

ICRP

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION

Guiding Radiological Protection since 1928

www.icrp.org

STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-2017

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION

Since 1928, the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) has successfully developed the System of Radiological Protection as the basis for radiological protection standards, legislation, guidance, programmes and practice worldwide.

ICRP is a charity established to provide independent recommendations and guidance on radiological protection for the public benefit.

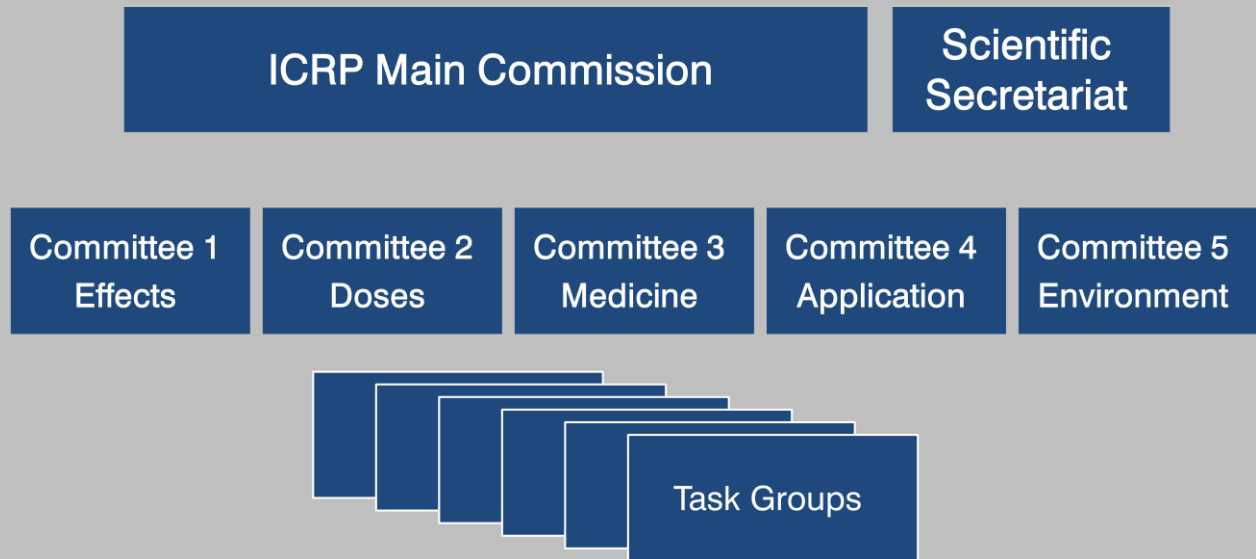
In preparing its recommendations, ICRP considers advances in scientific knowledge, evolving social values, and practical experience. Formulating standards, regulations, and codes of practice is the responsibility of other national and international organisations.

The objective of the work of ICRP is to contribute to an appropriate level of protection against the detrimental effects of ionising radiation exposure without unduly limiting the benefits associated with the use of radiation.

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS

- 1928** Founded at the Second International Congress on Radiology as the **International X-ray and Radium Protection Committee**
- 1934** Tolerance Dose introduced, the first step towards **dose limitation**
- 1950** Renamed **International Commission on Radiological Protection**
- 1954** Recommendation to “reduce exposure ... to the lowest possible level”, the first step towards **optimisation**
- 1977** The basic principles of **Justification, Optimisation** and **Dose Limitation** are introduced
- 1990** Reduction of the **dose limits** to those used today
- 2005** Remit broadened to include **protection of the environment**
- 2007** Current **fundamental recommendations** (*ICRP Publication 103*)
- 2011** **First International Symposium on the System of Radiological Protection**

STRUCTURE




Main Commission

The Main Commission consists of the Chair, up to twelve other members, and the Scientific Secretary. The Main Commission is the governing body, setting the policy and programme of work, and approving all official publications.

Scientific Secretariat

The Scientific Secretariat manages the daily business of ICRP. It is led by the Scientific Secretary, who is also the Editor of the Annals of the ICRP, and often represents the organisation in international forums.



Committee 1, Radiation Effects: assesses scientific knowledge on radiation risk, examining possible implications on the System of Radiological Protection.

Committee 2, Doses from Radiation Exposure: develops reference models and data, including dose coefficients, for the assessment of exposure to radiation.

Committee 3, Protection in Medicine: develops recommendations and guidance on the protection of patients, staff, and the public against radiation exposure in medicine.

Committee 4, Application of the Commission's Recommendations: develops principles and recommendations on radiological protection of people in all exposure situations.

Committee 5, Protection of the Environment: develops reference models and data, and guidance on radiological protection of the environment.

Task Groups write reports, and normally consist of Committee members and experts from outside the Main Commission and Committees.

OPERATIONS

Membership

Members come from over 30 countries on six continents and from all disciplines relevant to radiological protection. Selected on the basis of their recognised competence and experience, members are volunteers invited to join ICRP as independent experts for four year terms.

Observers

Recognising the importance of relations with other international organisations with an interest in radiological protection, ICRP invites observers to its Committees from the following organisations:

- ❖ The European Commission
- ❖ The International Agency for Research in Cancer
- ❖ The International Atomic Energy Agency
- ❖ The International Commission on Radiological Units and Measurements
- ❖ The International Electrotechnical Commission
- ❖ The International Labour Organisation
- ❖ The International Organisation for Standardisation
- ❖ The International Radiation Protection Association
- ❖ The Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
- ❖ The United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation
- ❖ The World Health Organisation

Meetings

The Main Commission meets twice per year, while Committees meet annually and Task Groups meet as necessary. A joint meeting of the Main Commission and Committees is held biennially.

Publications

Beginning in 1928, ICRP recommendations were published in various journals and proceedings. From 1959, these were published in numbered reports, and since 1975 in a dedicated journal, the Annals of the ICRP. ICRP now seeks comments on most publications through open consultation.

Finances

ICRP is primarily financed through voluntary contributions from organisations with an interest in radiological protection. All contributions are accepted with the understanding that they do not influence the ICRP membership or programme of work.

ICRP in Numbers (as of July 2011)

232 Members

113 Numbered Publications

27 Active Task Groups

13 Fundamental Recommendations since 1928

5 Standing Committees

1 System of Radiological Protection

ICRP STRENGTHS

ICRP recommendations are the basis of standards, legislation, and practice worldwide

Independent

World-class experts

Co-operation with international organisations

Well-known and widely respected internationally

CHALLENGES

Technological developments in medicine

Non-cancer effects

Natural sources of radiation

Protection of the environment

Maintaining knowledge and expertise in
radiological protection

OBJECTIVES

- Improved dissemination of ICRP recommendations
- Scientific work focused on improving the System of Radiological Protection
- Raised awareness of radiological protection in medicine
- Protection of the environment fully integrated into the System of Radiological Protection
- Positive relationships with organisations interested in radiological protection
- Best practices applied to the governance of ICRP

INITIATIVES

- ❖ **Making ICRP publications available at low or no cost**
- ❖ **Recommending research needed to strengthen the System of Radiological Protection**
- ❖ **Holding regular ICRP symposia**
- ❖ **Increasing ICRP participation in radiological protection and other forums**
- ❖ **Openly seeking nominations for new members**



ICRP Strategic Plan 2011-2017

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