

22nd international Advisory Committee (IAC) meeting 28-29 June 2017 – Geneva Switzerland

National Activities Austria (Jan 2016 – June 2017)

1. General **research** activities related to EMF health

- Synoptic analysis of all available epidemiological evidence on health risks of EMF in the ELF and RF range (Leitgeb, N.)
- Research project “Athermal effects of electromagnetic field exposure associated with mobile communications” (ATHEM-2) funded by AUVA (www.auva.at/emf)
- The EU MobiKids project (Austrian part) will terminate in October 2017

2. New **policies and legislations** regarding EMF exposure

- Continuous evaluation of possible Health Effects of Electromagnetic Fields via the Ministry of Health and Women's Affairs (Working Group EMF - Horizon Scanning)
- Yearly Evaluation of Studies on Health Effects of EMF by the WBF (Wissenschaftlicher Beirat Funk) (<http://www.wbf.or.at/>) Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure and Technology (BMVIT)
- Transposition of Directive 2013/35/EU (occupational exposure to EMF) into national law by issuing the decree “Verordnung elektromagnetische Felder – VEMF” for the protection of workers from electromagnetic fields in the frequency range from 0 Hz to 300 GHz by the Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection.
https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/Dokument.wxe?Abfrage=BgblAuth&Dokumentnummer=BGBl_2016_II_179&ResultFunctionToken=1dde4e0e-5cc2-439e-81a7-37a22c60439e&Position=1&Titel=&Bgblnummer=&SucheNachGesetzen=False&SucheNachKundmachungen=False&SucheNachVerordnungen=False&SucheNachSonstiges=False&SucheNachTeil1=False&SucheNachTeil2=False&SucheNachTeil3=False&VonDatum=01.01.2004&BisDatum=15.07.2016&ImRisSeit=Undefined&ResultPageSize=100&Suchworte=emf
- The Austrian workers compensation board (AUVA) provides support for employers to adequately implement the requirements of legislation. In addition to individual support, information is provided by enquetes and publishing of brochures such as the “M-470 Electromagnetic fields” (found under www.auva.at/emf in German language).

3. Areas of **public concern** and national responses

- The advent of the widespread application of smart meters triggered health concerns on related EMF
- Implementation of the EU directive 2013/35 is ongoing and information for occupational physicians and safety officers is provided by the AUVA and the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection

- Exposure to mobile phone basestations, WiFi on public places, mobile phones and cordless phones, power lines, smartmeter, transponder

4. New public **information** activities

- General Information on Health Effects of Electromagnetic Fields at the Homepage of the Federal Ministry of Health and Women's Affairs (www.bmgf.gv.at)
https://www.bmgf.gv.at/home/Gesundheit/Gesundheitsfoerderung_Praevention/Strahlenschutz/Publikationen/Broschueren_zum_Thema_Elektromagnetische_Felder