

#### IIAS/EHT Expert Forum 2017: Wireless Radiation and Human Health

#### Multi-media efforts to promote public and health professional understanding of wireless radiation

Dr. Stella Canna Michaelidou President of the Cyprus National Committee on Environment and Children's Health

"We aim to minimize avoidable environmentally linked diseases and disabilities, by reducing children's exposure to risk factors"



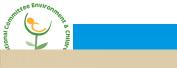
### CYPRUS NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH

(Ministerial Council Decision No. 59.304, 28/1/04)

A Multidisciplinary, scientific Comm. Proposed and financed by Min. of Health and appointed by the Council of Ministers. Our mandate is .

- \* To provide <u>scientific support/advice</u> to the Minister of Health, other Ministers, Regulators and Decision Makers.
- \* To raise awareness and promote integration of prevention and precaution into policies and every day life
- \* To insure prompt response to <u>not fully established but well</u> documented risks and emerging threats

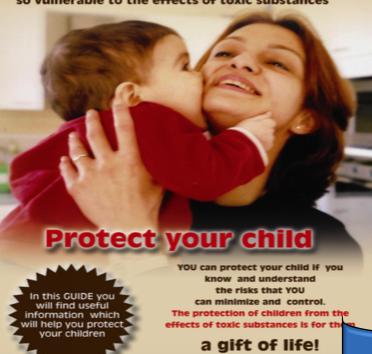
Education of the society - training of Professionals



Cyprus National Committee on "Environment and Children's Health"

Our children - so valuable and so vulnerable to the effects of toxic substances

# ADDRESSING EMERGING OR NOT FULLY DEFINED and or /REGULATED RISKS





Mobile phones, Wi-Fi
Wireless Tech

Face painting

Energy saving lamps (CFLs with Hg)

# WHY we are addressing wireless technology (mobile phones, Wi-Fi/WiMAX, Bluetooth, DECT baby monitors, tablets etc)

- 1. Exposure is Unique, affecting entire population it is multiple, intermittent. Child exposure starts from embryo to adolescent
- 2. <u>Legislation</u> based on (*ICNIRP* / EC Recom. 1999/519
- \* <u>Does not address long term</u> well documented biological effects (happening at extremely lower levels), nor Potential Carcinogenicity. It does not address <u>enhanced exposure and vulnerability</u> of foetuses & children.
- 3. <u>Uncertain Safety of the Technology</u>. Emerging devices <u>without premarket</u> <u>testing</u> especially for long term effects on children

- 4. People are not adequately informed about the risks and may have erroneous perceptions of safety
- 5. <u>Good Practices</u> and alternatives DO EXIST to reduce exposure



# HOW we are addressing wireless technology

POLICY LEVEL
An open dialogue
to avoid Wi-Fi:

- ❖ Min. Of Health
- Min. of EducationWorking closely with
- \* Parliament
- Environment
  Commissioner

FOCUS ON HOUSE AND SCHOOLS ... depending on the age children spend at least 60-90% of their time

RAISE AWARENESS & PROMOTE PRECAUTIONARY ATTITUDES

PARENTS

### TRAINING AND EDUCATION

- Paediatricians
- Health care providers
- · Teachers
- · children

To UNDERSTAND
THE RISK, LEARN
HOW TO AVOID
and MINIMIZE
EXPOSURE



### Multi-media actions and tools

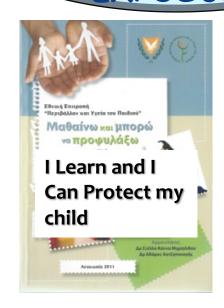
WEB Videos

Seminars - TRAINING

Media TV/radio Press



UNDERSTAND
THE RISK, LEARN
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## Final Thoughts

Even if we accept that biological effects, despite the growing concrete evidence, are not yet "fully established", we should not underestimate that:

- 1. The safety of the fast emerging technology in most of the cases has not been tested nor proved and,
- 2. Potential effects on children e.g cognitive etc are serious

Can we risk our children's future waiting for full evidence, allowing them to become potential "experimental animals"?

We can and must reduce the EXPOSURE. By applying PRECAUTION and Rational Technology application.

We must push for safer REGULATIONS ADJUSTED TO CHILDREN SPECIFICITIES (ANSES 2016)





www.cyprus-child-environment.org