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Welcome to the IRPA Bulletin



It is a great pleasure to introduce this first issue of the IRPA Bulletin to all 18,000 or so members of the International Radiation Protection Association. IRPA strives to be the international voice of the radiation protection profession. This new quarterly bulletin, although aimed primarily at IRPA members, is an important part of fulfilling this objective.

The renewal of the IRPA Commission on Publications (CoP) has focused on ways to help our members in all 49 Associate Societies learn more about what is going on outside their own countries and regions. Over the last year you may have noticed an overhaul of our website, irpa.net, making it easier and more intuitive to access the information you want. This includes the irpa.net news feed, featured on the front page of the website, and which is more active than ever before. We are also now visible in the social media landscape. You can like IRPA on Facebook, follow IRPA on Twitter, subscribe to the IRPA RSS feed, or register for email updates through irpa.net.

These new media channels are fantastic for rapid and frequent communication, but focus on relatively short messages. This Bulletin complements our other media tools. It is certainly less frequent, being produced quarterly, but this has the advantage of shining light on a few carefully chosen top stories, and in a bit more depth than a 140 character tweet allows. Another advantage is the potential reach, as the intention is that it be translated into many languages. Although English is the working language of IRPA, it is not the first language for many of our members. Our hope is that this Bulletin will help cross language barriers, even if only in a small way.

How is all of this possible? The answer is simple: we draw on the strength of our volunteer members. Members of the CoP come from Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Korea, UK, and the US. We have a crack team of media reviewers watching Associate Society publications and websites in English, French, German, Japanese, and Korean, and passing on items of broad interest to those who manage irpa.net, our social media, and of course this Bulletin.

Would you like to join the team? We need more media reviewers to cover other languages, and volunteers willing to translate this quarterly bulletin. If you are interested contact me at pub.dir@irpa.net.

Christopher Clement
IRPA Publications Director

International Radiation Protection Association

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 www.irpa.net

News from the IRPA EC

• IRPA-FORO Cooperation Agreement

In December 2013, the Presidents of Foro Iberoamericano de Organismos Reguladores Radiológicos y Nucleares (FORO) and International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA), respectively, signed Practical Arrangements on Cooperation Activities between IRPA and FORO. FORO is a non-profit organization which promotes radiological and nuclear safety and security at the highest level with the radiological and nuclear safety regulatory authorities in its current member countries, i.e. Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Peru, Spain and Uruguay. The aim of the agreement is to enhance the cooperation between both organizations in the field of radiation protection, including the organization of joint sessions and communication to their respective members about the link to FORO and IRPA websites on their own webpage, and information on upcoming events and venues for future cooperation and joint actions.

• IRPA Inter-society Sharing of the Publications

To facilitate exchange of information among IRPA associate societies, a pilot project is now underway which allows members of the American, Canadian, French and UK societies reciprocal access to some of each other's publications (CRPA Bulletin, Health Physics News, the SRP Newsletter, and the SFRP C.I.R. Newsletter). If all goes well this reciprocal sharing may be extended to other societies.

• EU BSS Revised

On 05/12/2013, the Council of the European Union accepted the EU Commission's proposal for the basic safety standards for radiation protection (BSS), after consulting the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee. Over the next four years these standards have to be implemented by the EU Member States into national law. <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/JOHtml.do?uri=OJ:L:2014:013:SUM:EN:HTML>



It is with great pleasure that we invite you to participate in the 14th IRPA International Congress, which will take place in Cape Town, South Africa 9 - 13 May 2016 and will follow the theme:

PRACTISING RADIATION PROTECTION
sharing the experience | new challenges

The Congress will mark two unique milestones namely the 50th Anniversary of the first IRPA Congress (IRPA was established in 1964 and held its First International Congress in 1966) and it will be the first IRPA International Congress to take place on the African Continent.

South Africa has a long history with the use of radiation in medicine and industry. The nuclear industry is an important economic contributor in the areas of uranium mining, nuclear power generation and radioisotope production. South Africa plays an important role in African regional affairs and within the group of emerging economies within the world. These dimensions bring special meaning to the Congress theme providing a valuable opportunity to share the lessons learned in radiation protection worldwide and to discuss emerging challenges.

