

Malaysia Country Report

Report on EMF Activities

23rd International Advisory Committee (IAC)

Meeting, 2018

General Research Activities

Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH), Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) and Malaysia Nuclear Agency (MNA) are the three main agencies that provide technical advice and services on matters related to EMF in Malaysia. Between Nov 2017 and May 2018, Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH), in collaboration with Non-Ionising Group, Malaysia Nuclear Agency (MNA), has carried out ten ELF-EMFs measurements of high voltage cable transmission line adjacent to residential areas. The results show that the levels are well below the limit recommended by the ICNIRP. The MOH has also carried out measurements in the hospital areas to assess the level of ELF-EMFs produced by the transformer located in the hospital compound. Measurements on the ELF-EMFs arising from electrical wiring and electrical equipment in the hospital were also carried out which also found to be well below the recommended limit.

The MCMC has carried out research collaboration with the Universiti Malaysia Perlis and Universiti Malaysia Kelantan on “A Study on the Biological Effects of 4G LTE 850, 1800 And 2600 MHz Electromagnetic Fields (EMF) Exposures”. In the second quarter of 2018, MCMC also conducted a periodical measurement of EMF emission at 50 RCI sites across Malaysia to verify compliance to Malaysian Standard for EMF. These measurements also provide reassurances to the public that the infrastructure does not cause adverse health effects to the surrounding communities.

Within the last 12 months, MNA has carried out more than 30 RF safety assessments around telecommunication structures and broadcasting facilities. Some of the measurements involved state government.

Policies and Legislation

In early 2018, the MOH has initiated a meeting with various agencies to set up a working committee on non-ionising radiation. The committee will provide a platform for collaboration between the agencies in sharing information and knowledge on NIR. This will enhance the effectiveness in dealing with NIR issues in this country.

In January 2018, the MCMC, an agency that regulates the communications and multimedia industry, has published the “Guideline on the Mandatory Standard for Electromagnetic Field Emission from Radiocommunications Infrastructure”. The guideline provides a reference for the Network Facility Providers (NFP) and Network Service Providers (NSP) to facilitate their compliance towards the “Mandatory Standard for EMF Emission from Radiocommunications Infrastructure (RCI), Determination No. 1 of 2010” (MS for EMF). The guideline defines procedures and methods to achieve compliance assessment and verification when a RCI is put into service, taking into account of potential effect to the environment

and general public in its surrounding. The guideline is available at [http://mcmc.gov.my/resources/guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-on-the-mandatory-standard-for-elect-\(1\)](http://mcmc.gov.my/resources/guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-on-the-mandatory-standard-for-elect-(1))

Public Concerns and National Responses

The MOH, MCMC and MNA, together with the state government and local council, are closely working together on public awareness of the NIR issues. A dialog with the community will be held should there be a request from the local council or any parties.

The MCMC has published three brochures: (i) Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity and Children, (ii) A Study on the Biological Effects of 4G LTE 850, 1800 And 2600 MHz Electromagnetic Fields (EMF) Exposures, and (iii) Electro-Magnetic Field and Your Health. These brochures are used as an advocacy material by the MCMC, including its regional and state offices, and relevant stakeholders in addressing the public concern about the safety and health effects of RF-EMF. Besides these brochures, based on the outcome of measurement exercises at 10 sites with dense population around Selangor and Kuala Lumpur in 2017, the MCMC has also published a brochure entitled “Electromagnetic Field Emission in Klang Valley: Are We Safe?” which is targeted for the public. The brochure is intended to disseminate the result of the measurement, which indicated that the EMF emission from multiple base stations is way below the permissible level.

The MOH has also published two brochures entitled “ELF-EMFs and Your Health” and “RF Radiation and Your Health” which are also targeted for the public.

Public Information Activities

The MOH, MCMC, and MNA continue to work together to create awareness and to disseminate information to the general public on radiation emission issues from mobile phone base stations. The MCMC continues to provide EMF advocacy and conducts awareness programmes nationwide through its regional and state offices which involves their representatives, as well as representatives from the MOH and MNA. On top of that, the MOH and MNA also handle other public concerns regarding NIR. The MOH are mainly in charge of the health issues while the MNA provides technical services on the safety assessments.

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