

Minutes from COCI Strategy meeting – Feb.2, 2004

1. Welcome

Attendees – Evans, Cesa, Humphris, Wright, Unger, Meyers

2. Differentiated role of COCI

A brainstorm of the unique roles of COCI provided the following results:

Three Major Areas for Differentiation of COCI:

Economic Development

Societal Development

Environmental Stewardship - with a particular focus on safety of products, health issues, etc

- with emphasis on topics of **global**, rather than national, importance

The Terms of Reference for COCI were reviewed in this context

Action: COCI membership to propose input on modifications of Terms of Reference for discussion at next COCI annual meeting.

Sidebar – should Just be point of contact for key IUPAC-COCI matters, such as modification of the TOR's? Yes, as single point of contact. In addition, contacts with other leadership on informal basis, for example by copying into correspondence.

Summary of key areas for focus (after ranking exercise, in decreasing order of importance)

1. Capacity Building

COCI safety projects as examples
(Role of ICCA as model)

2. Public perception of chemistry

Translating science for the public
Database of the benefits of chemistry to society (IUPAC project)
Database of best current initiatives, available materials (IUPAC Task Team)
Need for change in academia, industry and government
Need to address public fear of science and technology

3. Possible NGO Role of IUPAC

AllChemE model – non-political platform for debates
AllChemE's successful role in catalyzing EU debate
Presenting a "scientific straight-edge" on topical issues

Communication conduit
Trade association views
National societies

Global focus – cf. World Council for Sustainable Development

(China, India, developing world, as well as industrialized countries)

4. **Reputation and Trust**
 - Build on IUPAC's reputation for excellent science
 - Utilize IUPAC's availability of scientific expertise across chemistry
 - Build on Trade Association programs and Responsible Care

5. **Role in setting up debates**
 - Within scientific community
 - Outside scientific community – political arena (see #3 above)

6. **Intellectual Property Rights**
 - Training for industrial and academic scientists

3. Future *modus operandi* for COCI

Evans began by explaining his proposal for the future operation of COCI. He favoured a project team-based model in which project leaders would be responsible for implementation of project objectives. The project leader might well involve other COCI members in the initiative. Progress with projects would be presented by each of the leaders at the annual meetings of COCI and these presentations would make up a major part of the business of the meetings. The group supported this model and noted the value with regard to identifying successors for the senior COCI posts.

Whereas several 'volunteers' had come forward as leaders of projects, it had not been possible to identify a Treasurer.

Action: Fabienne to discuss with Jost on which accounting/treasurer duties could be taken care of at RTP. Due date 29 Feb 2004.

Unger's assignment with COCI will be retitled as NAO/National Representatives Coordinator with responsibilities as focus for National Chemical Organizations/National Reps/NAO.

Action: Unger to arrange for Korean NR be appointed via solicitation from Secretariat or through Chon and for Canadian NR, before next COCI annual meeting.

Action: Unger to follow up on suggested nominee as NR or AM for Nordic Countries, before next COCI annual meeting.

4. The COCI Company Associates Program

For the CA program to be attractive there would need to be clear benefits to participating companies. Four key questions were addressed:

Where does COCI/IUPAC have influence of interest to industry?

Where and how can companies become involved in these areas?

How does IUPAC/COCI provide professional development opportunities?

Are there opportunities for CA's to influence COCI/IUPAC directions – including projects?

An early task for the CA program would be to provide a more compelling brochure which indicated the benefits of CA membership. A brief five section brochure was envisaged

ACTION: Draft of each section of proposed brochure as below, to be completed by 9 Feb 2004

Fabienne: Statement of "we're not just the periodic table anymore"

Unger: List of past/current IUPAC contributions benefiting industry

Humphris: Statement on influencing opportunities

Cesa: Professional development

Evans: Potential workslate for COCI

Action: Evans to contact Ishitani with a draft of the brochure for his input and comments. Ishitani, after completion of brochure, to contact CAs and prospective CAs to find out their requirements (and what they don't want), before next COCI annual meeting.

Project System

The 'new' COCI will need to fund its initiatives through the IUPAC project system.

Basic Outline for Projects initiated by COCI - Proposal

Consult resource of global industry issues – ICCA, etc. – to establish demand from industry

Choose issue of relevance to industry customers

Formulate boundaries of project and seek appropriate collaboration with IUPAC division(s)

Apply to IUPAC – request technical expertise

Write proposal and submit to IUPAC system

Seek industrial funding and involvement at every step

Actions:

Evans to work with Alles to delineate mechanism for preparing project proposals from COCI and communicate.

Alles to be key information source for IUPAC project submission process.

Alles to maintain a list of COCI project proposals and status. Smith to help with making contact with potential collaborators in other divisions

All COCI members to participate in project generation and proposals.

COCI Involvement in Projects initiated outside COCI

Currently, IUPAC is funding around 150 projects, details of which are given on the IUPAC website. Some of these projects are of relevance to industry and CA's. It was proposed that a simple system should be put in place to communicate projects of interest to CA's.

Action: Alles to develop a mechanism for communicating projects of industrial relevance

It was also considered important for COCI to be involved with new project proposals from other Divisions in cases where there is industrial relevance – this involvement could range from helpful suggestions to collaboration.

