



DECEMBER 2022

ISSUE #36



The IRPA Associate Societies Forum at the Latin America Congress, which included 45 participants from 16 countries

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PRESIDENT'S BLOG

DR. BERNARD LE GUEN

Dear IRPA members and RP colleagues,

As we reach the end of 2022, I have the opportunity to make an initial assessment of our IRPA activities from the past year. I was incredibly happy that over the past year we were able to physically meet again at our regional congresses. We started with the North American IRPA congress in Saint Louis in February, followed by the the European congress in Budapest (May), the African congress in Accra (October) and finally, the Latin American congress in Santiago de Chile this past October. At each event, I was incredibly pleased to once again have the opportunity to meet you, listen to you, and discuss with you in person - and also to share all the opportunities to participate in one of the many IRPA task groups!



I have always noted the active commitment of the younger generation, which is a real IRPA success. This was especially evident at the congresses over the past year, each of which had events focusing on young professionals. The winners of the various young professional awards were also given free registration for IRPA 16 in Orlando in 2024, and I look forward to seeing them all meet together at that event.



Bernard with Ana-Maria Bomben (IRPA Executive Officer) at Chilean colleagues at the Latin America congress

I was also very pleased with our active participation at the ICRP 2021+1 conference in Vancouver. We were able to participate in many sessions where we served as the voice of radiation protection professionals. Every day during the symposium, we presented the views of our membership on refining the system of radiological protection, how to start a network of young professionals, and our activities on NORM. We were also able to share our views on risk communication, our commitment to the public on radiation and risk and also how to balance practicality with conservatism. All of us should be very proud of these efforts and of the vast amount of knowledge and expertise within IRPA.

PRESIDENT'S BLOG

DR. BERNARD LE GUEN



Bernard meeting with Werner Rühm (ICRP Chair) at ICRP 2021+1 - a long friendship and great esteem between the 2 presidents



Bernard, Sylvain Andresz (IRPA YGN) and Cameron Jeffries (ICRP EC) presenting at ICRP 2020+1

2023 will kick off with the Asian and Oceanian IRPA congress in Mumbai, India, and I hope to see many of you there. January will also see the next IRPA webinar where we will present more details of the activities being undertaken on several task groups: NORM, the system of radiological protection, and non-ionizing radiation. This promises to be a great program!

But I seem to be getting ahead of myself. Before we ring in 2023, let me wish you a wonderful holiday season and the happiest of New Year's!



Bernard and other panel members at the Latin America congress



AFRIRPA 06 CONGRESS - ACCRA, GHANA

JOSEPH AMOAKO



"Embracing Radiation Protection Education and Safety Culture" was the theme of the 6th African Regional Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association. This Congress was held in Accra, Ghana from 10th - 13th October, 2022 at the La Palm Royal Beach Hotel. It was organized by the Ghana Association for Radiation Protection (GARP) in collaboration with the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and co-sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO)

This was the first time Ghana hosted the Regional Congress, which brought together more than a hundred professionals in the field of radiation protection and related practices. Participants included researchers, regulators, students, young professionals, and representatives from international bodies and academia. Most participants were from African countries with about 50% attending from Ghana, and the remainder from other African countries; namely Nigeria, Cameroon, Kenya, South Africa, Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, and Sudan. There were other participants from France and Hungary, and the congress was also open to those who wished to participate virtually. International organizations were also well represented, with attendees from IAEA, WHO, IRPA, UNSCEAR, AFAN, Proman, ESPP, and the UN Economic Commission for Europe.

The congress employed a hybrid system for the scientific programme which included in-person, virtual, and pre-recorded presentations. There were oral and poster presentations, panel discussions, and a societies forum. The scientific programme was streamed live online throughout the official schedule of the 4-days congress.



Group photograph of participants and dignitaries at the opening ceremony of AFRIRPA 06

AFRIRPA 06 CONGRESS - ACCRA, GHANA

JOSEPH AMOAKO

The opening ceremony consisted of remarks from several speakers, including:

- Prof. Cyril Schandorf, congress chair
- Mr. Quayson - a representative of the Minister for Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation of Ghana,
- Dr. Bernard Le Guen, IRPA president
- P. Johnston, IAEA representative
- Dr. Francis C. Kasolo, WHO representative to Ghana
- Prof. Samuel B. Dampare, the Director General of the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC)



WHO representative to Ghana - Dr. F. C. Kasolo



AFRIRPA06 Congress in session at the La Palm Royal Beach Hotel in Accra, Ghana



Congress chairman with a cross-section of scientific session chairpersons at AFRIRPA06

The thematic areas of the congress covered:

- Environmental Radiation Protection
- Radiation Protection in Medicine
- Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) and Radon
- Monitoring for External and Intake of Radionuclides
- Safety Culture
- Non-Ionizing Radiation
- Regulatory and Standards
- Radiation Protection Programme for Research Reactor Facilities
- Radioactive Waste Management.



