

Fluor and Iodine Commission: Annual Report 2015

Mission

Initially founded to accompany the developments in connection with the usage of iodized salt in Switzerland, the commission nowadays engages in scientific and technical questions concerning iodine and fluoride intake, monitors intake of these nutrients and concerns itself with political issues in this field.

Members

Prof. Michael Bruce Zimmermann, Zürich, Präsident
Dr. Maria Andersson, Zürich, Dr. Michael Beer, BAG representative, Bern
Prof. Hans Gerber, Bern, Prof. Christoph A. Meier, Zürich
Dr. Giorgio Menghini, Zürich, Dr. Katharina Quack Lötscher, Oberrieden
Prof. Sabine Rohrmann, Zürich, Stefan Trachsel, Pratteln
Prof. Tuomas Waltimo, Basel

Activities 2015

1. The annual commission meeting took place at the Swiss Salt Works in Pratteln, on March 15, 2015. Several issues were discussed in detail, including the execution of the 2015-2016 Swiss iodine survey, the new ETH study on iodine contribution in Switzerland from milk and milk products, the current situation of iodized versus non-iodized salt sales in Switzerland, and the report from the BAG/BLV suggesting that 53% of Swiss food companies are using iodized salt in their products.
3. Using funding provided by the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health and inputs into the study design from the commission, the Swiss national iodine survey began in March 2015, including sampling of children, pregnant women and women of reproductive age.

Outlook

1. The commission will meet at the ETH Zurich on March 9, 2016 for their annual meeting.
2. The major activity for 2016 will be the completion of the national iodine survey, analysis of the results, and making recommendations based on the findings to the Swiss government.



Michael Bruce Zimmermann, Zürich, February 10, 2016