

## **Fluor and Iodine Commission: Annual Report 2014**

### **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 2014**

1. An important activity of the first 3-4 months of the year was answering public and media reports, concerns and questions in response to the increase in the iodine content of Swiss salt from 20 to 25 ppm, which occurred on January 1, 2014.
2. The annual commission meeting took place at the ETH Zurich, on March 6, 2014, at 9:30-12:00. Several issues were discussed in detail, including the planned 2015 Swiss iodine survey, and the current situation of iodized versus non-iodized salt sales in Switzerland.
3. Planning for the 2015 national iodine survey of Switzerland, including sampling of children, pregnant women and women of reproductive age. Based on funding provided by the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health, inputs into the study design from the commission, and execution by the ETH Zurich, the study will begin in March 2015.

### **Outlook**

1. The commission will meet at the Swiss Salt Works in Pratteln on March 18, 2015 for their annual meeting.
2. The major activity for 2015 will be the execution 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 27, 2015*