## Session 6

## Ethics in Radiological Protection

## The Focal Role of Tolerability and Reasonableness in the Radiological Protection System

## T. Schneider

Nuclear Evaluation Protection Centre (CEPN), Fontenay-aux-Roses, France

The concepts of tolerability and reasonableness are at the core of ICRP system of radiological protection. Tolerability allows one to define boundaries for the implementation of ICRP principles, while reasonableness contributes to finding an adequate level of protection, taking into account economic and societal aspects given the prevailing circumstances. In the 1970s and 1980s, attempts to find the base of tolerability (risk comparison) and reasonableness (cost-benefit analysis) failed. In practice, searching for these concepts will never end: in order to make a wise decision, it will always depend on the prevailing circumstances, knowledge, and experience. The presentation will discuss the constituents of tolerability and reasonableness, which would improve the implementation of the radiation protection system. The main objectives are to: do more good than harm (beneficience); avoid unnecessary risk (prudence); seek a fair distribution of exposures (justice); and, treat people with respect (dignity). It will also emphasise the increasing role of stakeholder engagement in the quest for tolerable and reasonable since ICRP *Publication 103*.