

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Report on EMF activities
22th International Advisory Committee Meeting, June 2017

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New policies and legislations

- The special permanent committee on environmental protection of the Hellenic Parliament organized two special hearing sessions in April and May 2017 concerning the regulatory framework for the installation of antenna stations. The members of this parliamentary committee invited the relevant stakeholders in order to consult them about the current regulatory framework. The invited stakeholders included the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy, the Ministry of Digital Policy, Media and Telecommunications, the Hellenic Telecommunications and Post Commission (EETT), the Greek Atomic Energy Commission (EEAE), the Central Union of Municipalities, the Greek Ombudsman, university professors, citizens groups, the Greek Mobile Operators Association and other stakeholders.
- The Directive 2013/35/EU of the European Parliament and the Council on the minimum health and safety requirements regarding the exposure of workers to the risks arising from electromagnetic fields has been transposed to the national legislation with the Presidential Decree No. 120 (published in the official Governmental Gazette no.203 in 26/10/2016). The competent committees for its implementation are those provisioned by the Ministry of Labour & Social Security. The exposure limits and all the other requirements that came into force with the above mentioned legislation are exactly the same with those described in the Directive.

Public concern and national responses - New public information activities

- The first annual report concerning the operational aspects and the measurement results of the National Observatory of Electromagnetic Fields, was published in February 2017 (http://eeae.gr/files/anakoinoseis/EEAE_EPHP_report.pdf). The measurement results for 2016 revealed that all values were well below the reference levels for general public exposure, as defined by the Greek legislation. The National Observatory of Electromagnetic Fields is a network of 500 fixed (480 broadband and 20 frequency selective) and 13 mobile (vehicle mounted frequency selective) measurement stations throughout Greece that continuously monitor the EMF levels from all kinds of antenna stations in the frequency range 100 kHz – 7 GHz. The results of this national monitoring network which is operated and controlled by

EEAE, are presented through an interactive web portal (<https://paratiritirioemf.eeae.gr>), in which data are constantly updated with the latest station measurements.

- The 3rd interlaboratory comparison programmes concerning ELF and RF measurements have been organized according to the provisions of the greek legislation, in January and February 2017 respectively, in Athens, by EEAE in cooperation with the High Voltage Laboratory of the National Technical University of Athens. More than twenty laboratories from Greece and Cyprus have participated. The purpose of these programmes was to demonstrate the technical competence of the participating laboratories, to identify problems and incite corrective actions if needed and to check the effectiveness and comparability of the used measurement methods.
- An international call for tenders has been launched in December 2016 by EEAE, inviting all interested accredited laboratories to perform in situ measurements in the vicinity of 1850 antenna stations installed all over Greece during 2017, in the framework of the greek legislation that demands annual measurements in at least 20% of all antenna stations installed in urban areas. The results of all measurements performed in the vicinity of antenna stations, are uploaded to EEAE's web site (<http://eeae.gr/>). Until June 2017, the results of in situ measurements in the vicinity of more than 8300 base stations are uploaded to this webpage.
- Some major public information events have been the 1-day meetings and lectures organized in Athens by the Hellenic Association of Medical Physicists in March 2017 and by the Athens Medical Association in April 2017. The Athens Medical Association also issued 16 recommendations to reduce human exposure to wireless radiation.

Research

Research actions and programmes concerning biological effects, dosimetry and exposure assessment to electromagnetic fields are being performed mainly in universities and research centers and are funded by the government, the European Commission and other international sources. Some new publications from greek researchers:

- Assessment of General Public Exposure to LTE signals compared to other Cellular Networks Present in Thessaloniki, Greece. Gkonis F, Boursianis A, Samaras T, Radiat Prot Dosimetry, 2016, doi: 10.1093/rpd/ncw362
- Effects of pre- and postnatal exposure to 1880-1900 MHz DECT base radiation on development in the rat, Stasinopoulou M, Fragopoulou AF, Stamatakis A, Mantziaras G, Skouroliahou K, Papassideri IS, Stylianopoulou F, Lai H, Kostomitsopoulos N, Margaritis LH, Reprod Toxicol 2016; 65: 248-262