

ABEL JULIO GONZÁLEZ



Abel Julio GONZÁLEZ is an Academician, member of the Academia Argentina de Ciencias del Ambiente (Argentine Academy of Environmental Sciences). Currently, he holds the following positions:

- Representative at the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR).
- Member of the Commission of Safety Standards (CSS) of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).
- Senior Advisor of the Nuclear Regulatory Authority of the Argentine Government.

He is also regular member of the Argentine representation before the IAEA Board of Governors and General Conference.

He has been member of the ICRP family since May 1978 when he became Chairman of the ICRP Task Group of Committee 4 that developed ICRP Publication 37, “Cost-Benefit Analysis in the Optimization of Radiation Protection”, Ann. ICRP 10 (2-3), 1980. He was then member of the ICRP Task Groups that developed: ICRP Publication 46 “Principles for the Disposal of Solid Radioactive Waste”, Ann. ICRP 15 (4), 1985; ICRP Publication 55 “Optimization and Decision Making in Radiological Protection”, Ann. ICRP 20 (1), 1990; ICRP Publication 64 “Protection from Potential Exposure - A Conceptual Framework”, Ann. ICRP 23 (1), 1993. He was the Chairman of the ICRP Committee 4 Task group that developed ICRP Publication 82 “Protection of the Public in Situations of Prolonged Radiation Exposure”, Ann. ICRP 29 (1-2), 1999 and of the Task Group of the ICRP Main Commission that developed ICRP Publication 96 “Protecting People against Radiation Exposure in the Event of a Radiological Attack” Ann. ICRP 35 (1), 2005 and ICRP Publication 104 “Scope of Radiological Protection Control Measures”, Ann. ICRP 37 (5), 2007. He is co-author of the current “2007 Recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection”, ICRP Publication 103, Ann. ICRP 37 (2-4), 2007. He became a member of ICRP Committee 4 in 1977; member of the ICRP Main Commission in 2001; and, Vice-chair of the ICRP Main Commission in 2009.

He has been the President of the XIIth International Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA), Buenos Aires, October 2008 and, until then, Vice-President of IRPA. He is founding member of the Argentine Radioprotection Society (Sociedad Argentina de Radioprotección).

He graduated from the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Buenos Aires in 1963, with theses on psychoacoustic and non-linear mathematical transformers. Since 1962 he was a senior



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officer of the Argentine Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA) where he would eventually become CEO of the Regulatory Department and then Member of CNEA Board of Directors. In 1985 he was nominated President of ENACE SA, the Argentine nuclear architect engineer. Over two decades, he was the Director for Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). He has published over 200 scientific and technical papers on radiation protection, nuclear safety and radioactive waste management, has contributed towards more than hundred publications of international committees and groups in these subject areas, and has managed several important international projects including: drafting the relevant international safety conventions and developing of many of the international radiation safety standards in force; assessing the consequences of the Chernobyl accident; evaluating the radiological situation in contaminated territories around the world, such as the Atoll of Bikini in the Marshall Islands, the Atolls of Mururoa and Fangataufa in the French Polynesia, the Kara Sea in the Arctic and the polygon of Semipalatinsk in Kazakhstan; and appraising a large number of accidents involving radiation exposure.

He has been honored with several international awards including:

- the Sievert Prize, the highest international decoration in radiation protection, in 2004;
- the IAEA Distinguished Service Award (in recognition of his work for the International Chernobyl Project);
- the Morgan Lecture Award from the Health Physics Society, ‘in recognition of [his] outstanding contributions to the science and art of radiation protection’,), twice: in Denver, Colorado, on 25 June 2000, and in San Diego, California in 2003;
- the 28th Lauriston S. Taylor Lecturer award of the US National Commission of Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP), in 2005;
- the IAEA “Special Service Award”, in recognition of his career in the IAEA, in 2004; and,
- the Marie Curie Prize in 2008.

He also shared the 2005 Nobel Prize granted to the IAEA.

He lectured physics at the University of Buenos Aires and, currently he is regular lecture at the World Nuclear University, at the international IAEA Post-Graduate Courses on Radiation Protection and Safety, and at International School of Nuclear Law of the Université Montpellier.