

Statement of Intent for the position of IRPA Executive Officer for the 2024-2028 Term

Bernard le Guen

(French Radiation Protection Association (SFRP))

Dear colleagues,

I respectfully confirm my willingness to stand for the position of IRPA Executive Officer for the 2024 to 2028 term.

It has been an honor to chair our association as President during the last three and a half years. Once the restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic had finally been lifted, I was able to pursue my goals of opening up IRPA more to the medical world, re-launching the Task Group on radiation safety culture in healthcare, and creating more direct links with you, our members, during both our regional congresses and our new webinar series. I was especially pleased with the format of these webinars, which allowed chairs of each Task Group to showcase their work and successes.

At a time when the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) is reflecting upon the next evolution the system of radiological protection, it was extremely important for IRPA to create a specific Task Group that allowed us to bring the voice of Radiation Protection Professionals to the table. For the same reason, many IRPA members, including myself, also made sure to participate at the ICRP symposiums in Vancouver (2022) and Tokyo (2023). The process is still in the early stages, and so the work of this particular task group and our continued partnership with ICRP will remain a high priority for the next four years.

I also intend to continue supporting the excellent work of all our IRPA Task Groups (TG). My role as one of the Vice-Chairs on the TG on Review of the System of Radiological Protection has been very rewarding. I have also supported the very active TG on Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM), which will produce soon an IRPA publication on this subject. Finally, after being inspired by the fantastic session at the IRPA15 Congress in Seoul that was dedicated to women in radiation protection, I encouraged the creation of the TG on Women in Radiation.

The field of radiation safety has a particular inter-generational challenge – to attract and train more young radiation protection professionals and pass our expertise on to the next generation. Our newest Task Group on Mentoring will help us to meet this challenge.

I believe that all the work performed by IRPA is important and I strongly wish to help move our activities forward. For this reason and given that my first term as president was shortened by the pandemic, I am very motivated to pursue the role of IRPA Executive Officer. I will be able to support the next IRPA President and continue to work on the projects which I began in the previous term.

I look forward to providing my experience and expertise to the IRPA Executive Council, our Associate Societies, and indeed, all radiation protection professionals.

Sincerely,



Dr Bernard le Guen

IRPA President