

**IRPA**

**IRPA's PERSPECTIVE ON THE  
ROLE OF RADIATION  
PROTECTION PROFESSIONALS**

**Kenneth R. Kase  
President**

**International Radiation Protection Association**

24 - 26 October 2011

ICRP 2011 SYMPOSIUM  
Experience in Implementing ICRP  
Recommendations



# Outline

- IRPA 12 Outcome
- IRPA Objectives & Activities
- IRPA13 International Congress 2012
- ICRP Recommendations & Implementation
- Conclusions



# IRPA Vision For 2020

---

***IRPA is recognized by its members, stakeholders and the public as the international voice of the radiation protection profession in the enhancement of radiation protection culture and practice worldwide***



# IRPA 12 Outcome Report

## – Focus for Future

- Developing the radiation protection framework
  - Mixing national, regional and international resources
    - greater effectiveness
    - accelerate implementation of international standards and recommendations
    - promote better sharing of knowledge and experience
- Developing protection policies, criteria, methods and culture
  - Stakeholder involvement in the decision making process may help



# IRPA 12 Outcome Report

## – Focus for Future

- Radiation safety in:
  - Nuclear installations
  - Medicine
  - NORM in industry
  - Security screening of individuals
  - Transport of radioactive material
  - Cosmic ray exposure
  - Space exploration
- Emergency planning, preparedness and response



# IRPA Objectives

- Encourage establishment of radiation protection societies throughout the world as a means of achieving international cooperation
- Provide for and support international meetings for the discussions of all aspects of radiation protection
- Encourage international publications dedicated to radiation protection
- Encourage research and educational opportunities in support of radiation protection
- Encourage and participate in the establishment and continuous review of universally acceptable radiation protection standards or recommendations through the international bodies concerned



# IRPA Engagement with International Organizations

- IRPA encompasses a great range of skills and expertise within its individual members. Thus, IRPA should facilitate the identification of relevant experts to work on specific programmes for the international bodies
- IRPA International and Regional Congresses present a good opportunity to include joint sessions with the international bodies and to distill the opinions of the practitioners on the key issues raised



# IRPA Engagement with International Organizations

## ➤ Criteria:

- Impact on professionalism
- Impact on the credibility of the RP profession
- Impact on enhancing the identification and sharing of good practice
- Are the goals of the collaboration achievable and measurable?

## ➤ Priority:

- Organisations including ICRP, IAEA and IOMP have a high priority.
- Other organisations such as WHO, ILO, ICRU, UNSCEAR, ICNIRP, NEA and the EU are also important.



# IRPA Key Actions

- IRPA Code of Ethics (2007)
- Guiding Principles for RP Professionals on Stakeholder Engagement (2008)
- Guiding principles on RP Culture:
  - Working Group (16 members from 11 countries)
  - Discussion document on RP culture for IRPA13
- Certification/Qualification
  - Working Group has been formed
  - Guiding principles for establishing and conducting certification process
  - Documents specifying education and qualification standards

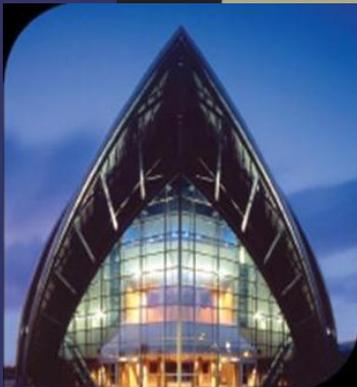


# IRPA13 International Congress 2012

## IRPA13 : Glasgow

13th International Congress  
of the International Radiation  
Protection Association

13 - 18 May 2012



24 - 26 October 2011



ICRP 2011 SYMPOSIUM  
Experience in Implementing ICRP  
Recommendations



# Plans for IRPA13

- *Living with Radiation – Engaging with Society*
- Produce a “snapshot” of radiation protection as we will see it in May 2012.
- Contributions from the principal international organisations involved in radiation protection integrated into the relevant programme sessions.
- The world’s leading scientists and practitioners in their fields will present overviews of the current state of key topics in radiation protection.



# Plans for IRPA13

- Key issue discussion sessions
  - Underpinning science
  - System of protection (including implementation of ICRP103)
  - Increasing medical exposures
  - Nuclear issues (including new build and Fukushima)
  - Stakeholder engagement (implementation of the IRPA Guiding Principles for Stakeholder Engagement)
- Invited speakers will present and review selected topics of interest in symposia
- Panel discussions will have opportunities for input from delegates



# Plans for IRPA13

- Forums
  - Role of qualified experts in medical exposure (IOMP)
  - Occupational exposure (IAEA/ILO/NEA/IRPA)
  - Ethics and values in radiation protection (ICRP/NEA)
  - Nuclear industry (WNA)



# ICRP Recommendations – Implementation

- Adoption of the Spirit of the recommendations is important, not only regulatory compliance
- IRPA provides the Forum for discussion of these issues
  - Implementation involves science, values and experience
  - A need to enhance exchanges
  - Continue observer involvement and consultations
  - Use IRPA Forums at international congresses



# ICRP Recommendations – Implementation

- Not much IRPA can do to influence regulations
- IRPA can enhance and foster adoption of the recommendations by practitioners, partner with ICRP to influence the implementation, and collaborate with implementing organizations
  - Practitioners bring values and experience into the discussion
  - **IRPA is the voice of the profession**



