Supervision of the Radiation Protection Convention (No. 115) - the ILO Supervisory System and the new General Observation on Convention No. 115
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ILO occupational safety and health Conventions

A robust body of standards

General occupational safety and health Conventions as well as standards addressing specific risks and certain sectors
C.013 - White Lead (Painting) Convention, 1921
C.027 - Marking of Weight (Packages Transported by Vessels) Convention, 1929
C.032 - Protection against Accidents (Dockers) Convention (Revised), 1932
C.045 - Underground Work (Women) Convention, 1935
C.062 - Safety Provisions (Building) Convention, 1937
C.115 - Radiation Protection Convention, 1960
C.119 - Guarding of Machinery Convention, 1963
C.120 - Hygiene (Commerce and Offices) Convention, 1964
C.127 - Maximum Weight Convention, 1967
C.136 - Benzene Convention, 1971
C.139 - Occupational Cancer Convention, 1974
C.152 - Occupational Safety and Health (Dock Work) Convention, 1979
C.155 - Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981
C.161 - Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985
C.162 - Asbestos Convention, 1986 (No. 162)
C.166 - Sandwich Materials Convention, 1988
C.167 - Safety in the Use of Machinery Convention
C.170 - Domestic Participation in Work Convention
C.174 - Personal Protective Equipment Convention
C.176 - Safety and Hygiene in Construction Work Convention
C.184 - Safety in Mines Convention, 2001
C.187 - Prevention of Accidents at Work in Agriculture, Fishing and Horticulture
P.155 - Safety and Health of Metalworkers
C.167 - Safety and Health in Construction Convention, 1988
C.170 - Chemicals Convention, 1990
C.174 - Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents Convention, 1993
C.176 - Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995
C.184 - Safety and Health in Agriculture Convention, 2001
**ILO supervisory system**

- Based on regular reporting requirements
  - Every 5 years for Convention No. 115 (or as requested)
- Active participation by social partners
  - *Social partners to be consulted and have right to comment*
- Systematic legal evaluation
- Possible political scrutiny
The Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR)

- Meets every November-December
- Committee of 20 eminent jurists
- Evaluates the application of ILO Conventions
- Addresses individual comments to each party and General Observations to all parties
- Records compliance with comments or observations "with satisfaction" and progress "with interest"
Conference Committee on the Application of Standards

- Meets every June
- In a published document, the CEACR reports a selected number of comments (observations) to the Conference Committee
- A limited number of published comments may be discussed at the ILO Conference
Radiation Protection Convention, 1960 (No. 115)

Number of Ratifications: 50

The countries that have ratified Convention No. 115: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and Uruguay.
• Convention No. 115 aims at ensuring effective protection of workers, as regards their health and safety, against ionising radiations. For this, all appropriate steps shall be taken "in the light of knowledge available at the time." (Article 3)
• Convention No. 115 also requires keeping dose limits for various categories of workers under constant review in the light of current knowledge (Article 6).
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON C. 115

- 1987 - Based on ICRP No. 26, 1977
- 1992 - Based on ICPR No. 60-61, 1991 and the ILO Code of Practice on Radiation Protection of Workers (ionizing radiations), 1986
- 2015 - Based on 2007 ICRP Publication 103 and the revised Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards (General Safety Requirements Part 3)
General Observation of 2015

Developed with the support and collaboration of the IAEA

Adopted by the CEACR in December 2015
  • Presentation by the IAEA on radiation protection at the CEACR's session

Published in February 2016 in the Committee of Experts' report.
General Observation of 2015

Two parts:
- The first part is a summary of the recommendations of the ICRP and the IAEA.
- The second part is the CEACR's conclusions on the measures that should be taken, to give effect to the Convention, in light of these recommendations.
- A copy of the general observation will be sent to all 50 countries that have ratified the Convention, and they will be asked to provide information on the measures they are taking with respect to the guidance given.
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