

**THE 11<sup>th</sup> WORLD CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
RADIATION PROTECTION ASSOCIATION  
MADRID, SPAIN, 23 – 28 MAY 2004**

The Congress Palace of Madrid hosted the 11th World Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association. About 1300 experts from 78 countries attended the Congress and over 1200 scientific contributions (oral and poster) were recorded.

During the Congress there were assessed all topics related with radiation, topics that are increasingly prominent as non-ionizing radiations (NIR), Radiological Protection in the Workplace, Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment, as well as Radiation Protection of Patients in medical applications. The scientific works were structured around 9 thematic areas:

- Radiation Effects
- Radiological Protection System and Regulation
- Dosimetry and Instrumentation
- Radiation Protection of Patient
- Radiation Protection in the Workplace
- Radiation Protection of the Public
- Incidents and Accidents
- Protection Against Non-ionizing Radiation
- Societal Influences in Radiation Protection

The activities of all thematic areas were structured in parallel sessions, each thematic area dealing with Oral

Sessions, Poster Sessions and Refresher Courses. Plenary sessions were also organized on some fundamental issues for radiation protection:

- What is known about the effects of low doses of radiation?
- The ICRP (International Commission on Radiological Protection) Proposals for the 21st Century;
- Electro-Magnetic Fields and Cancer;
- Protection against Natural Radiation;
- Societal Aspects and Public Involvement.

Immediately preceding the IRPA11 Congress, the International NIR Workshop & Symposium took place in Seville, Spain, from 20 to 22 May 2004. The workshop was organized by WHO (World Health Organization), ICNIRP (International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection) in collaboration with the URSI (International Union of Radio Sciences) Commission K Symposium. Internationally recognized experts in all non-ionizing radiation specialties presented lectures on characteristics, dosimetry, interaction mechanisms, biology and health effects, standards and protective measures covering all NIR, from static fields to ultraviolet radiation.

The IRPA11 Congress showed the future trends of radiological protection in the world in different areas related to radiological protection: research on

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biological effects of ionizing radiations and non-ionizing radiations, protection implication in their different applications both related to population and environment, regulatory issues, etc. There were also announced recommendations

and guidelines of ICRP on ionizing radiations for the next 15 years.

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