Action: Alles (with Smith) to develop monitoring mechanism for proposals initiated outside COCI

It was proposed as an experiment that selected companies could be offered CA status without payment of dues. It was proposed to focus on associate NAO's

Action: Evans to contact Ishitani about drafting letter to offer selected major companies to become CA's without dues. Focus on associate NAO's:

Mexico

Singapore

Philippines

Romania

Pakistan

NB -Note added after the meeting:

Contact with the Secretariat has clarified that it would be essential to work via the appropriate NAO's. The view is that the prime responsibility for recruiting new CA's is with the NAO, but of course COCI involvement is also welcomed. On the other hand, the responsibility of delivering benefits to the CA's rests with COCI

5. The COCI Trade Association Program

Notes on Colin Humphris' remarks:

Interactions –

- Companies volunteer staff to get directly involved - professional development
- COCI/IUPAC brokers academics' interactions with the TA's
- Industry view on project priorities

Influence –

- Harvesting IUPAC's formidable array of academic scientific talent
- IUPAC as neutral forum to bring objectivity to critical scientific issues of global interest
- Critical NGO role as a scientific straight-edge

Possible Interested TA Organizations

- ICCA (global level) TAG (technical affairs group within ICCA) – no permanent staff
- FECS, CEFIC (European view) and other regional organizations
- ACC, ACS, RSC, JCIA (national view)

Action: Colin Humphris to draft before the COCI annual meeting a proposal on how TAs currently interact with or view IUPAC and COCI, and how might they interact with IUPAC in the future

It was felt to be useful to illustrate benefits to TA's by describing one or two positive examples.

Action: Wright to solicit brief communication on DIDAC as UNESCO/COCI interaction, to be used as example of interactions between IUPAC and external agencies.

Action: Cesa to write paragraph on how UNESCO has supported Safety Training Program. Due date 9 Feb 2004.

Day 2 - Feb. 3, 2004

Concern was expressed over potential overlap of CA/TA activities within COCI. Agreement was reached that as a general rule an appropriate focus was to involve CA's at the scientific level, whereas TA relationships will explore commercial/HSE/political/ societal (geo-political) benefits.

We will also explore closer interactions with IUPAC divisions in the context of Division activities at biannual conferences. The potential for IUPAC involvement in Divisional meetings e.g. sponsorship of a panel discussion on industrial aspects of the Division's work was also raised.

Action: Smith to monitor

6. Other Strategic Issues for COCI

Some preparatory work for new projects was proposed ahead of the Annual meeting. The list was derived largely in the context of the priority items described in agendum 2:

Action: The following persons were given the task of an initial appraisal of each of the subject areas below for feasibility of new COCI-led projects. These persons will then become, or nominate, "champions" for each.

Evans: Public Appreciation of chemistry – in conjunction with CCE
Evans: Translation of Science (cf. Green Facts website)
Humphris: Communication of Risk (Bernard to assist?)
Evans: Trust and Reputation of Scientists
Unger: Energy (Popov to assist?)
Pokrovsky?: Water
Smith?: Science and Public Policy - workshop
Pokrovsky? : Case studies on successful transfers within IUPAC to public agencies
Evans: Joining up technology foresight with future commercial scenarios
Smith? : COCI involvement in Divisional Meetings – sponsorship of panel discussion on industrial aspects ?

Other possible areas for study:

Action: Humphris to explore option of getting comments from TA's on technical reports and recommendations from IUPAC via *Pure and Applied Chemistry*.

Action: Cesa to distribute brief description of project stage-gate evaluation system for consideration as a means of tracking progress on new projects.

Action: Ishitani to consider preparation of biannual communication to CAs on activities of divisions and other IUPAC activities (e.g. review *Pure and Applied Chemistry* journal for items of relevance to CA's)

Action: Cesa to use IUPAC project system for future funding of Safety training Program

Succession for Secretary

Will be assessed over the next 6 – 12 months.

7.COCI Annual Meeting 2004

Action: 1st choice Brussels May 9 – 11. Humphris to investigate hotel rooms, and meeting rooms. TMs will have travel supported, others with any funding they can raise. Unger's advice available based on his success in organizing last off-year COCI meeting in Sundsvall.

Action: 2nd choice Osaka May 9 – 11. Cesa to contact Ishitani if Brussels not likely. Unger's advice available.

Agenda topics:

Chair's report

Secretary's report

Financial items

Minutes from last annual meeting and strategy meeting – basis for organization

New Project Discussion – status, plans, inputs, suggestions (1 hr each)

TM reports on areas of responsibility (1 hr each)

Commitments/next steps

Draft of new CA brochure will be provided for review.

Speakers will be asked to prepare pre-read materials: Plan 15-20 minute overview with 40-45 minute discussion period.

Objectives

Progress to date

Plans

Open questions for discussion

Action: Evans - Leiv Sydnes and Bryan Henry will be invited.

7a. Beijing

Action: COCI/CHEMRAWN innovation joint meeting. – COCI to be involved in specific theme and organization of this workshop – Evans to liaise with Droescher. "Innovation in chemical Industry and "Responsible Care" - Droescher is task group chair. Smith to be involved?.

Action: STP workshop as part of Congress program. Cesa follow-up.