

Porto Alegre, May 19th, 2009

To Your Excellency  
Luis Inácio Lula da Silva  
President of the Federative Republic of Brazil  
Brasilia, DF  
Brazil

Dear President Lula,

We, the undersigned scientists, were honored to be invited by the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul and the Public Ministry of Rio Grande do Sul, to attend the **International Workshop on Non-Ionizing Radiation, Health and Environment**, which took place on May 18 and 19, 2009, in Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil.

At this conference we were informed that the Brazilian parliament passed a law, subsequently sanctioned by Your Excellency on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009, which adopted the ICNIRP (International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection) guidelines as legally binding exposure standards for non-ionizing electromagnetic fields.

We and many other scientists, including some from Brazil, reviewed the scientific evidence about low- and high-frequency electromagnetic fields; this evidence indicates that exposure to these fields may interfere with basic human biology and increase the risk of cancer and other chronic diseases. The exposure levels at which these effects have been observed are many times lower than the standards promulgated by ICNIRP. The ICNIRP standards are obsolete and were derived from biological effects of short-term, high-intensity exposures that cause health effects by temperature change and nerve excitations discovered decades ago and do not take recent research data into account. Recent research indicates that electromagnetic fields could cause detrimental health effects even at very low levels of exposure.

We urge Your Excellency to join Switzerland, Italy, Russia, China, US FCC (for partial exposure of the head) and other countries and regions that have chosen to adopt a more precautionary strategy, aiming to assure more safety to the public. The ICNIRP standard is being supported and promoted by interested parties to

avoid precautionary technological planning, precautionary laws, and precautionary advice to the public.

We finally urge Your Excellency to convene a panel of experts, selected from candidates recommended by various civil society groups (not only those preferred by the affected industries) to discuss precautionary technology, laws, and advice which could lead your country to create an environment that supports a public health goal of exposures many times lower than the ICNIRP standards but which will not halt the further use of wireless communication technology such as mobile phone, as well as electrical power transmission and distribution systems.

A modern precautionary approach is urgently warranted in contemporary society where long-term, low-level exposures are common. Brazil has the opportunity to be a leading force in this direction.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Franz Adlkofer, Executive Director and Member of the Board of VERUM - Foundation for Behaviour and Environment in Munich, Germany

Dr. Martin Blank, professor in the Department of Physiology and Cellular Biophysics at Columbia University, former President of the Bioelectrochemical Society and former President (1997) of the Bioelectromagnetics Society, USA

Dr. Carl Blackman, a founder and former president (1990) of the Bioelectromagnetics Society, USA

Dr. Devra Davis, Director of the Center for Environmental Oncology at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, University of Pittsburgh, USA

Dr. Om P. Gandhi, former President (1993) of the Bioelectromagnetics Society, Fellow of IEEE-MTT, Receptient of d' Arsonval Medal of Bioelectromagnetics Society, Receptient of Microwave Pioneer Award of IEEE –MTT, Professor, University of Utah, USA

Dr. Livio Giuliani, School of Clinical Biochemistry University of Camerino,  
Scientific Secretariat International Commission for Electromagnetic Safety- ICEMS,  
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Ms. Elizabeth Kelley, M.A., Managing Secretariat International Commission For  
Electromagnetic Safety - ICEMS, USA

Dr. Michael Kundi, head of the Institute of Environmental Health of the Medical  
University of Vienna, Austria

Dr. Henry Lai, research professor in the Department of Bioengineering, University  
of Washington, USA

Dr. Raymond Richard Neutra, MD, Dr.PH, Chief, Emeritus, Division of  
Environmental and Occupational Disease Control, California Department of Public  
Health, USA

Dr. Leif G. Salford, MD, PhD, professor and chairman, Dept. of Neurosurgery,  
Lund University, Lund, Sweden