

ICRP Main Commission Task Group Established on Initial Lessons from the NPP Accident in Japan

A Task Group of the ICRP Main Commission has been established on initial lessons from NPP Accident in Japan with respect to the ICRP system of radiological protection.

Task Group 84, led by ICRP Vice-chair Abel González, will compile lessons learned relevant to the ICRP system of radiological protection related to the efforts carried out to protect people against radiation exposure during and after the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Japan. A report is expected within a year, as are recommendations to the ICRP Main Commission on any other follow up actions including potential improvements to the system of radiological protection.

Approximately half of the members of the Task Group are experts from Japanese authorities, operators, and non-governmental organisations, with the rest being ICRP Main Commission and Committee members. Further information on the Task Group is available at the ICRP web site.

Establishing this Task Group is one element of ICRP's response to the accident. Steps taken earlier include releasing a message days after the accident to express deep sympathies and remind the community of recommendations related to emergency and existing exposure situations; making ICRP Publication 111 publically available for free download; and holding a special session of the ICRP Main Commission with representatives from Japan.

Beginning with the results of this initial work, a longer-term effort is anticipated to reflect on lessons learned related to the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident in reviewing ICRP *Publication 109, Application of the Commission's Recommendations for the Protection of People in Emergency Exposure Situations*, and ICRP *Publication 111, Application of the Commission's Recommendations to the Protection of People Living in Long-term Contaminated Areas after a Nuclear Accident or a Radiation Emergency*.

Additional efforts are being considered, including facilitating the transfer of experience from communities affected by the Chernobyl accident in Europe. One step will be the organization of ICRP missions later this year to the affected territories close to Chernobyl, and to the area around the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.