

ICNIRP - International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection

Monday, 27 March 2006



ICNIRP is an independent scientific organisation responsible for providing guidance and advice on the health hazards of non-ionizing radiation exposure. ICNIRP develops international guidelines on limits of exposure to non-ionizing radiations which are independent and science based. It provides science based guidance and

recommendations on protection from non-ionizing radiation exposure and establishes principles of non-ionizing radiation protection for formulating international and national protection programmes. It is the recognised non-governmental organisation in non-ionizing radiation for the World Health Organisation, the International Labour Organisation and the Commission of the European Union.

ICNIRP maintains a close liaison and working relationship with all international bodies engaged in the field of non-ionizing radiation protection and represents radiation protection professionals world-wide through its close collaboration with IRPA and its national societies. The historical link between IRPA and ICNIRP is very strong as ICNIRP came into being as a result of an IRPA initiative and during its early years was a sub-committee of IRPA before becoming an independent Commission in 1992. IRPA continues to provide a small amount of funding to ICNIRP.

Web site: <http://www.icnirp.de/>

Publications

ICNIRP endeavours to communicate its views, advice and recommendations as widely as possible and to consult on these with radiation protection and other medical and science professionals world-wide.

<http://www.icnirp.de/what.htm>

Update : 2006

Where does ICNIRP get its funds?

ICNIRP is a non-profit making organisation and is legally registered as such in Germany. All its modest income is used to offset the year-on-year costs of its various activities including carrying out its scientific programme, organising scientific meetings and producing scientific publications. Its income derives from various sources with the exception of industry. In the same way that individual ICNIRP Commission members cannot be employed by industry, ICNIRP as an organisation does not accept funding from industry. The regular income that ICNIRP receives is an annual grant from IRPA. It also receives support from national governments, most notably from the German Environment Ministry for ICNIRP's Scientific Secretariat based in Munich. All other income is generated by the Commission through contract work (to the exclusion of any work for industry), organisation of scientific meetings and sales of its scientific publications. Currently, ICNIRP's contract income comes from contracts placed by various organisations including, the European Commission, EC, the WHO (contract to carry out scientific reviews of the epidemiology, biology and physics and engineering aspects of exposure to extremely low frequency electric and magnetic fields). ICNIRP also receives income from the sales of its publications that defray some of the cost of producing these.

ICNIRP members are not paid for their work for the Commission - it is entirely voluntary. Only travel and necessary costs for attendance at meetings are reimbursed to members.