



PRESIDENT's BLOG

In my last Blog I mentioned that we were seeking inputs from the Associate Societies to support the activities in our strategic programme. The response has been very heart warming, and we are now able to push ahead with the key tasks we envisaged.

The Task Group on Public Understanding looks to be particularly strong, and I look forward to working with Hiroko Yoshida as she develops this important programme with the group members. Also there was very strong interest in the Security of Sources TG, and Tony Peters and Klaus Henrichs will be able to drive forward on this topic. The Young Persons Network is still in its infancy, but will be developing an exciting programme to share the views, needs and experiences of our next generation.

Our emphasis on radiation protection culture (some prefer *radiation safety culture* as it aligns better with the wider safety culture experience!) continues strongly, with Bernard Le Guen leading the medical sector developments and Pete Cole leading a new TG on culture development in Higher Education, Research and Teaching (HERT). The wider programme to share the good ideas from the Societies across many fields will also continue through the Societies Admissions and Development Committee, led by Eduardo Gallego.

All these programmes are now moving into high gear, but of course if there are further offers of interest to participate in this work then let us know as soon as possible.

Finally, it is great to see the organisation of our next round of Congresses moving ahead. Just to remind you, and help you plan your personal programme over the coming period, this is what is coming:

Latin American Regional Congress, Havana, Cuba: 23-27 April 2018
[www.irpacuba.com]

Asia/Oceania Regional Congress, Melbourne, Australia: 20-24 May 2018

European Regional Congress, The Hague, Netherlands: 4-8 June 2018
[irpa2018europe.com]

African Regional Congress, Tunis, Tunisia: 6-9 September 2018

IRPA15 International Congress, Seoul, Korea: 11-15 May 2020.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at these events.

Roger Coates OBE
IRPA President

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IRPA STRATEGIC PROGRAMME FOR 2016 -2020

(Christopher Clement, IRPA Publications Director)

IRPA is the international voice of the radiation protection profession. This is a simplified and more focused Vision Statement compared to the first version developed around 2008/9. It acknowledges that we have made significant progress on our aspiration to be recognised by all our stakeholders as the international organisation representing the views of the radiation protection profession in the enhancement of radiation protection culture and practice worldwide.

The “IRPA Strategic Programme for 2016-2020”, released recently, sets out the way forward for the IRPA Executive Council (EC) to lead the development of IRPA over the current four-year cycle up to IRPA15 International Congress in Seoul in 2020. We believe that the IRPA Vision represents a major breakthrough in how we and our stakeholders should see IRPA. Bringing the vision to reality should become the dominant force in all activities over the coming period.

This programme takes full account of the discussions at the Associated Societies Forum (ASF) during the 2016 IRPA14 Congress in Cape Town, the views and priorities of the AS as presented in the 50th Anniversary posters at the Congress, and AS views expressed during the IRPA AS Questionnaire exercise. An essential element is also ensuring continuity with the strategy developed in the previous EC period, although with some re-emphasis of priorities.

Our strategic priorities are grouped under four headings:

To promote our role as the international voice of the RP profession through engagement with other international organisations and professional bodies on the development of the system of protection, giving emphasis to impacts on practical implementation.

To support the needs of the Associate Societies by developing, enhancing and sharing good practice and high standards of professionalism.

To support the education and training of RP professionals

To enhance IRPA Governance and the interface with the Associate Societies.

The above priorities provide the key themes which are proposed as the core of IRPA’s programme for the current term. Within these strategic priorities there are many separate work streams.



**STRATEGIC PROGRAMME
2016 - 2020**





PREPARING FOR THE IRPA15 CONGRESS

(Wolfgang Weiss, Chair of IRPA15 ICPC)



The IRPA 15 Congress will be held during 11-15 May 2020 in Seoul, Korea. The theme for the IRPA15 Congress “Bridging RP Culture and Science – Widening Public Empathy“ reflects the strong commitment of the IRPA15 Organizing Committee to provide opportunities to discuss and strengthen the correlation between radiation protection culture and science, and share various scientific knowledge and experiences on radiation protection not only among experts but also with the public.

The outline structure and content of the scientific program has been discussed in a joint meeting of the members of the core group of the Organizing Committee and the International Congress Program Committee (ICPC) in April 2017. The proposed structure includes oral and poster presentations, joint sessions with international organizations, discussion session between professionals and with the public as well as efforts to fully integrate Young Professionals in the conduct of the program.

A draft of the scientific program of IRPA15 will be formulated during the first half of 2018. The official website of IRPA15 will be open right before releasing the first public announcement of the congress in December 2017.

A leaflet (irpa.net/docs/IRPA_15) provides more details about the current planning and the local arrangements.



The Dutch Society for Radiation Protection (NVS)

(Bert Gerritsen, Secretary NVS)

The Dutch Society for Radiation Protection (NVS) was founded in 1960 as a scientific society to enhance knowledge of radiation protection in medicine, industry and research. Today the society is recognized as the professional society for radiation protection professionals. The background of its 800 members is very diverse: 40% medical, 30% industrial, 30% academic/nuclear/government. More than 50% of our members are employed in operational radiation protection.

NVS aims to promote the professional development of our members through scientific conferences, thematic groups, our journal (three issues per year), refresher courses and our website. In order to encourage young professionals in radiation protection, the society awards the Joh Aten Grant to support young professionals for participating in IRPA congresses.

NVS recognizes the importance of providing means for members to learn from each other on a national and international scale. We therefore promote the involvement of our members in national, European and international activities such as workshops, committees and conferences.

In addition, the NVS is a main consulting partner for the Government in radiation protection matters such as development of regulations and best practices.

NVS was the host for the sub-regional congresses in Amsterdam (1975) and in Utrecht (2003). Now we are honored to be your host again. We invite you to join the 5th European IRPA Congress with the theme “Encouraging Sustainability in Radiation Protection”, which will take place in The Hague, The Netherlands from 4-8 June 2018.

The five day programme of the congress will offer you a whole range of plenary, parallel and poster sessions on all relevant scientific and operational topics in radiation protection, as well as plenty of opportunities to interact with exhibitors.

For more information, registration and submitting abstracts, please visit: www.IRPA2018europe.com





Acknowledging Our Bulletin Translator

(M.A.M. Gomaa, President IRPA Egypt)

As the president of IRPA Egypt and Vice President of International Society of Radiation Physics for Africa and Middle East, I am pleased to thank Dr. Safwar Salama, one of our IRPA Bulletin translators, for his hard work in translating all of the 13 IRPA Bulletins into Arabic!

Dr. Salama is a researcher in the field of nuclear safety and radiation protection with many scientific papers published in respected journals. He is the radiation protection director at RPF-ETRR2-EAEA. RPF is the largest radioisotopes production facility in the Middle East. He does his best to ensure the safety of the facility staff during the continuous production of the most important medical radioisotopes, such as Mo-99, Tc-99m and I-131.

Dr. Salama is a member of IRPA Egypt, the Egyptian associate society of IRPA. He is a board member of the Egyptian society for Nuclear Sciences and Applications ([ESNSA-http://esnsa-eg.com/](http://esnsa-eg.com/)). He played active roles in organizing specialized conferences.

His Ph. D thesis dealt with irradiation of gemstones with neutrons and gamma rays to convert raw stones into very beautiful and precious ones. His thesis offers a detailed study on the residual radioactivity in treated gemstones. It was published on the (IAEA) website.

Dr. Salama managed to get time to translate several ICRP Publications into Arabic as well, such as ICRP 111, ICRP 113, ICRP 117 and ICRP 125.

