

Switzerland

Report on EMF Activities

10th International Advisory Committee on EMF

June 2005

Contact person: Mirjana Moser

Federal Office of Public health / Radiation Protection Division / 3003 Bern

Email: mirjana.moser@bag.admin.ch

Tel. + 41 31 322 95 75 Fax. + 41 31 322 83 83

1. General Research Activities

National research program

The Swiss Federal Council decided to launch a national research program about "Non-ionising radiation; Environment and Health". The program will cover ELF and RF, be fully sponsored by the government and run for approximately 4 years with a funding of 5 Mio. CHF. A call for proposals is expected this autumn.

Swiss Research Foundation on Mobile Communication

The major research activities in Switzerland in the field of mobile communication are running in the frame of the Research Foundation. More information about the Foundation and the running projects can be found under: http://www.mobile-research.ethz.ch/english/index_e.htm

One of the projects that should be specially mentioned is the: "*Study on the feasibility of future epidemiological studies on health effects of mobile telephone base stations*". The study has been conducted by an international expert group, lead-managed by ARC Seibersdorf research GmbH (Georg Neubauer) and financed, along with the Foundation, also by Swiss Federal Offices.

TNO replication study

A study titled "Effects of UMTS radio-frequency fields on well-being and cognitive functions in human subjects with and without subjective complaints" has been carried out as a replication and an extension of the TNO study. The study is conducting by: PD Dr. P. Achermann, Prof. N. Kuster and Dr. M. Rösli. It is coordinated by the Swiss Research Foundation and financed by Swiss Federal Offices, Swiss mobile phone operators and some Dutch Authorities. The study should be finished towards the end of 2005.

2. New Policies and Legislations

Report: "Health Protection in the Field of nonionizing Radiation"

At the moment, an interdepartmental work group is reviewing the situation in Switzerland regarding health protection in the field of non ionizing radiation. In a report, addressed primarily to the members of parliament, the present situation in the fields of legislation, prevention, precaution, information and research will be laid down, the need for action recognized and some ideas for solutions presented.