AFRIRPA 06 CONGRESS - ACCRA, GHANA

JOSEPH AMOAKO

Refreshment and entertainment activities were planned in order to let the participants take a break from the rigorous scientific presentations to interact and network with their colleagues. These included a welcome reception, coffee breaks, an excursion to the laboratories and facilities of the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission and a visit to the city centre of Accra.



One of the highlights of the congress was the dedicated scientific session for young professionals. This feature at such congresses seeks to identify and encourage young talent in the field of radiation protection. Young professionals submitted papers in different thematic areas of the congress to present their work. The Young Scientist Professional Award was given to Mr. Mbarndouka Taamté Jacob from Cameroon for his paper “Indoor radon and ambient equivalent dose rate measurements using a locally manufactured low-cost smart electronic device and validated with reference instruments”.

AFRIRPA06 afforded participants the unique opportunity to network, exchange ideas and to highlight and discuss pertinent issues relating to radiation protection education and safety culture geared towards improving radiation protection practice in Africa. Having successfully organized the AFRIRPA06 with the collaboration of many stakeholders, the host, GARP is grateful for the opportunity to have welcomed participants to Ghana and wishes Nigeria and Cameroon very well as they bid to host the next Africa Regional Radiation Protection Congress (AFRIRPA07). It is hoped that one of the lasting legacies of AFRIRPA06 going forward will be increased collaboration and sharing of experiences in education and practice of radiation protection on the African continent for the good of mankind and society.



KARP-JHPS-CSRП JOINT YGN WORKSHOP

TAKAHIKO KONO, KAZUJI MIWA, RUI QIU, YEON SOO YEOM



On October 27, 2022, young professionals from Korea, Japan and China held a joint workshop to share updates on recent research activities. More than 30 people participated, including young RP researchers, engineers and students from other Asian countries. There were 5 interesting research presentations on the following topics, which were followed by stimulating discussions that contributed to the experience for all young participants.

Topic	Speaker
Development of Neutron and Gamma Radiation Detection Chip	Yang Liu(CIAE, China)
Progress on ICRP Task Group 113: Reference Dose Coefficients for Common Diagnostic X-ray Imaging Examinations	Yeon Soo Yeom (Yonsei Univ., Korea)
Establishment and First Application of 4D Dose Calculation in China	Ri Zhao (CIRP, China)
A Field Experiment of Accident Dosimetry for Interlaboratory Comparison in Korean Retrospective Dosimetry Network	Hyoungtaek Kim (KAERI, Korea)
Solid Cancer Mortality of Early Entrants in Hiroshima City After the Atomic Bombing: 1970-2015	Seiko Hirota (Hiroshima Univ., Japan)

Whether local or global, the future of radiological protection relies on the contribution of young professionals. Sharing ideas, experiences, achievements and developing good relationships are vital to this work. Therefore, we hope to continue regional or international events like this in the future, with the support of IRPA and its Associate Societies.

LATIN AMERICAN IRPA REGIONAL CONGRESS IN SANTIAGO (CHILE)

ANA MARIA BOMBEN

The 12th Latin American Regional Congress and 10th Latin American IRPA Regional Congress was held from October 23 to 27, 2022, in Santiago (Chile). The Congress was organized by the Chilean Society of Radiological Protection (SOCHIPRA - <https://www.sochipra.cl/>)



with the sponsorship of international organizations such as IRPA, IAEA, PAHO-WHO, UNSCEAR, FORO and FRALC and Chilean organizations such as the Chilean Nuclear Energy Commission (CCHEN). The venue of the Congress was the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile, an historic building in downtown Santiago.

The program of the Congress had 4 main topics: Radiation Protection, Radiation Safety, Safety Culture and Innovation and Technology and around the main theme of "Radiation Protection: Adapting to New Scenarios."

Congress by the numbers:

The Chair of the Local Organizing Committee was Pablo del Río López leading a team of Chilean colleagues. Professionals from 16 countries, representatives of the Radiation Protection Societies of the region and international organizations that sponsored the Congress, made up the International Committee. The core Scientific Committee designed the program and worked with fifty professionals from various countries to review the abstracts.

