ILO Highlights on Worker Protection
And Information on the
2022 International Conference on Occupational Radiation Protection
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On September 25th 2015, countries adopted a set of goals to **end poverty**, **protect the planet**, and **ensure prosperity for all** as part of a **new sustainable development agenda**. Each goal has specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years.
Goal 8 target
8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment

COVID-19 response

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a historic recession with record levels of deprivation and unemployment, creating an unprecedented human crisis that is hitting the poorest hardest.

In April 2020, the United Nations released a framework for the Immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19 as a roadmap to support countries’ path to social and economic recovery. It calls for an extraordinary scale-up of international support and political commitment to ensure that people everywhere have access to essential services and social protection. The socio-economic response framework consists of five streams of work:

1. Ensuring that essential health services are still available and protecting health systems;
2. Helping people cope with adversity, through social protection and basic services;
3. Protecting jobs, supporting small and medium-sized enterprises, and informal sector workers through economic response and recovery programmes;
4. Guiding the necessary surge in fiscal and financial stimulus to make macroeconomic policies work for the most vulnerable and strengthening multilateral and regional responses; and
5. Addressing the pandemic's impact on economic and social rights.
(xvi) deepening and scaling up its work on international labour migration in response to constituents’ needs and taking a leadership role in decent work in labour migration; and

(xvii) intensifying engagement and cooperation within the multilateral system with a view to strengthening policy coherence, in line with the recognition that:

– decent work is key to sustainable development, addressing income inequality and ending poverty, paying special attention to areas affected by conflict, disaster and other humanitarian emergencies; and

– in conditions of globalization, the failure of any country to adopt humane conditions of labour is more than ever an obstacle to progress in all other countries.

B. Social dialogue, including collective bargaining and tripartite cooperation, provides an essential foundation of all ILO action and contributes to successful policy and decision-making in its member States.

C. Effective workplace cooperation is a tool to help ensure safe and productive workplaces, in such a way that it respects collective bargaining and its outcomes, and does not undermine the role of trade unions.

D. Safe and healthy working conditions are fundamental to decent work.

III

The Conference calls upon all Members, taking into account national circumstances, to work individually and collectively, on the basis of tripartism and social dialogue, and with the support of the ILO, to further develop its human-centred approach to the future of work by:

A. Strengthening the capacities of all people to benefit from the opportunities of a changing world of work through:

(i) the effective realization of gender equality in opportunities and treatment;

(ii) effective lifelong learning and quality education for all;
ILO policy on the improvement of working conditions and environment

➢ Work should take place in a safe and healthy working environment;
➢ Conditions of work should be consistent with workers' well-being and human dignity;
➢ Work should offer real possibilities for personal achievement, self-fulfilment and service to society.
Aim of Occupational Health defined by ILO/WHO

- Prevention
- Protection
- Promotion
- Adaptation
Basic Principles in Occupational Safety and Health

- Responsibilities of the employer
- Role of the competent authority
- Basic workers' rights
Basic Principles in Occupational Safety and Health

Principles of national policy (C.155,1981):

The aim of the policy shall be to prevent accidents and injury to health arising out of, linked with or occurring in the course of work, by minimizing, so far as is reasonably practicable, the causes of hazards inherent in the working environment.
Hierarchy of preventive measures (C.148,1977):
technical measures,
organizational measures,
personal protective equipment;
And more recently (C. 176, 1995 Article 6):
etilination of risks
In taking preventive and protective measures under this Part of
the Convention the employer shall assess the risk and deal with
it in the following order of priority:
(a) eliminate the risk;
(b) control the risk at source;
(c) minimize the risk by means that include the design of safe
work systems; and
(d) in so far as the risk remains, provide for the use of personal
protective equipment,
having regard to what is reasonable, practicable and feasible,
and to good practice and the exercise of due diligence.
Fundamentals for Global Strategy

- Building and maintenance of Safety Culture
- Integrated approach to OSH
- Concept of OSH Management Systems
- Active participation of
  - Government
  - Employers
  - Workers
Preventative safety and health culture:

• *the right to a safe and healthy working environment is respected at all levels,*

• *governments, employers and workers actively participate in securing a safe and healthy working environment through a system of defined rights, responsibilities and duties,* and

