

## **INVITATION TO A VIRTUAL PRESS BRIEFING WITH WHO/IARC ON OUTCOME OF EVALUATION OF RADIOFREQUENCY ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS INCLUDING MOBILE TELEPHONES.**

### **WHAT:** Virtual Press Briefing

A Working Group of 31 scientists from 14 countries is meeting at the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) in Lyon, France, from 24-31 May to assess the carcinogenic hazards associated with exposure to radiofrequency electromagnetic fields. The Working Group is considering the following exposure categories: (a) occupational exposures to radiation from radar and microwaves, (b) environmental exposures associated with transmission of signals for radio, television and wireless telecommunication, and (c) personal exposures associated with the use of mobile telephones (cell phones).

The conclusions and evaluations of the Working Group will be made public during a press conference. These assessments will be published as Volume 102 of the *IARC Monographs*. The *IARC Monographs* are the result of a scientific evaluation by a committee of experts to determine whether an environmental factor is either carcinogenic, probably carcinogenic, or possibly carcinogenic to humans. National health agencies can use this information as scientific support for their actions to prevent exposure to potential carcinogens.

### **Speakers:**

Dr Jonathan Samet, Chairperson of the IARC Working Group

Dr Christopher Wild, IARC Director

Dr Kurt Straif, Head, IARC Monographs Program

Dr Robert Baan, Senior Scientist, Officer in Charge, IARC Monographs vol 102

**WHEN:** Tuesday 31 May 2011 at 18:00 (CEST)

**Note:** In addition to the virtual press briefing at 18:00, there will be a live, in-person briefing for media in Lyon at 1900hrs on site at IARC; 150, cours Albert Thomas, 69008 Lyon, France

For the virtual press briefing, journalists can listen in to the press briefing and ask questions by dialing one of the numbers given below.

### **Instructions for dialling in:**

Please try to call in 10 minutes before the conference begins in order to be registered correctly. From the list below, please use the number closest to you. If you are experiencing any problems accessing a number, please dial the phone number in Switzerland: **+41 44 580 46 23**

Switzerland : +41 44 580 46 23

Switzerland (toll free): 0800 875 001

Belgium: +32 24 00 68 89  
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Canada: (toll free)+1 866 848 6580  
Canada: +1 514 315 3157  
China, Hong Kong SAR: +852 306 898 39  
Finland: +358 98171 0320  
France: +33 17 070 9505  
France: (toll free) 0805 110 279  
Germany: +49 69 2222 4990  
Hungary: +36 123 553 34  
Ireland: +3531 246 0301  
India: 00080 0100 6556  
Indonesia 001 803 011 3597  
Italy: +39 02 3601 0954  
Japan: +81 3 44 55 14 44  
Malaysia: +60 36 279 5050  
Morocco:  
Step 1: 002 11 0011  
Step 2: 8 885 429 901  
Mexico: 001 866 381 9262  
Netherlands: +31 207 947 913  
New Zealand: +64 9308 3094  
Federal Republic of Russia:+74 957457 975  
South Africa: 08 0099 8664  
Spain: +34 914142006  
Sweden: +46 856 610 476  
UK: +44 20 30 43 2 466  
USA:(toll free) +1 866 385 9214  
USA: +1 703 621 9130

On connecting, type **PIN code: 29224106#** on your telephone keypad and then record your name and media outlet and then press again the **#** key.

To **ask a question** during the question and answer session, registered participants should **type 01** on their telephone keypad.

Link to the **audio file** posted shortly after the briefing:

[http://terrance.who.int/mediacentre/audio/press\\_briefings/](http://terrance.who.int/mediacentre/audio/press_briefings/)

**For further information please contact:**

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More information can be found on <http://monographs.iarc.fr/>

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) is part of the World Health Organization.

IARC's mission is to coordinate and conduct research on the causes of human cancer, the mechanisms of carcinogenesis, and to develop scientific strategies

for cancer prevention and control. The Agency is involved in both epidemiological and laboratory research and disseminates scientific information through publications, meetings, courses, and fellowships.

The *IARC Monographs Program* is tasked with identifying environmental factors that can increase the risk of human cancer. These include chemicals, complex mixtures, occupational exposures, physical agents, biological agents, and lifestyle factors. National health agencies can use this information as scientific support for their actions to prevent exposure to potential carcinogens.

Interdisciplinary working groups of expert scientists review the published studies and evaluate the weight of the evidence that an agent can increase the risk of cancer. The principles, procedures, and scientific criteria that guide the evaluations are described in the Preamble to the *IARC Monographs*.

Since 1971, more than 900 agents have been evaluated, of which more than 400 have been identified as *carcinogenic*, *probably carcinogenic*, or *possibly carcinogenic* to humans.

More information on IARC can be found at: [www.iarc.fr](http://www.iarc.fr)

More information on WHO can be found at: [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)