The Congress will feature a comprehensive scientific and technical program, the IRPA associate societies business program and traditionally warm, vibrant and friendly African social and cultural events. We look forward to hosting you in Cape Town in 2016!



Welcome to IRPA's New Addition: Cameroon Radiological Protection Society

It is our pleasure to introduce Cameroon Radiological Protection Society (CRPS) to the IRPA family (picture, Mr. S. Saidou, the President of CRPS and author of this article).



The Cameroon Radiological Protection Society (CRPS) was admitted as the 49th Associate Society of IRPA at the 65th Meeting of IRPA Executive Council in Ottawa, July 2013. The objectives of the CRPS are to advance radiation protection by promoting knowledge, information, and research and provide networking opportunities for professionals in the field. CRPS activities include encouraging research in radiation science, developing standards, and disseminating radiation safety information.

CRPS has more than thirty members involved in activities using ionizing radiation and/or developing research in nuclear sciences and technology. Some of them are from neighboring countries: Chad, Congo-Brazzaville and Central Africa Republic. Environmental survey is one of the most developed activities carried out conjointly by CRPS and research laboratories, at the Nuclear Technology Section of the Institute of Geological and Mining Research, Nuclear Physics Laboratory of the Faculty of Science of the University of Yaoundé I, Centre for Atomic Molecular Physics and Quantum Optics of the University of Douala. Such activities were performed thanks to the collaboration with the Institute of Radiation Physics of Lausanne, Switzerland, the National Institute of Radiological Sciences of Chiba, Japan and the International Atomic Energy Agency. Some studies were performed such as:

- Radiological exposure of the public in the uranium regions of Poli and Lolodorf, Cameroon;
- Radiological exposure of the public in the oil region of Bakassi, Cameroon;
- Indoor radon and thoron in the uranium regions of Poli and Lolodorf;
- Environmental survey using EDXRF and gamma spectrometry in the Gold mining region of Betaré Oya and Batouri, Cameroon;
- Drafting recommendations on radiological protection of the public and the environment to the competent authorities;
- Organization of two national conference/workshop in 2012 and 2013 on Environmental survey (radioactivity and heavy metals) and nuclear instrumentation;
- Contribution to the creation of Professional Master Program in Radiation Protection at the Faculty of Science of the University of Yaoundé I, Cameroon;
- Contribution to the improvement of the academic curriculum in nuclear sciences and technology at the University of Yaoundé I, Cameroon.

Inspection, safety and security of nuclear facilities are performed by the regulatory body, the National Radiation Protection Agency. CRPS can also contribute helping the regulatory body to reach its objectives.

Future activities

- Organization of an international conference on environmental radioactivity and dosimetry, radon/thoron, radiation risk and nuclear instrumentation in 2015;
- Extension of indoor radon/thoron measurements at the national level and contribution to the definition of reference level in Cameroon;
- Sensitization of radiation users on the harmful effects of ionizing radiation.

Japanese Health Physics Society: Discussion on RP Issues after the Fukushima Accident



Following the publication of a recommendation report on the issues associated with radiation protection in the aftermath of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster as discussed at IRPA13, Japan Health Physics Society (JHPS) has been further discussing the issues to complete the second set of recommendations in 2014. Any comments and suggestions from radiation protection colleagues in the world to the first set of recommendations are welcomed and appreciated. Please send your comments and suggestions by email to exec.off@jhps.or.jp. The first set of recommendations can be referred and is available at:

<http://www.jhps.or.jp/en/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/53224f1dbbc1063ffff46bb5cc3fa01c1df>

IRPA Regional Congresses



FOURTH EUROPEAN IRPA CONGRESS
Radiation Protection Culture - A Global Challenge
June 23-27, 2014 - Geneva, Switzerland



AOCR-4

IRPA Regional Congress, The Fourth Asian and Oceanic Congress on Radiation Protection

12-16 May 2014
PWTC, Kuala Lumpur



**4th African Regional
IRPA Congress**
13-17 September 2014
Rabat, Morocco

AFRIRPA 4



**Buenos Aires
ARGENTINA**
April 12- 17, 2015

**X Latin American Regional
IRPA Congress**