• *the principle of prevention is accorded the highest priority*
Convention (No. 115) and Recommendation (No. 114) concerning the protection of workers against ionizing radiations

Adopted in June 1960 at the 44th Session of the International Labour Conference
C. 115 applies to all activities involving exposure of workers to ionizing radiations in the course of their work and provides that each Member of the ILO who ratifies it shall give effect to its provisions by means of laws or regulations, codes of practice or other appropriate methods.
Radiation Protection Convention, 1960 (No. 115)

Number of Ratifications: 50

The countries that have ratified Convention No. 115: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and Uruguay.
• Convention No. 115 aims at ensuring effective protection of workers, as regards their health and safety, against ionising radiations. For this, all appropriate steps shall be taken “in the light of knowledge available at the time.” (Article 3)
• Convention No. 115 also requires keeping dose limits for various categories of workers under constant review in the light of current knowledge (Article 6).
General Observation of 2015

Developed with the support and collaboration of the IAEA

Adopted by the CEACR in December 2015

- Presentation by the IAEA on radiation protection at the CEACR's session

Published in February 2016 in the Committee of Experts' report.
On 21 March 2012 the Governing Body of the ILO at its 313th Session authorized the revised BSS to be published as a joint publication.
Two parts

➢ The first part is a summary of the recommendations of the ICRP and the IAEA

➢ The second part is the CEACRs conclusions on the measures that should be taken, to give effect to the Convention, in light of these recommendations

A copy of the general observations have been sent to all 50 countries that have ratified the Convention, and they will be asked to provide information on the measures they are taking with respect to the guidance given
Introduction

➢ Background,
➢ Reference to available knowledge – Articles 3(1) and 6(2) of the Convention
➢ Scope of the concept of occupational exposure

Part I – Overview of the recommendations and norms of the IAEA and the ICRP

➢ System of protection of workers against ionizing radiations
  ✓ General principles of the system of protection
  ✓ Application of maximum permissible limits within the system of protection against ionizing radiations

➢ Dose limits in occupational exposure (Limits on intake, Previous recommendations on dose limits, Current recommendations for dose limits)
  ✓ Protection for pregnant and breastfeeding workers
  ✓ Dose limits for persons between 16 and 18 years of age
  ✓ Dose limits for workers not directly engaged in radiation work

➢ General principles in emergency situations
  ✓ Limitation of occupational exposure during an emergency and
  ✓ Limitation of occupational exposure during the recovery period

➢ Monitoring of the workplace
➢ Workers’ health surveillance
➢ Discontinuation of assignment to work involving exposure to ionizing radiation pursuant to medical advice and alternative employment
➢ Records of individual doses
Part II – Conclusions

- System of radiation protection
- Current recommendations for dose limits
- Protection for pregnant and breastfeeding workers
- Dose limits for persons between 16 and 18 years
- Dose limits for workers not directly engaged in radiation work
- Limitation of occupational exposure during an emergency
- Monitoring of the workplace
- Workers’ health surveillance
- Discontinuation of assignment to work involving exposure to ionizing radiation pursuant to medical advice and alternative employment
- Records of individual doses
ILO also provides practical guidance in the form of codes of practice or guidelines. They are used as reference work by anyone in charge of formulating detailed regulations or framing occupational safety and health programmes.
Occupational Safety and Health

Guidelines on occupational safety and health management systems. ILO-OSH 2001

Technical and ethical guidelines for workers' health surveillance.

Recording and notification of occupational accidents and diseases.

Protection of workers' personal data.
International Labour Organization

- Convention (No. 115) and Recommendation (No. 114)
- Code of Practice on Radiation Protection of Workers (Ionizing Radiation)
- Inter-Agency Cooperation
- Employers’ and workers’ participation
Development of Safety Guides on Occupational Radiation Protection

**RS-G-1.1**
- **IAEA SAFETY STANDARDS SERIES**
- Occupational Radiation Protection
- Jointly sponsored by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Labour Office
- Safety Guide No. RS-G-1.1

**RS-G-1.2**
- **IAEA SAFETY STANDARDS SERIES**
- Assessment of Occupational Exposure Due to Intakes of Radionuclides
- Jointly sponsored by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Labour Office
- Safety Guide No. RS-G-1.2

