nuclear Energy Corporation (Necsa)

Day 1: Travel from the OR Tambo International airport to the Holiday Inn Johannesburg Airport

This two day tour will afford delegates the opportunity to visit a variety of nuclear facilities at Necsa's picturesque Pelindaba Site located 70 km from the OR Tambo airport, Johannesburg.

Necsa is a state-owned company responsible for undertaking and promoting Research and Development in the field of nuclear energy and radiation sciences. It is also responsible for processing source material, including uranium enrichment, and cooperating with other institutions, locally and abroad, on nuclear and related matters.

More information at www.necsa.co.za

IRPA14 Technical Tours (continues)



Facilities that would be included in the visit would be:

- SAFARI-1 Research Reactor: 20 Megawatt tank-in-pool type nuclear research reactor, owned and operated by Necsa.
- NTP Radioisotopes SOC Ltd: Responsible for a range of radiation-based products and services for healthcare, life sciences and industry. Necsa is by far Africa's largest producer of a range of medical isotopes and an important international supplier of ^{99}Mo which is used for diagnostic purposes and therapeutic treatment of cancers. Many millions of people have received the benefits of medical isotopes originating from the SAFARI-1 Research Reactor.
- Pelstore: Responsible for pre-disposal operations of all solid radioactive waste originating from Necsa operational facilities and also the interim storage area for all solid radioactive waste from Necsa's decommissioned enrichment programme. A large facility containing 65000 steel drums with several operations, e.g. segmented drum scanner, repacking area and dispatch area for waste transported to the Vaalputs radioactive waste disposal facility.
- Necsa Emergency Control Centre: From this centre emergencies at Necsa are managed by a multidiscipline team of functionaries. Emergency services are also provided to the local municipality. The Centre which has been renovated during the FIFA 2010 World Cup and has been successfully used as a national nuclear security and emergencies command centre for several major public events such as FIFA 2010 World Cup, COP 17 and AFCON 2013.
- Necsa Visitor Centre: Used to promote the public understanding of nuclear science and technology and facilitate regular communication with the public and its stakeholders.

For full details on the Technical Tours and to book, go to:

http://www.irpa2016capetown.org.za/Tours/tours_Technical.asp

IRPA/WHO/IOMP Initiative on Radiological Protection Culture in Health Care

As a sequel to the publication of the Guiding Principles for Establishing a Radiation Protection Culture in 2014, IRPA, in cooperation with IOMP and WHO, has launched a new initiative for capturing the opinion of all stakeholders with a view to developing a framework document providing guidance for the establishment and maintenance of a radiation protection culture, as part of a sustainable safety culture program in health care settings. The first step of this new project was the organization of two Regional Workshops, the first one with the contribution of Latin American countries in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in April 2015 and the second one with European countries in Geneva in December 2015, including representatives from health professional sectors (radiologists, radiographers, medical physicists, nuclear medicine physicians, radiation oncologists, interventional cardiologists, dentists, paediatricians), regulatory bodies, health authorities, manufacturers, and patients' associations. The aim was to collect feedback and key elements of Radiological Safety Culture in Health Care, such as:

- Raising awareness and developing attitude
- RP in management and QA-systems, with a strong leadership and commitment to RP
- Reporting events, learning, and improving
- Strengthening the role of manufacturers (stakeholders' involvement)
- And enhanced involvement of professional societies (stakeholders' involvement)

The aim was also to set priorities for establishing and maintaining a strong culture on all continents, with examples from diagnostic radiology, image-guided interventions, radiation therapy, nuclear medicine and from organizational matters. This area will also be looking at how to engage patients to improve Radiological Safety Culture and how to develop tools and indicators for assessing the level of Radiological Safety Culture in quality assurance programs in medicine.

Questions were debated and elaborated on in various work groups. To name but a few:

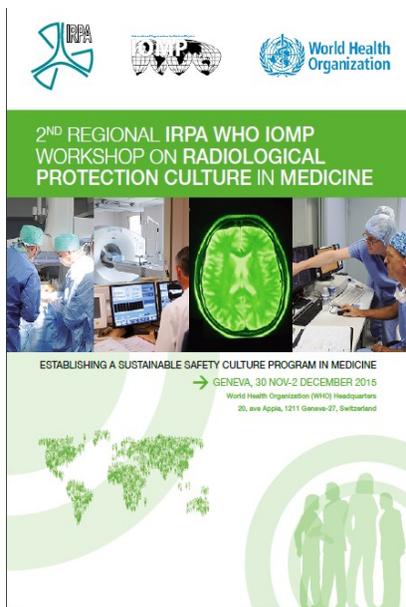
- How does Radiological Safety Culture in Health Care fit into the broader concept of PATIENT SAFETY and SAFETY CULTURE IN HEALTH CARE?
- What are the ethical and legal issues of Radiological Safety Culture in Health Care? What are the similarities/ differences with ethical and legal issues related to safety culture in other medical areas/disciplines?
- How to address children protection when building Radiological Safety Culture in Health Care?
- What do we want to achieve with Radiological Safety Culture in Health Care?
- What is the status of Radiological Safety Culture in Health Care in relation with our targets?
- How to engage both medical staff and patients and positively influence their personal approach to safety?
- How to integrate occupational, medical and public radiation protection when building safety culture in medical facilities?

The ultimate purpose of this project was aptly summarized during the first workshop through the following motto:

“In our hospital, we work as a team to ensure effective use of radiation and protect the patient and our staff”.

IRPA 14 provides an opportunity to present the results of these meetings and further discuss the way forward with the participants of the congress.

Bernard le Guen
IRPA Executive Officer



NEA Stakeholder Dialogue

The OECD Nuclear Energy Agency is delighted to invite you to the Stakeholder Dialogue Webinar series: Experience and Lessons for Young and Old Experts and Researchers Webinar 2016, jointly organised with the International Radiological Protection Association (IRPA).

The webinar will include three sessions: (1) 17 February 2016 (13:00-15:00, Paris Time, UTC+1): Radiological Protection at the Service of Society: An Overview of Stakeholder Involvement; (2) 24 February 2016 (13:00-15:00, Paris Time, UTC+1): Experience with Stakeholder Dialogue in Complex Radiological Protection Situations; and (3) 02 March 2016 (13:00-15:00, Paris Time, UTC+1): The Use of Social Networks and Social Media to Assist in Developing Interactions with Stakeholders, and to Facilitate the Implementation of Protective Actions.

The webinar will be conducted entirely in English. Participation will be limited to approximately 800 people. There is no registration fee but pre-registration is required through www.oecd-nea.org/rp/workshops/stakeholder-dialogue2015. The deadline for registration is 31 January 2016.