296 participants from 21 countries (Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Perú, Spain, Uruguay, United States and Venezuela) and presidents and/or representatives from 15 Radiation Protection Societies participated in the Congress.

the Congress itself consisted of 8 Plenary Sessions, 10 Technical Sessions, 10 Round Tables, 27 Scientific Sessions with 103 oral presentations of papers (51% of the presenters were women), 6 Electronic Poster Sessions with 48 posters and as the first activity of each morning, 9 refresher courses were delivered.



Participants in the Latin American IRPA Regional Congress from 21 countries



LATIN AMERICAN IRPA REGIONAL CONGRESS IN SANTIAGO (CHILE)

ANA MARIA BOMBEN

The IRPA flag waved in many Congress activities via Bernard Le Guen, IRPA President, and Ana María Bomben, IRPA Executive Officer. Bernard Le Guen was invited to address the audience in the Opening Ceremony and in the Closing Ceremony. He also gave a presentation on "Review of the System of Radiological Protection" in a Plenary Session, was the Chair of the Associate Societies Forum and participated in a meeting with representatives of FORO (Ibero-American Forum of Radiological and Nuclear Regulatory Agencies) to discuss topics of mutual interest.

Bernard Le Guen (IRPA President) and Ana María Bomben (IRPA Executive Officer) in the center of the photo with the Local Organizing Committee of the Congress and Raúl Ramirez (IAEA representative, third from the right)



IRPA, through the Montreal Fund, provided partial financial support for the participation in the Congress of 8 young professionals (under 35 years of age) who were the main authors of papers already accepted by the Scientific Committee for oral presentations. The 8 young professionals selected were from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba and Guatemala.

During the Congress, a Young Professional Award with 12 participants from 8 countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala and Dominican Republic), nominated by the Radiation Protection Societies of their countries, was carried out. The jurors evaluated the written papers and oral presentations of the participants and unanimously decided the following awards: 1st: Fiorela Merma (Argentina), 2nd: Ignacio López (Chile) and 3rd: Arismendy Portorreal (Dominican Republic).



Participants of the Young Professionals Award with the 4 jurors: Enrique Viveros (President of SOCHIPRA), Ana María Bomben (IRPA), Pablo Jiménez (PAHO) and Juan Carlos Mora (IAEA).



Bernard Le Guen presents the 1st Young Professionals Award to Fiorella Merma (Argentina)

LATIN AMERICAN IRPA REGIONAL CONGRESS IN SANTIAGO (CHILE)

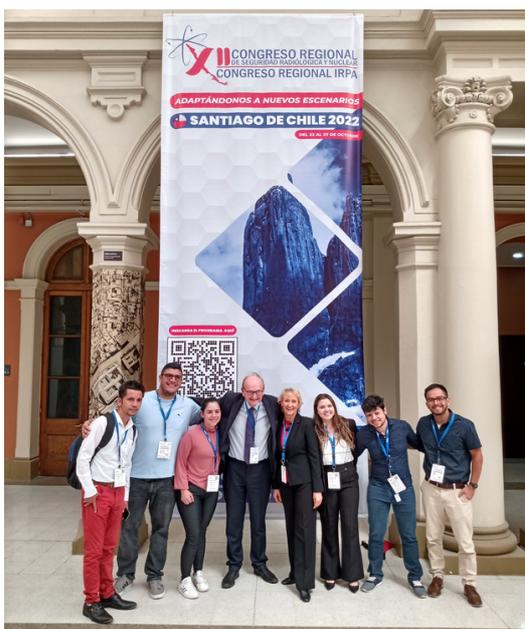
ANA MARIA BOMBEN

A very important activity in each IRPA Regional and International Congress is the IRPA Associate Societies Forum (ASF). The Latin American Regional Congress hosted the ASF in hybrid mode, with 45 participants from 16 countries, including presidents or representatives of Radiation Protection Associations of Latin America and the Caribbean. The Spanish Radiation Protection Society was also invited as they will host IRPA17 (2028) in Valencia, Spain.

The ASF began with a welcome by Bernard Le Guen and his presentation on the IRPA Strategic Plan 2021-2024. The IRPA Young Generation Network (YGN) was represented by Marina Saez Muñoz (IRPA YGN Secretary), who presented the YGN Strategic Agenda 2022-2024 virtually from Spain. There were presentations on IRPA16 (2024) in Orlando, USA and a brief presentation on the IRPA Task Group on Women in Radiation (WiR) – A gender perspective, given by the chair of the Task Group, Marina Di Giorgio.

