



International Radiation Protection Association

**Report to the
International Atomic Energy Agency
Radiation Safety Standards Committee
RASSC 36
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IRPA is the international professional association for radiation protection. It promotes excellence in the practice of radiation protection through national and regional Associate Societies and radiation protection professionals by providing benchmarks of good practice and enhancing professional competence and networking. It promotes the application of the highest standards of professional conduct, skills and knowledge for the benefit of individual and society. Our vision is to act as the international voice of the radiation protection profession.

IRPA currently has 49 Associate Societies with nearly 18000 individual members from 61 countries.

A further step forwards in collaboration with other professional bodies acting in radiation protection is a signed Statement on the collaboration between FORO and IRPA. The purpose of this collaboration is to recognize that both organizations can complement each other in promoting their respective objectives. This agreement can be found on the IRPA website www.irpa.net. IRPA also intensified the collaboration with IOMP according the MoU in particular concerning the training and education of medical staff in radiation protection matters.

An intensive collaboration between IRPA and ICRP has been started to evaluate the ethical dimension of the system of protection and to undertake efforts to make it more easier understandable. Workshops on ethical dimensions of the system of protection took place in Asia (Korea) and in Europe (Milan/Italy) and will take place in cooperation with HPS and the Canadian Radiation Protection Society in Baltimore/USA in July 2014.

Both organizations signed a statement for a sustainable cooperation over 5 years.

IRPA was invited to attend the Expert Meeting of the IAEA (IEM6), which took place in February 2014, to present views from an IRPA perspective on lessons after the Fukushima accident. IRPA highlighted the necessity to improve the public understanding of radiation risks. The interacting issues as structure of the system of protection, ease of communication and public understanding in general were discussed and will be issues in the further activities of IRPA. With support of IRPA more than 40 young professionals attended the meeting.

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The 66th IRPA Executive Council (EC) was held during May 10-11, 2014 in Kuala Lumpur/Malaysia in connection with the 4th Regional IRPA Congress in the Asian-Oceanic Region AOCRP4. Around 300 participants from 34 countries attended the congress. The presentations are available on CD. The members of the IRPA Executive Council were involved with several well attended presentations in special sessions and fora. The first UNSCEAR-WHO-IRPA Workshop on Data Collection in the medical application of ionizing radiation took place during the congress. It will be series of workshops related to this topic during the next regional IRPA congresses.

IRPA was invited to present its activities in the medical area at the last meeting of the REMPAN/WHO Collaborating Centers in Würzburg /Germany in May 2014. A future closer cooperation is planned.

Now we have the imminent next IRPA Regional congress in Europe in front of us, which will take place in Geneva/Switzerland from 23rd to 27th June 2014. A further IRPA Regional Congress, the 4th African IRPA Congress AFRIRPA-4, will take place in Rabat/Morocco from 13th to 17th September 2014 and the South and Central American IRPA Regional Congress will be held in Buenos Aires/Argentina from 12th – 17th April 2015. Detailed information on the various conferences can be found at the respective websites.

The work on the topic Radiation Protection Culture resulted in the publication “IRPA Guiding Principles for Establishing a Radiation Protection Culture” which will be published at the IRPA Conference in Geneva June 2014 and it will be available as electronic version on the IRPA website. For the next phase we are proposing to work with IOMP to develop more detailed guidance on RP culture for the healthcare sector.

According to recommendations of our members the IRPA Publication Director, Christopher Clement, has initiated improvements to the website and the establishment of IRPA presence on Facebook and Twitter. The first edition of the quarterly IRPA Bulletin was published and can be find also on the web.

IRPA is continuously working towards an improved on-line presence, in particular to support young radiological protection professionals. The establishment of a young professional network was initiated and details will be discussed at the conference in Geneva.

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