



INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY
 AGENCE INTERNATIONALE DE L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE
 МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ АГЕНТСТВО ПО АТОМНОЙ ЭНЕРГИИ
 ORGANISMO INTERNACIONAL DE ENERGIA ATOMICA

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1996-03-04

Dear Dr. Pollycove,

An Informal Discussion Group on Radiation, Science and Health will meet at the IAEA Headquarters in Vienna from 22 to 24 April 1996. The discussion immediately follows two major meetings in Vienna - the International Conference on One decade after Chernobyl (8 - 12 April 1996) and the 9th World Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association (15 - 19 April 1996). The background and objective of the discussions is attached to this letter. The intention is to explore the current policies of dealing with small radiation exposures above the unavoidable background exposure.

I have the pleasure to invite you to participate in the discussions. The IAEA is not in a position to financially support your travel or stay in Vienna. If your participation is possible please confirm your attendance by return mail.

Yours sincerely,

Morris Knien

A/Deputy Director General
 Head of the Department of Nuclear Safety

Dr. Myron Pollycove, M.D.
 US NRC
 Washington D.C. 20555
 U.S.A.

"Informal Discussion Group on Radiation, Science and Health"
22 - 23 April 1996, IAEA Headquarters, Vienna

The current policies of dealing with small radiation exposures above the unavoidable background exposures have high direct and indirect costs - including creating an undue fear of radiation. The need to re-assess the situation has repeatedly been expressed by experts from the various involved disciplines.

- Objective:** To discuss the principle elements influencing national regulations limiting exposures to individuals and the public
- "Biology and Medicine"
molecular science; experiments and epidemiology (health effects);
 - "The Concept and Perception of Risk"
(radiological risk in perspective with other societal risks; public perception; communication);
 - "Implications of prevailing regulations"
(practices in medicine and industry, related compliance costs, practical examples).

Terms of Reference:

In general, to discuss an overall strategy and specific activities for further action,

- to consider the central issues,
- to identify areas for structured review,
- to advise on means to compile topical material (information sources are dispersed)