At the end of the ASF, Carolina Viloría Barragan, President of ACPR (Colombian Radiation Protection Association) presented the proposal of ACRP to host the next IRPA Latin American Regional Congress, in Medellín (Colombia) in 2026.

The final day of the Congress opened with a Plenary Session where Rubén Ferro, from Cuba, presented "Safety Culture in organizations, facilities and activities with sources of ionizing radiation: how to implement it." Following that, the closing ceremony was held which included the awards presentation for Best Poster, Best Paper for authors over 35 years and the winner of the Young Professional Award, who was also given free registration to participate in IRPA16 by the IRPA16 organizing committee.



The Latin American IRPA Regional Congress was very successful because of the number of participants, coming from all the countries of the Latin American region, as well as for the quality of the presentations, which addressed all the current issues of radiation protection, for the participation of international organizations, for the exchange of experiences and information among the participants and, above all, for the cordiality and hospitality of the organizers of the Congress, the Chilean Society of Radiological Protection – SOCHIPRA.

Bernard Le Guen and Ana María Bomben with the young professionals supported by IRPA to participate in the Congress, through the Montreal Fund



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN RADIATION PROTECTION - ETRAP

HIELKE FREERK BOERSMA, UNIVERSITY OF GRONINGEN

ETRAP 2023 – GRONINGEN, THE NETHERLANDS

The 8th International Conference on Education and Training in Radiation Protection (ETRAP) will be held in Groningen, the Netherlands from 27 – 30 June 2023.

The ETRAP conference is a well-established event in education and training in radiation protection. The first edition was held in Saclay in 1999, followed by meetings in Madrid (2003), [Brussels \(2005\)](#), Lisbon (2009), [Vienna \(2013\)](#), and [Valencia \(2017\)](#) and an [online meeting in 2021](#).

ETRAP 2023 intends to bring together training providers, academics, policy makers, radiation protection professionals, regulators and authorities, and end-users of education and training in radiation protection. It offers the opportunity for learning and discussing about the latest findings and developments in education and training in radiation protection and facilitates networking amongst the different stakeholders. The main themes of ETRAP 2023 are:

- Competence standards for trainers
- Online and hybrid learning: innovation and experiences gained
- Competence based systems vs. qualification based systems
- Attracting and preserving a competent workforce
- Integration of social sciences and humanities and public engagement



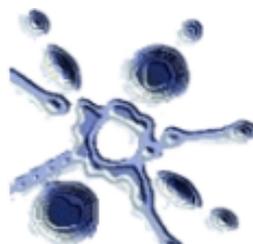
Academy Building UG © UG – photo by
Silvio Zangerini



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN RADIATION PROTECTION - ETRAP

HIELKE FREERK BOERSMA, UNIVERSITY OF GRONINGEN

The 8th ETRAP conference will be hosted by the Groningen Academy for Radiation Protection in the Academy building of the University of Groningen, in the historical center of the city. This conference is organized by University of Groningen and SCK CEN in cooperation with IAEA, EUTERP and IRPA.



ETRAP
27-30 June 2023
Groningen, The Netherlands

We invite you to submit your abstract for this conference no later than 31 January 2023 through www.etrp.net.



Groninger Museum



Lage der A - Groningen



Main lecture room

Finally, we note that the 9th European Training and Education in Radiation Protection (EUTERP) workshop will immediately precede the ETRAP workshop in Groningen on 26 & 27 June 2023. For details on this workshop, visit www.euterp.eu.

[Register now](#) for both events and take advantage of the early bird fee. We are looking forward to meet you in Groningen next June!

-Hielke Freerk Boersma (chair, local organizing committee)



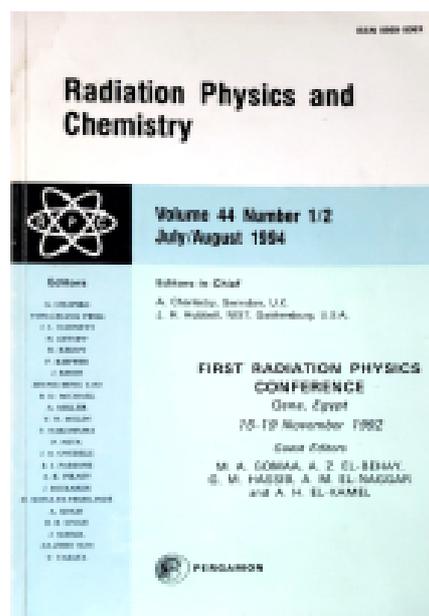
RADIATION PROTECTION ACTIVITIES WITHIN EGYPTIAN RADIATION PHYSICS 2022 SEMINAR

MOHAMED AHMED MAHMOUD GOMAA

In November, the 2022 Radiation Physics Seminar was held under the auspices of Prof. Amr El-Hag Aly, President of the Egyptian Atomic Energy Authority (EAEA) at the main building of EAEA in Nasr City, Cairo. The seminar was composed of 8 scientific sessions spread out over two days