# ICRP Recommendations – Implementation

---

- Implementation of Publication 103 & additions
  - Difficulty with dose constraints and reference levels
    - Problem with distinguishing between planned exposures and other exposures
    - Continuation with limits
  - Radon
    - Especially with the differing protection philosophies between existing and planned exposures – reference level vs. limit and dose constraint



# ICRP Recommendations – Implementation

- Lens of the eye
  - Need to specify whether tissue effects should be considered as stochastic or deterministic
  - Need to specify a coherent method for determining the detriment
  - Seems to define the detriment as most serious
  - Practitioners were not effectively consulted about the potential impacts
  - Could be difficult to demonstrate compliance



# Conclusions

---

- IRPA recognizes ICRP as the primary international body in developing radiation protection principles
- IRPA appreciates the ICRP self-examination and review
- IRPA is in position to contribute in the development of the principles and to facilitate the implementation of ICRP recommendations



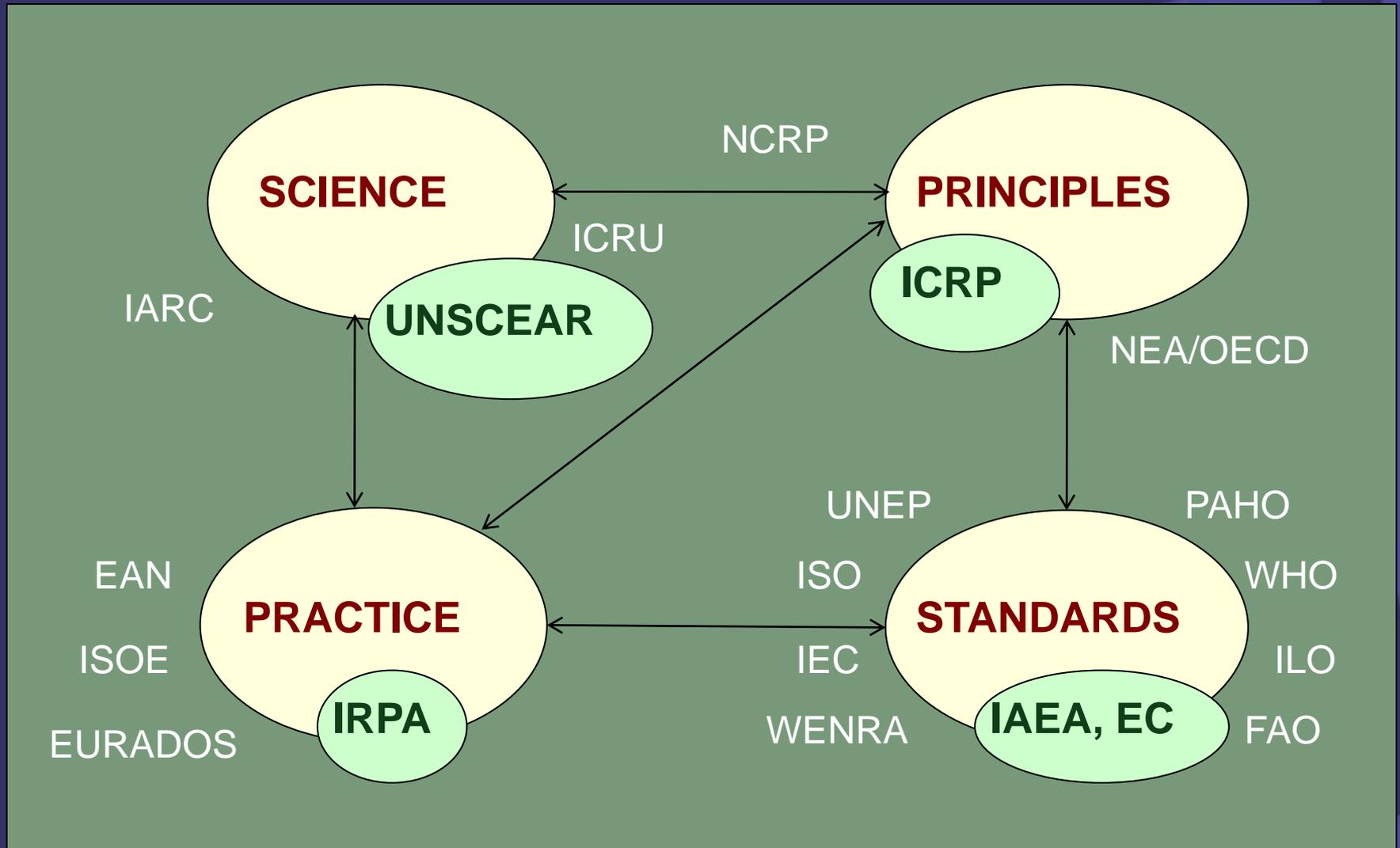
# Conclusions

---

- ICRP should continue to engage the Radiation Protection practitioners through IRPA
- ICRP should continue to engage the Observer organizations in Committee activities and discussions
- ICRP should continue to make use of IRPA congresses to dialog with practitioners on proposed recommendations and their implementation



# The 4 Pillars of Radiation Protection





# IRPA

**International Radiation Protection Association**

<http://www.irpa.net>

24 - 26 October 2011

ICRP 2011 SYMPOSIUM  
Experience in Implementing ICRP  
Recommendations