The Radiological Exposure of the EC Population from Radioactivity in the Mediterranean Sea Project MARINA-MED

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The Commission of the European Communities has started a project called MARINA-MED to study the radiological exposure of the population of the European community from radioactivity in Mediterranean waters.

At this aim a working party has been set up, firstly to prepare a review of the disposal of liquid radioactive effluents directly or indirectly into the Mediterranean sea, secondly to develop a more detailed model of dispersion in the Mediterranean sea based on the work carried out for project MARINA on North European waters, thirdly to evaluate the quantities, distribution and end-uses of marine products, and finally to assess the exposure of quanti public.

To achieve these goals four subgroups have been established, covering respectively:
- sources of radioactivity in the Mediterranean sea;
- environmental measurements and critical group dose assessments;

- quantities and utilization of marine products;
 collective dose assessment.

- The following sources of radioactivity will be taken into account:
 discharges from all civil nuclear sites up to the end of 1990;
 fallout from weapons testing;
 natural radionuclides;

 - Chernobyl deposition

Regarding environmental measurements all available monitoring data will be collected. These data will also serve top test the revised Mediterranean marine dispersion model.

As regard the survey of the quantities and utilization of marine products, consideration shall be given to where the products originate, where they go and what fraction is consumed in individual Member States. From these data an assessment of individual doses to critical groups of the population will be made.

Finally a collective dose assessment will be made for the Member States.