

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RADIOACTIVITY IN THE ENVIRONMENT



1 - 5 SEPTEMBER 2002 IN MONACO

Organised by:
The International Union of Radioecology (IUR),
in association with the Journal of Environmental Radioactivity (JER)
& in co-operation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

[Organisation]

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**The International Union of Radioecology (IUR),
in association with the Journal of Environmental
Radioactivity (JER), and in co-operation with
the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

[Time and Venue]

This International Conference on Radioactivity in the Environment will take place in Monaco

>>> 1 - 5 September 2002

at the International Conference Centre (C.R.I.)

[Background]

Since the discovery of radioactivity a little over a century ago, science has exploited the use of radioactive tracers in a wide range of disciplines, from medicine and biotechnology, to geology and archaeology. By the 1950s, awareness of the effects of radionuclides increased with the discovery of nuclear fission, the dawn of the atomic age, and the presence of global fallout from emerging nuclear weapons programs. The issue of naturally occurring radiation became pertinent during the 1970's as an integral part of radioecology. The challenge has been to ascertain the effects that naturally occurring radioactive materials may have on daily life, and the consequences of their use and modification in industrial processes. More recently, the Chernobyl accident

has lead to considerable efforts by several countries with respect to dose reduction and reclamation actions. These responses have required extensive radioecological research programmes, requiring knowledge on the migration and effects of radionuclides within ecosystems, information on remediation strategies, and the communication of risks to society.

Today, the extensive knowledge and experience gained from radioecological investigations is of great value in a growing number of applications. Scientists are focussing on a wide range of sources (atomic energy, waste, accidents, natural radioisotopes), an increasing number of radionuclides (including "exotic" long-lived radionuclides) and a variety of ecosystems (tropical to arctic, natural to urban). The rehabilitation of nuclear sites in several places in the world is currently placing strong emphasis on many radioecological topics. Naturally occurring radiation, especially when arising from the technologically enhanced naturally occurring radioactive materials that may result from, for example, the extractive industries such as mining and oil, is an area where radioecology is of significant importance. The evaluation of the consequences of radioactive releases has expanded from being centered on human health effects to investigations on the consequences to the environment. There has also been an increased awareness of social issues within risk management. In addition, researchers are paying more attention to the relationship between radionuclides and other environmental contaminants, with respect to both synergistic effects and coherence in management strategy.

[Topics of the Conference]

The conference will incorporate three approaches to a discussion of radioecological issues:

First, there will be topic-focused sessions, the selection of which will be based on submitted papers in response to the list of suggested radioecological issues given below.

Suggested topics are:

- > Protection of the environment
- > Human and societal effects of exposure to radiation
- > Environmental contamination and its consequences following possible terrorist events involving radioactive materials
- > Technologically enhanced concentrations of naturally occurring radionuclides in non-nuclear industries
- > Radioactive waste storage - status and future needs
- > Vulnerable ecosystems and extreme climate conditions (e.g. subtropical, tropical and arctic)
- > Remediation and restoration of contaminated ecosystems
- > Microbial effects on radionuclide mobility
- > Multiple-pollutants: combined effects of radionuclides and other contaminants
- > Radionuclides as environmental tracers: advanced analytical methods and state of the art applications in earth and environmental sciences

Secondly, there will be general sessions where radio-ecological topics not listed above can be addressed. Papers from young scientists will be especially welcome.

The third aspect of the meeting will consist of summary reports from international fora and the conclusions of recent conferences.

For instance, during the upcoming year there will be several meetings related to the protection of the environment, meetings between international organisations concerning the policy of biota protection, as well as an international conference in Darwin, Australia dedicated to this topic. The Monaco conference will provide a platform to summarize these events, as well as a forum for presenting new scientific results. In addition relevant IUR programmes and the IUR General Assembly will be part of the conference.

Two other examples are the IAEA's program on Biosphere Modelling and Assessment (BIOMASS), and the European Community MARINA II project on human exposures from radioactivity in Northern European marine waters. Both of these multi-year projects were recently completed and their findings will be summarized at Monaco.



[Conference Structure and Deadlines]

The conference will be structured in the form of oral presentations selected from submitted abstracts. Interactive poster sessions will also be scheduled, as well as time for a three minute-two slide synopsis of each poster, within the general session, prior to the poster viewing. A volume of proceedings, consisting of 3-page extended abstracts, will be produced.

The conference will also address the implications of the results presented. The objectives will be to give input to the planning of further scientific work and to provide a basis for scientific input to decision-makers. A block booking for accommodation has already been made and further information on conference registration, hotel reservations and booking for optional excursions, etc. will be provided. The meeting programme will be circulated later. To receive this information, please be sure to complete the reply slip attached to this announcement.

If you intend to participate, please complete and return the reply-slip to the conference secretariat before >>> **20 December 2001**, so that we will be able to provide you with further information.

If you wish to submit a presentation, please provide a short (approximately 300 words) abstract which must be submitted by >>> **20 December 2001**; and, if accepted, an extended (max 3 pages) abstract by >>> **1 May 2002**. Authors selected to give oral presentations/posters will be notified by >>> **1 March 2002**.

