



IRPA at the IAEA General Conference

(From left to right: Franz Kabrt, Renate Czarwinski, Alfred Hefner at the IRPA booth 2014)



The 58th IAEA General Conference took place during September 22-26, 2014 in Vienna, Austria. More than 3000 delegates from 162 Member States, international organizations and NGO's met to discuss a range of essential topics including radiation safety. The IRPA was represented by the President Renate Czarwinski and Executive Council Member Alfred Hefner. Franz Kabrt from the Young Scientists and Professionals Team of the Austrian Radiation Protection Association (ÖVS) took care of the IRPA booth and provided information on IRPA's activities to interested persons. The next International Conference, IRPA14, to be held in Cape Town, South Africa in 2016, was also a key element of the discussion.

1. IRPA at the IAEA General Conference
2. IAEA/ILO Conference Occupational Radiation Protection
3. The Canadian Radiation Protection Association
4. Report of the AFRIRPA04 Conference

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The General Conference started with a message from the United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon. Important topics raised during the conference implied the nuclear safety and strategies for its strengthening in Member States. In a roundtable the roles and opportunities of women in nuclear science and technology were discussed, as there is a lack of women working in these areas. But not only nuclear topics were on the schedule of the various side events during the conference. Also medical issues were discussed, e.g. the reduction of unnecessary diagnostic imaging in medicine.

Each General Conference covers a so-called Scientific Forum. This year's theme was *Radioactive Waste: Meeting the Challenge - Science and Technology for Safe and Sustainable Solutions*. Main topic of presentations and discussion was the importance of an integrated approach to waste management, from its generation to disposal, including anticipation of future developments. In the technical exhibition companies from Member States showed their new technologies mainly concerning nuclear engineering aspects.

During the General Conference, the IAEA Director General Y. Amano received President Czarwinski for a bilateral meeting. They discussed the mission, vision and value of IRPA with its 18000 radiation protection professionals worldwide, provision of feedback from radiation protection practitioners, cooperation in risk communication and public understanding, enhancement of collaboration in implementing IAEA Safety Fundamentals, Safety Requirements, Safety Guides into practice. President Czarwinski invited Director General Y. Amano to attend and open the next IRPA world congress on radiation protection in Cape Town in 2016 and celebrating the 50th Anniversary of IRPA.

International Radiation Protection Association



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IAEA/ILO Conference on Occupational Radiation Protection

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) organized the International Conference on Occupational Radiation Protection: Enhancing the Protection of Workers – Gaps, Challenges and Developments at the IAEA Headquarters in Vienna, Austria, from 1 to 5 December 2014. Details at

<http://www-pub.iaea.org/iaea/meetings/46139/International-Conference-on-Occupational-Radiation-Protection-Enhancing-the-Protection-of-Workers-Gaps-Challenges-and-Developments>



The Canadian Radiation Protection Association (CRPA)

(Photo and text provided by Jeff Dovyak, RTNM, CRPA(R) President of CRPA)



The Canadian Radiation Protection Association (CRPA) was formed in 1979 and federally incorporated as a not-for-profit organization in 1982. Since then, CRPA has been an active associate society of IRPA and representing the expert voice of Canadian radiation safety professionals. At the CRPA, we **strive to ensure the safe use of radiation by providing scientific knowledge, education, expertise and policy guidance for radiation protection.**

Efforts were made to ensure that membership come from as many provinces as possible and represent the many disciplines and activities associated with radiological protection (including academic, medical, government, industry, nuclear utilities, etc). Today, we have 43 Registered Radiation Safety Professionals whose credential is CRPA (R), 23 corporate members, and over 300 individual members, including 15 from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). Recently the CNSC and CRPA have formed a Working Group to work together to collaborate on identifying and implementing solutions within the radiation protection community in order to promote a strong radiation safety culture while respecting and understanding the interest and expectation of stakeholders. **For more information about CRPA, please visit us at www.crpacorp.org**

Report of the AFRIRPA04 Conference

(News and photo provided by Dr. M. A Gomma, President of IRPA-Egypt)



The 4th African Regional IRPA Radiation Protection Congress (AFRIRPA04) was held during September 13-17, 2014 in Rabat, Morocco, following the success of the AFRIRPA01 in Johannesburg, South Africa (2003), the AFRIRPA02 in Ismalia, Egypt (2007), and the AFRIRPA03 in Nairobi, Kenya (2010). As the Organizer of the AFRIRPA02, I was very pleased to participate in the AFRIRPA04.

More than 200 participants attended the AFRIRPA04. Many international organizations, as well regional and national societies, participated in the activities carried out during the conference. The international organizations are IRPA international, IAEA, WHO, ILO, UNSCEAR, IOMP and PNS. IRPA African associates societies, including the south African, the Egyptian, the East Africa, the Moroccan, the Cameroon and the Tunisian, attended associate societies forum. The Tunisian Society joined IRPA in September 2014.

The Key persons for the success of this important event are: Dr R.Czarwinski, IRPA President, P.Thiagan, IRPA Vice President for Congress Affairs, Dr B.LeGuen, IRPA Secretary, Dr E.Gallego, member of the IRPA Board, Dr M. Perez from WHO, Dr F. Nuesslin from IOMP, I.Shadad from IAEA, S.Niu from ILO and F.Shannoun from UNSCEAR, as well as colleagues from Morocco: Prof. A.Choukri, Prof. O.K.Hakam, Prof. A.Ibnsedik, and the scientific program organizer Dr J.T.Harris (USA).

The congress offered daily refresher courses, plenary lectures, presentations of research papers, workshops, and young scientists award forum, covering various topics in radiation protection, as well as in medical physics, security of radioactive materials, education and training in radiation protection. Noting that radiation protection of non ionizing radiation was not included as a topic in the congress activities. Several scientific instrument companies were exhibiting their radiation protection products.

Thanks to Prof Choukri, the congress chairman for offering such a successful congress. Presentations and Selected photos are available on the congress website: www.afrirpa04.com. The 5th Congress shall be held in Tunisia in 2018.

