COEX, “Everything Under One Roof”

COEX is many convenors’ venue of choice, providing more than 20 years of experience for international and domestic meetings and exhibitions. Onsite facilities include three great quality hotels, an enormously sized shopping mall, a city airport terminal and an advanced IT infrastructure, ensuring that all business, entertainment and shopping can be met under one roof.

About Seoul

Seoul is an intriguing unique meetings destination with a fascinating dual character where ancient traditions meet ultramodern technological styles. It is home to the captivating UNESCO World Heritage-listed palaces and shrines as well as the gleaming futuristic skyscrapers. Along the way, you’ll meet many fun-loving and professional people and discover an ancient capital powered by some of the most modern technology on earth before your Seoul-based event is over. This is because Seoul is a place of boundless discoveries, where no two visits are alike; the traditions of centuries have blended together with the fast-paced dynamism of the 21st century; and the people who live here are as serious about making your business events a success as they are committed to the enjoyment of life.

IRPA15 Secretariat

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Congress Overview

Congress

15th International Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA15)

Date

11(Mon) – 15(Fri) May 2020

Venue

COEX, Seoul, Korea

Official Language

English

Congress Theme

Bridging Radiation Protection Culture and Science – Widening Public Empathy

Expected Participants

2,500 participants from over 90 countries

Website

www.irpa2020.org

Important Dates

Abstract Submission Open

1 June 2019

Abstract Submission Deadline

- Oral Presentation: 30 September 2019
  (Notified by 31 December 2019)
- Poster Presentation: 31 December 2019
  (Notified by 31 January 2020)

Full Papers (Oral/Poster) Submission Deadline

31 March 2020

Early Registration Deadline

31 January 2020

Standard Registration Deadline

26 April 2020

Invitation

Dear Delegates and Friends,

On behalf of the IRPA 15 International Congress Organising Committee (ICOC), it is my great pleasure to invite you to the 15th International Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA) to be held on 11-15 May 2020 in Seoul, Korea.

The Organising Committee has put in a tremendous effort to make the most highly acclaimed congress in radiation protection even more rewarding and enjoyable, with a comprehensive and inspiring scientific programme while maintaining the IRPA traditions and promoting mutual friendship.

Under the theme of “Bridging Radiation Protection Culture and Science – Widening Public Empathy”, IRPA 15 will provide invaluable opportunities to discuss and strengthen the correlation between Radiation Protection culture and science, and share developing scientific knowledge and related experiences in radiation protection not only among experts but also with the public.

In light of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster, the significance of radiation protection and the focus on it is growing day by day. At the same time, irrational perceptions of radiation exposure are spreading fast. At such a moment, our duty as radiation protection professionals is to disseminate accurate information and cultivate a more reasonable perception, which is more important than ever before, so that the public can empathize with the issue of radiation risk and protection.

As a city with more than a 600-year history, Seoul, the nation’s capital and the venue city of this congress, possesses a wealth of historical monuments, tourist attractions and vivid lifestyles in an exceptionally safe environment. Excellent hotels and the attractive meeting venue (COEX), which is the most modern, high-tech facility in Asia, will make your participation as easy and comfortable as possible.

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation for your interest in IRPA 15, and I look forward to welcoming you to Seoul in 2020 for the IRPA 15.

Jong Kyung KIM
Chairman
IRPA15 International Congress Organising Committee

Congress Theme

Bridging Radiation Protection Culture and Science – Widening Public Empathy

After the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident in 2011, the importance of radiation protection culture and public empathy as well as radiation protection science has emerged and is widely accepted as one of the most important elements for the sound, practical, and effective implementation of the radiation protection principles and technologies in the international radiation protection community.

Science is a basic and essential element of radiation protection. Despite the recent rapid development of radiation protection science, ethical and social value judgments as well as practical field experiences have gradually emerged and are important elements in the international system of radiation protection.

As witnessed at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident in 2011, an apparent gap of understanding between experts and the public resulted in difficulties in the proper implementation of radiation protection measures and strategies. Experience from radiological emergencies highlights the importance of public communication and empathy as one of the most important challenges in radiation protection. Sometimes, an event is not considered to be a danger to experts but is perceived otherwise by the public. Also, the public intends to strongly make their own arguments when considering and facing the risk of radiation exposure.

“Empathy” implies a connection, which goes beyond communication – it means that there must be an emotional engagement, a full understanding and recognition of how the parties feel about the issue, which must be central to an ability to move forward. Without public empathy, a decision for implementation of radiation protection criteria, though it is based on sound science, has to go through lots of difficulties. Indeed, the public empathy includes comprehensive natures such as transparency, stakeholder involvement, self-help protection and an informed consent/decision.

The adoption of the theme “Bridging Radiation Protection Culture and Science – Widening Public Empathy” for the IRPA15 Congress reflects the strong commitment of the IRPA15 Organising Committee to provide invaluable 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 IRPA15 Congress will certainly contribute to opening a new pathway to the development of future system of radiation protection, which is to be based on public empathy.
Scientific Programme

The scientific programme will comprehensively address the full scope of radiation protection science and practice, grouped into eight Topic Areas. In addition, four cross cutting Themes have been identified for exploration, as appropriate within the Topic Areas or in specific Overview Sessions.

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<th>Themes</th>
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<td>T4.3 Patient radiation safety</td>
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|                                                   | T5.2 Nuclear fuel cycle                                                  | T5B    |                                                      |                            | T5C    |
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|                                                   | T5.5 Transport                                                          | T6A    |                                                      |                            | T6D    |
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| T6. Emergency Preparedness and Response         | T6.1 International standards and national regulations                    | T6A    |                                                      |                            | T6D    |
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|                                                   | T8.8 Ultraviolet radiation                                              |        |                                                      |                            |         |

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Shoichi Takahashi  
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Corresponding Group: 52 Members from 27 Countries

**Collaboration Organisations**

13 International Organisations  
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)  
- International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (CNIHRP)  
- International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP)  
- International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements (ICRU)  
- International Labour Organisation (ILO)  
- International Organization for Medical Physics (IOMP)  
- International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists (ISRRT)  
- National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP)  
- OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (OECD/NEA)  
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- United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR)  
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- World Nuclear Association (WNA)

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