[Conference Language]

The conference language is English. All oral presentations, posters, abstracts, and extended abstracts must be in English.

[Conference Fee]

Paid before 1 May 2002	>>> Euro 400
Students	>>> Euro 160
After 1 May 2002	>>> Euro 480

The conference fee will cover a copy of the compiled abstracts of presentations; coffee breaks; the conference reception which is on Sunday 1 September, and the conference dinner.

[Young Investigator's Award]

To encourage young scientists to participate in the conference and to provide a mechanism whereby individuals with limited funds can attend, a young investigators award program has been established in association with the conference. Three 1000 EURO travel awards will be granted to young investigators submitting high quality manuscripts. In order to be considered, a candidate must:

- > Provide documentation that they are either currently enrolled as a student, or have completed a PhD within the last five years
- > Submit a senior-authored manuscript (seven-page limit) for consideration
- > The manuscript must be received by 15 June 2002

Selection will be based on scientific quality of the manuscript. Each manuscript will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- > The paper advances the state of knowledge in an area of science promoted at the conference
- > The research idea is innovative and has interdisciplinary implications
- > The study design is of high quality
- > The discussion section is clear
- > The conclusions are well supported by the data presented

[MONACO - The Conference Venue]

Monaco, an ancient principality steeped in a rich and colourful history, is considered by many to be Europe's most fascinating country. Though the Principality covers but one square mile, it stands as a proud monarchy with his Serene Highness Prince Rainier III as its head of state.

Today people visit Monaco and its glittering district Monte Carlo not simply to vacation, not just to test their standing with lady luck, nor merely to see and be seen, but to revel in the memorable life-enhancing experience that is Monaco.

The population of the Principality consists of 30,000 inhabitants, 5,000 of whom are Monégasques, 12,000 French and 5,000 Italians (according to the last official census in 1990).

[The Climate]

Mild in winter
Average in January & February >>> 8 °C

Warm without excess in summer
Average in July & August >>> 25 °C

The average temperature for the year is >>> 16 °C and the Principality enjoys an exceptional amount of sun.

[Hotel Accommodations]

Information about bookings for hotel accommodations in several price categories in the Nice and Monaco area will be provided later.

[Means of Access]

By plane >>>
The Nice - Côte d`Azur International Airport is located 22 kilometers away from Monaco. Helicopter and bus services, taxis and hire cars provide permanent links between the airport and the Principality.

By helicopter >>>
(scheduled services or on request)
The duration of the flight is 7 minutes.

By train >>>
The Monaco-Monte Carlo (SNCF) railway station is a stop for many international trains. The railway is a rapid means of communication between the Principality and all the localities of the Côte d`Azur from Cannes to Menton.

[Current Members of the Scientific Committee]

E. Amaral (Instituto de Radioproteção e Dosimetria, Brazil)

S. Charmasson (IPSN, France)

T. Hinton (Savannah River Ecology Laboratory, USA)

B. Howard (Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, UK)

G. Hunter (EC/SEPA)

J. Li (Chinese Institute for Radiation Protection)

G. Linsley (IAEA)

H. Livingston (IAEA)

V. McClelland (U.S. Department of Energy)

P. Mitchell (University College Dublin, Ireland)

Y. Ohmomo (Institute for Environmental Sciences, Japan)

G. Rauret (Departamento de Química Analítica, Spain)

B. Salbu (Agricultural University of Norway)

P. Schüller (Universidad Austral de Chile)

E-H. Schulte (EC)

S. Sheppard (Journal of Environmental Radioactivity)

P. Strand (Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority/IUR)

Y. Tsaturov (Roshydromet, Russia)

H. Vandenhove (SCK/CEN, Belgium)

G. Voigt (Institut für Strahlenschutz, Germany)

[Sponsors]

The conference is currently sponsored by:

International Union of Radioecology

Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority

Institute for Environmental Sciences, Japan

Elsevier Science Ltd.

British Nuclear Fuels plc.

U.S. Department of Energy

For further details and to express your initial interest, please contact the Conference Secretary:

Torun Jølle

IUR/NRPA

P.O. Box 55

NO - 1332 Østerås

Norway

E-mail address: iur@nrpa.no

Telephone: +47 67 162604

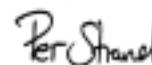
Telefax: +47 67 145444

Or see the conference details at the IUR website:

www.iur-uir.org

We look forward to seeing you in Monaco in September 2002.

On behalf of the scientific and organizing committee



Per Strand (NRPA/IUR)
Conference Chair

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RADIOACTIVITY IN THE ENVIRONMENT

1 - 5 September 2002

The International Conference Centre,
Principality of Monaco

If you are interested in participating in the conference,
please complete and return this slip to the conference
secretariat >>> no later than **20 December 2001**

Surname

First names

Institute/Organisation/Company

Mailing address

Country

Tel:

Fax:

E-mail

I intend to present

- an oral presentation
 poster

with the following title:

I intend to submit a manuscript for the

- Young Investigator's Travel Grant

[Reply Address]

IUR - NRPA
P.O. Box 55
NO - 1332 Østerås
Norway

Contact person: Torun Jølle
Telefax: +47 - 67 14 54 44
E-mail: iur@nrpa.no