**RS-G-1.3**
- **IAEA SAFETY STANDARDS SERIES**
- Assessment of Occupational Exposure Due to External Sources of Radiation
- Jointly sponsored by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Labour Office
- Safety Guide No. RS-G-1.3

**RS-G-1.6**
- **IAEA SAFETY STANDARDS SERIES**
- Occupational Radiation Protection in the Mining and Processing of Raw Materials
- Jointly sponsored by IAEA and IOSH
- Safety Guide No. RS-G-1.6

**GS-G-3.2**
- **IAEA SAFETY STANDARDS SERIES**
- The Management System for Technical Services in Radiation Safety
- Safety Guide No. GS-G-3.2

**Dates:**
- 1999: RS-G-1.1, RS-G-1.2, RS-G-1.3
- 1999: RS-G-1.1
- 1999: RS-G-1.2
- 2004: RS-G-1.6
- 2008: GS-G-3.2

**2018:**
- DS 453
- Combine, revise and supersede five safety guides

**2018:**
- IAEA Safety Standards for protecting people and the environment
- Occupational Radiation Protection
- Jointly sponsored by IAEA
- General Safety Guide No. GSG-7
Promotion of GSG 7: Safety Guide on Occupational Radiation Protection

- Safety Guide on Occupational Radiation Protection: GSG-7
  - Published in October 2018
  - Following the revised BSS jointly developed with ILO
  - Training package developed
  - IAEA/ILO Joint promotion of the Safety Guide:
    - National workshop in China, April, 2017
    - Regional workshop in Japan for Asia-Pacific, Oct. 2017
    - Regional workshop in Madagascar in Africa, Dec. 2017
    - Regional workshop in Turkey, April 2018
    - Regional workshop in Brazil, March, 2019
The IAEA Radiation Safety Standards Committee (RASSC)

The IAEA Emergency Preparedness and Response Standards Committee (EPRReSC)
Inter-Agency Committee on Radiation Safety (IACRS)

Inter-Agency Committee on Radiological and Nuclear Emergencies (IACRNE)
Committee on Radiological Protection and Public Health (CRPPH)
1st International Conference on Occupational Radiation Protection

26 – 30 August 2002, ILO HQ, Geneva, Switzerland
International Action Plan on Occupational Radiation Protection (IAPORP)

- Main outcome: promotion and application of IAEA/ILO safety standards and instruments, safety documents, conferences and meetings, training events and materials, ALARA Networks (Regional and international), Website (ORPNET)…
2nd International Conference on Occupational Radiation Protection

1 – 5 December, 2014, IAEA HQ, Vienna, Austria

Organised by: the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
Co-sponsored by: the International Labour Organization (ILO)

in cooperation with

- European Commission (EC)
- International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements (ICRU)
- International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP)
- International Committee for Non-Destructive Testing (ICNDT)
- International Mining and Minerals Association (IMMA)
- International Organisation of Employers (IOE)
- International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA)
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
- International Society of Radiology (ISR)
- International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists (ISRRT)
- International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)
- Nuclear Energy Agency (OECD/NEA)
- Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
- United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION PROTECTION CALL-FOR-ACTION
Protecting workers exposed to radiation
3rd International Conference on Occupational Radiation Protection
Geneva, 5–9 September 2022

- International Conference on Occupational Radiation Protection - Twenty years after
- Host: the Government of Switzerland
- Organizer: the IAEA
- Co-sponsor: ILO
- Potential co-operators: WHO, OECD/NEA, UNSCEAR, ICRP, ICRU, IRPA, ISR, IEC, etc
- About 500 participants from Member States and Organizations/Associations
Conference Objectives

- To exchange information and experience in the field of occupational radiation protection
- To review advances, challenges and opportunities since the last conference on this topic
- To identify areas for future improvement
The conference will cover the entire spectrum of occupational radiation protection.
- Including infrastructure development, safety culture, radiation monitoring, dosimetry, optimization of protection, education and training, stakeholder involvement, and the probability of causation of occupational harm attributable to radiation exposure.
- 1\textsuperscript{st} PC meeting: 3-6 August 2021
- 2\textsuperscript{nd} PC meeting: Jan/Feb 2022
Thank you

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