

CATANIA RESOLUTION

September 2002

The Scientists at the International Conference
State of the Research on Electromagnetic Fields Scientific and Legal
Issues,

organized by ISPESL*, the University of Vienna, and the City of Catania,

held in Catania (Italy) on September 13th 14th, 2002, agree to the
following:

1. Epidemiological and in vivo and in vitro experimental evidence demonstrates the existence for electromagnetic field (EMF) induced effects, some of which can be adverse to health.
2. We take exception to arguments suggesting that weak (low intensity) EMF cannot interact with tissue.
3. There are plausible mechanistic explanations for EMF-induced effects which occur below present ICNIRP and IEEE guidelines and exposure recommendations by the EU.
4. The weight of evidence calls for preventive strategies based on the precautionary principle. At times the precautionary principle may involve prudent avoidance and prudent use.
5. We are aware that there are gaps in knowledge on biological and physical effects, and health risks related to EMF, which require additional independent research.
6. The undersigned scientists agree to establish an international scientific commission to promote research for the protection of public health from EMF and to develop the scientific basis and strategies for assessment, prevention, management and communication of risk, based on the precautionary principle.

Fiorella Belpoggi, Fondazione Ramazzini, Italy

Carl F. Blackman, President of the Bioelectromagnetic Society
(1990-1991), Raleigh, USA

Martin Blank, Department of Physiology, Columbia University, New York,
USA

Emilio Del Giudice, INFN Milano, Italy

Livio Giuliani, University Camerino, Italy

Settimio Grimaldi, CNR-INMM, Roma, Italy

Lennart Hardell, Department of Oncology, University Hospital, Örebro, Sweden

Michael Kundi, Institute of Environmental Health, University of Vienna, Austria

Henry Lai, Department of Bioengineering, University of Washington, USA

Abraham R. Liboff, Department of Physics, Oakland University, USA

Wolfgang Lüscher, Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Pharmacy, School of Veterinary Medicine, Hannover, Germany

Kjell Hansson Mild, National Institute of Working Life, Umeå, Sweden

Wilhelm Mosgoeller, Institute for Cancer Research, University of Vienna, Austria

Elihu D. Richter, Unit of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Hebrew-University-Hadassah, Jerusalem, Israel

Umberto Scapagnini, Neuropharmacology, University of Catania, Italy, Member of the European Parliament

Stanislaw Szmigielski, Military Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Warsaw, Poland

* = Istituto Superiore per la Prevenzione e la Sicurezza del Lavoro, Italy

(National Institute for Prevention and Work Safety, Italy)

Resolución de Catania (Septiembre 2002)

Los científicos reunidos en la Conferencia Internacional de Catania sobre el estado de investigación científica de los campos electromagnéticos y las cuestiones legales, Organizada por ISPEL, la Universidad de Viena y la ciudad de Catania, celebrada en Catania (Italia) el 13 y 14 de septiembre están de acuerdo en lo siguiente:

- 1) Estudios epidemiológicos y evidencias experimentales “in vivo” e “in vitro” demuestran la existencia de efectos inducidos por los campos electromagnéticos, algunos de los cuales pueden ser adversos para la salud.
- 2) Nosotros consideramos una excepción los argumentos que sugieren que débiles (de baja intensidad) campos electromagnéticos no pueden interactuar con los tejidos.
- 3) Existen mecanismos que explican de forma plausible los efectos inducidos por los campos electromagnéticos que ocurren por debajo de los límites actuales del ICNIRP del IEEE y de las recomendaciones a exposiciones de la Unión Europea.
- 4) El peso de la evidencia reclama estrategias preventivas basadas en el principio de precaución. Al mismo tiempo el principio de precaución implica una utilización prudente y una prudente evitación.
- 5) Somos conscientes de que existen lagunas en el conocimiento de los efectos físicos y biológicos y de los riesgos para la salud provocados por los campos electromagnéticos que requieren una investigación adicional independiente.
- 6) Los científicos abajo firmantes recomiendan establecer una Comisión Internacional para promover la investigación, para proteger la salud pública de los campos electromagnéticos y para desarrollar las estrategias científicas básicas para la valoración, prevención, gestión y comunicación del riesgo basados en el principio de precaución.

Fiorella Belpoggi, Fondazione Ramazzini, Italy

Carl F. Blackman, President of the Bioelectromagnetic Society
(1990-1991), Raleigh, USA

Martin Blank, Department of Physiology, Columbia University, New York,
USA

Emilio Del Giudice, INFN Milano, Italy

Livio Giuliani, University Camerino, Italy

Settimio Grimaldi, CNR-INMM, Roma, Italy

Lennart Hardell, Department of Oncology, University Hospital, Oerebro,
Sweden

Michael Kundi, Institute of Environmental Health, University of Vienna,
Austria

Henry Lai, Department of Bioengineering, University of Washington, USA

Abraham R. Liboff, Department of Physics, Oakland University, USA

Wolfgang L_scher, Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Pharmacy,

School of Veterinary Medicine, Hannover, Germany

Kjell Hansson Mild, National Institute of Working Life, Umea, Sweden

Wilhelm Mosgoeller, Institute for Cancer Research, University of Vienna,
Austria

Elihu D. Richter, Unit of Occupational and Environmental Medicine,
Hebrew-University-Hadassah, Jerusalem, Israel

Umberto Scapagnini, Neuropharmacology, University of Catania, Italy,
Member of the European Parliament

Stanislaw Szmigielski, Military Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology,
Warsaw, Poland

* = Istituto Superiore per la Prevenzione e la Sicurezza del Lavoro,
Italy

(National Institute for Prevention and Work Safety, Italy)