



Mobile Manufacturers
Forum



International EMF Policy Developments



- Background to the MMF
- Recent International EMF Developments
 - Regulations/Standards:
 - India
 - China
 - Russian Federation
 - Scientific Reviews
- Conclusions



- International association of radio equipment manufacturers
 - Representing around 80% of global handset sales; and
 - The providers of the majority of global network infrastructure
- Association's focus: health, safety and the environmental sustainability of wireless telecommunications equipment.
- Key areas of activity: research and standards support, regulatory harmonisation and public communications.

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- India:
 - In September 2008, the Telecom Commission of India formally adopted ICNIRP guidelines in India.
 - The order applies to both network infrastructure and handsets.
 - India is currently in the process of adopting exposure measurement standards and is looking carefully at the existing European and international (IEC) standards.



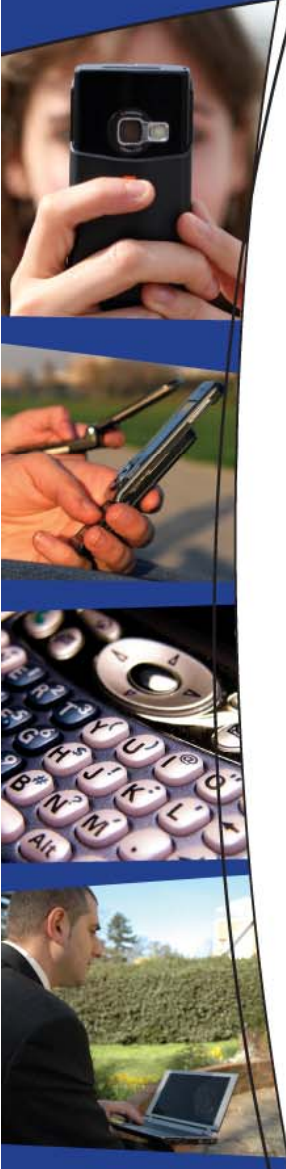
- China:
 - Suggestion in Ries Report that China had adopted “preventative” limits below ICNIRP recommendations.
 - In fact – China officially adopted ICNIRP based limits in August 2008 for handsets.
 - Limits for base stations are currently being prepared but MIIT has stated they see no reason for these limits not to be also based on ICNIRP



- Russia:
 - Again, suggestion in Ries Report that Russia had adopted “preventative” limits below ICNIRP recommendations.
 - In fact – Russia’s current EMF limits were developed before mobile communications was available. They currently use a completely different basis for determining compliance.
 - In December 2008, the Consumer Rights Protection Agency Rospotrebnadzor, endorsed a plan of action designed to harmonise EMF standards with those used internationally.



- SCENHIR Opinion (February 2009)
 - *“It is concluded from three independent lines of evidence (epidemiological, animal and in vitro studies) that exposure to RF fields is unlikely to lead to an increase in cancer in humans....”*
- Canadian National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health (September 2008)
 - *“There is insufficient evidence to indicate a causal association between cell phone use and intracranial tumours. There is weak evidence supporting an increase in odds of glioma, acoustic neuroma, and meningioma in adults with regular, ipsilateral use for 10 years or longer. Existing findings are suggestive but preliminary because they are based on few studies with small numbers and potential biases.”*



- International Agency for Research on Cancer (World Cancer Report 2008)
 - Cancer causation

“ The evidence for the carcinogenicity of radio-frequency fields is even less clear. A few epidemiological studies in occupational settings have indicated a possible increase in the risk of leukaemia or brain tumours, while other studies indicated decreases. These studies suffer from a number of limitations. The experimental evidence is also limited, but suggests that radio- frequency fields cannot cause DNA mutations. The lack of reproducibility of findings limits the conclusions that can be drawn.”
 - Mobile Phone Use and Cancer Risk:

“With reference to radio frequency, available data do not show any excess risk of brain cancer and other neoplasms associated with the use of mobile phones”



- United States Food and Drug Administration (October 2008)
 - Cellphones – Health Issues
 - *"Over the past 15 years, scientists have conducted hundreds of studies looking at the biological effects of the radiofrequency energy emitted by cell phones. While some researchers have reported biological changes associated with RF energy, these studies have failed to be replicated. The majority of studies published have failed to show an association between exposure to radiofrequency from a cell phone and health problems."*



- Swedish Radiation Safety Authority (April 2008)
 - Fifth Annual Report
 - *"The few studies that have been published on health risks among populations living near transmitters have had major methodological shortcomings. However, the exposure to the general population that results from transmitters is very weak and one would not expect such exposure to produce a health risk as discussed in the previous report. Indeed, one would assume that if RF exposure at low levels is associated with a health risk it would be considerably easier to detect it in studies of mobile phone users, or highly exposed occupational groups. The overall conclusion is that exposure from transmitters is unlikely to be a health risk."*



- Health Council of the Netherlands (September 2008)
 - Review of BioInitiative Report
 - *“Upfront, therefore, the reason for writing the report was not to give an objective analysis of the current state of science, that would subsequently lead to recommendations. Instead, the aim was to present information to demonstrate why current standards are inadequate.”*
 - *“In view of the way the BioInitiative report was compiled, the selective use of scientific data and the other shortcomings mentioned above, the Committee concludes that the BioInitiative report is not an objective and balanced reflection of the current state of scientific knowledge.”*



- Australian Centre for Radiofrequency Bioeffects Research (December 2008)
 - Review of BioInitiative Report
 - *“opinions of a self-selected group of individuals who each have a strong belief that does not accord with that of current scientific consensus.”*
 - *“The BioInitiative Report has not undergone such independent peer review, and so the conclusions that it reaches would normally be viewed more as views of some of the authors, rather than strong contributions to science.”*
 - *“Overall we think that the BioInitiative Report does not progress science, and would agree with the Health Council of the Netherlands”*



- We continue to see a strong trend toward the adoption of ICNIRP based limits for mobile communications devices.
 - With the worlds two most populated countries adopting ICNIRP based limits in the last year alone.
- Those countries have reviewed and accepted the scientific rationale underpinning the ICNIRP approach.
- Scientifically, we also continue to see strong consistency in authoritative expert reviews and opinions about the lack of any evidence of a health risk associated with the use of, or proximity to, mobile communications equipment and networks.



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