

Next steps in advancing the system of radiological protection

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Since its foundation in 1928 the ICRP has continuously developed recommendations to contribute to an appropriate level of protection for people and the environment against the detrimental effects of radiation exposure without unduly limiting the desirable human actions that may be associated with such exposure. The ICRP System of Radiological Protection is based on science, ethics, and experience. Key principles are Justification (any decision that alters the radiation exposure situation should do more good than harm), Optimisation (doses should all be kept as low as reasonably achievable, taking into account economic and societal factor), and Dose Limitation (the total dose to any individual should not exceed the appropriate limits). While the system is robust and applicable and used all over the world, it requires regular review to make sure that it is still up to date and fit for purpose. Recently, ICRP has recently embarked on a review and revision of the System that will update the 2007 General Recommendations in ICRP Publication 103 from 2007. This paper informs about the System and describes first steps taken and future plans by the ICRP towards the review and refinement of the System.