The first goal of the seminar was to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the first Radiation Physics Conference, which took place in November 1992 at the Faculty of Science in Qena City. (Qena city is 800 km south of Cairo and 80 km from the famous Luxor). The conference was supported by the International Society of Radiation Physics, the EAEA and Assiut University Branch QENA.

Even as early as 1992, radiation protection activities were published among either the health physics or radiation physics activities. The proceeding for the first Radiation Physics Conference were published in 1994 in the well-known Scientific Journal (Radiation Physics and Chemistry), which included the Honorable Late John Hubble (OF NBST) as the Radiation Physics Editor. At this time, around 50% of the work published in this journal was considered as radiation protection activities.



Photos {The 1992 1st RAD PHYS Conference , J. RP&C, volume 44,1994}

The second goal of the seminar was to encourage young scientists to present their current research activities and to learn, in turn, from the presentations given by the invited speakers. The young scientist presentations took place at the end of the seminar, followed by a round table discussion on the problems facing young scientists today. This included advice such as links to free software for radiation, nuclear, and medical physics, how to make full use of the resources available at libraries and similar institutions, and the importance of becoming a member of scientific and professional societies.

The next radiation protection seminar shall be held in Cairo, Egypt in 2023.



RADIATION PROTECTION ACTIVITIES WITHIN EGYPTIAN RADIATION PHYSICS 2022 SEMINAR

MOHAMED AHMED MAHMOUD GOMAA



The seminar was organized by the Egyptian National Network of Radiation Physics (NNRP) a committee of the EAEA committee. The seminar was attended by 70 participants.

After World War II, nuclear scientists in Europe switched their scientific interest to radiation physics or medical physics. In 1968 I received my PhD in Radiation Physics from London University in the field of neutron shielding. Similarly, several presentations from this seminar were mainly in the radiation protection field, such as:

1. Sources And Detectors: such as cyclotron, gamma spectroscopic calibration, whole-body counting, and isotope selective CT imaging.
2. Dosimetry: such as calculations and measurements around radio-iodine contaminated Individual, thermal neutron dosimetry using nuclear track detection, response of a novel glass system for proton therapy, and dose assessments for building materials
3. Safety and security: such as NMR safety, the need for protection from terrestrial radiation, and interfaces between safety and security of radiation facilities.
4. Others: nanotechnology and radiation shielding

My own contribution to the September 2022 IRPA Bulletin, Advice to Junior Rad Protection staff, was also included in the seminar.



RADIATION PROTECTION ACTIVITIES WITHIN EGYPTIAN RADIATION PHYSICS 2022 SEMINAR

MOHAMED AHMED MAHMOUD GOMAA

After distributing seminar certifications to all of the participants, special awards were given to young researchers for their presentations of their current work. The photos below show the young scientists receiving the NNRP Medal.



Youth receiving NNRP Medals from different Egyptian Universities and centres



UPCOMING EVENTS

AOC RP6

6th ASIAN AND OCEANIC CONGRESS FOR RADIATION PROTECTION (AOC RP6)

About Conference

The 6th Asian and Oceanic Congress for Radiation Protection (AOC RP6) will be held at Mumbai, India during 07 - 11, February 2023. The Indian Association for Radiation Protection (IARP) has been serving the national and international scientific community for the past 55 years by organising international, national and regional conferences and workshops in the field of radiation protection and safety. IARP is proud to host AOC RP6 for the first time in India and feels happy to welcome all the participants from around the world. More than 500 delegates including eminent international and national radiation protection professionals are expected to participate in the congress.

**07-11
February
2023**

Nehru Centre, Mumbai, India

For more details and latest updates please visit

www.aocrp6.com

Congress Theme

Radiation safety is given highest priority at different stages of operation in nuclear, medical and industrial applications of radiation technology. In the past decade, variety of systems and methods have been developed in the field of radiation protection and surveillance including release of new ICRP publications. In view of these developments, AOC RP6 is devoted to the congress theme of "Radiation Protection and Surveillance in Nuclear, Medical, Industrial Facilities and the Environment". This congress is a forum for all the stakeholders including researchers and policy makers to discuss various safety issues related to the developments in radiological and environmental safety of nuclear and radiation facilities.

Call for Papers

Scientific Programme Committee of the 6th Asian and Oceanic Congress for Radiation Protection (AOC RP6), cordially invites you to submit abstract to AOC RP6 to be held on 07-11, February 2023, in Mumbai, India. All abstracts must be submitted electronically through the website only (<https://www.aocrp6.com/>). Abstracts submitted via e-mail, fax or regular mail will neither be accepted nor acknowledged. All submitted abstracts will be reviewed and assigned to appropriate session. Notification on acceptance will be sent to the submitter by email.

Important Dates

Abstract submission starts
10/05/2022

Last date for abstract submission
30/06/2022

Intimation of acceptance of abstract
15/09/2022

Registration begins
5/07/2022

Early bird Registration & accommodation request (up to)
15/10/2022

On the spot registration allowed (up to)
06/02/2023

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Outline Structure & Topic Areas

The scientific programme of the congress will include keynote addresses, Panel Discussions, Invited Talks, Proffered Papers, Posters and Technical Exhibition. The major scientific thematic areas to be covered at the congress are listed below:

1. Foundation Topics on Radiation Protection Philosophy and Risk Estimates
2. Radiation Safety and Protection in Nuclear Facilities
3. Radiation Safety and Protection in Medical & Industrial Sectors
4. Radiation Dosimetry (External, Internal and Biological)
5. Nuclear Instrumentation and System Development
6. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment
7. Existing Exposures
8. Emergency Preparedness and Response
9. Regulatory Framework: System of Protection, Standards and Regulation.

Guidelines for Abstract Preparation and Submission

Contributions should be brief with relevant scientific/technical details in the form of an extended abstract of one page, not exceeding 500 words. The template of the abstract can be downloaded from the AOC RP6 website. The contribution must be submitted ONLINE (electronically) through the abstract submission facility of AOC RP6 website (www.aocrp6.com) before the closing date. Abstract submitted for presentation in the congress will be reviewed independently by the members of the scientific programme committee and experts in the field. The intimation will be sent to the authors post the acceptance of abstracts. Last date for abstract is 30/06/2022. The acceptance of the abstracts will be intimated before 15/09/2022.

Registration Details

Registration is pre-requisite for attending the conference and presenting a paper. Request for registration will be taken through online form available on website from 15th July 2022 onwards. Registration fee payable is listed below:

Type of Registration	Amount payable (INR)	
	Early bird up to 15/10/2022	Late or on the spot 06/02/2023
IARP Member	10000	12000
Senior Citizen (IARP Member)	5000	5500
Non IARP member	15000	15500
Accompanying Person	8000	8500
Student delegate (Indian)*	5000	5500
Trade delegate (Indian)	20000	25000
Foreign delegate	600 \$	650 \$
Student delegate (Foreign)	200 \$	250 \$

* To encourage the participation of young students, financial assistance to the deserving under graduate / post graduate students of Universities will be provided subject to the availability of funds. Certificate from Head of the Institute/Department is mandatory.

Publications

Book of Abstracts will be published during AOC RP6 Congress. Manuscripts selected by our Scientific Programme Committee will be published in a peer reviewed journal.



SEND US YOUR NEWS!



Do you have news to share? Send it to cop@irpa.net, and we will share it via the IRPA News and the IRPA Bulletin. Stories for the Bulletin are normally 200-300 words plus images.

We're always looking for updates from our Associate Societies for our Society Spotlight. Let us know what your society has been up to. Meetings, conferences, general events or any good news is always welcome!

Your IRPA Commission on Publications:

IRPA Communications Officer: Dave Niven

Bulletin Editors: Dave Niven

Associate Societies Liaison: Michèle Légaré

Website Managers: Dave Niven & Chris Malcolmson;

Social Media Managers: Sven Nagels & Chris Malcolmson;

Media Reviewers: Sven Nagels, Young-Khi Lim & Hiroki Fujita;

Proceedings Advisor: Haruyuki Ogino



The PIANFORTE Partnership offers travel support for young radiation protection professionals. You can find more information on the [PIANFORTE website](#). The coming deadline for applications is 31 December 2022. Note that support is restricted to EU countries and associated states.

