

COCI PROJECT MEETING LYNDHURST 26/27 APRIL 2007

Present: Mark Cesa (Chairman), Mike Booth (Secretary/Treasurer), Aldo Bologna Alles, Fabienne Meyers, Colin Humphris, Akira Ishitani, Bernard West, Michael Droscher (26 only), Alan Smith (27 only), David Evans (27 only), Bryan Henry (27 only), Alex Pokrovsky , Roger Smith

Cesa welcomed everyone to the meeting. A particularly warm welcome was extended to Roger Smith (representing the Analytical Division) and Bryan Henry (President of IUPAC) on the second day for their participation.

Update on Recent IUPAC Activities

Cesa provided an update on IUPAC activities and said the focus of his review would be the Congress, General Assembly, Governance and Project Review. Five projects were currently in progress.

(Cesa slides)

COCI events since July 2006

EU Regional Meeting 2008

RC Handling of chemicals

Safety training programme

Occupational Health and Safety meeting in East Africa

Two trainees would be visiting Mitsui Chemical Co. of Tokyo, Japan for the safety training programme in June 2007.

COCI Corner. We need to engage with chemical industry as the Corner was not restricted to contributions from COCI Members solely.

Chemical Associates recruitment. Three new company associates had been recruited from the USA, three from Russia and the former Soviet Union. The latter are largely research organisations.

The WCLM topic of emerging issues in health and environmental safety and regulations is intended to be of interest to industry as well as academe.

The Bureau Meeting in Madrid covered the problem created by the exit of the Vice President who had been voted in at the General Assembly in Beijing. This would mean that the new President would not have had the benefit of the VP role. Various Senior and long standing members of IUPAC were being approached if they were willing to stand.

Some proposals had been received from Polymer Division. Secretary Black had made some suggestions as well.

There was also the matter of the vacancy that would occur with the term of office of the current Treasurer finishing.

There is a need to streamline the operational efficiency of IUPAC and a Task Group has been put in place to tackle the issue. There is no impediment in the Bye-Laws to doing this. CCE, COCI, CHEMRAWN could become voting members in the future. There are differences in the ways Standing Committees and Divisions members are chosen. Divisions are by vote.

Rescheduling of the General Assembly- Looking at the sequence of Bureau and Executive meetings.

(E-mail from John Jost 10 April: Schedule of future Bureau and Executive Meetings.)

Round Table discussion at Torino- Moderator to report at the Council Meeting on outcomes of discussion.

WCLM was discussed

International Year of Chemistry- Possibility is now 2011 (see comments later)

Cesa covered the criteria for assessing the impact of projects on chemistry in general. This was done at present, in part, by the number of citations appearing in Journals. Our projects could not necessarily be done by this criteria. Humphris asked how we could improve on this. IUPAC operates on its effect on statutes and Bye-Laws? Many projects exceed completion dates. Ours look okay. Thanks to Alles's checking!

Cesa reported that the STP workshop in Torino was on the Thursday morning

Brazil and Argentina had been sanctioned for nonpayment of dues. Bureau Members had been asked for ideas on how to overcome non-payment of dues and other ways of invoicing countries? Attraction of new NAOs. This needs to be addressed, particularly with developing countries.

Bids for the 2011 General Assembly and Congress had been received from Puerto Rico and Turkey. Here was an opportunity to get Latin American Countries involved with IUPAC. Applications had been received from IUPAC from Cuba, Uruguay and Ethiopia

COCI Membership 2008-2009

A Task Team consisting of Cesa as Chair, Booth as Secretary and a person within IUPAC who has had good involvement with IUPAC but not a member directly involved in COCI. Could be on the Bureau and person with influence.

Committee to suggest appropriate person.

Action: Booth and Cesa to follow up.

Who is going in the next two years? Need to bring in new blood as guest/observer.

Action: Booth and Cesa e-mail for rejuvenating membership.

Revisit criteria for membership. Active, influential and diverse committee. Those who don't regularly attend should be removed from the committee.

Budget and Finance

COCI is providing a lower contribution to projects eg. STP workshop. Projects are viewed favourably by IUPAC because we can get outside funding.

Action: Alles and Booth will provide an itemised budget for next biennium. Deadline 15 June.

Project Leader Reports

Michael Droescher offered Germany for meeting next year.

Agreed two meetings plus the General Assembly

Agreed meeting in 2008 would be in May.

Droescher offered Degussa as possible Host Company for STP candidates.

Astra Zeneca was still a possibility.

Two already going to Japan. Five needing Hosts.

(Cesa slide)

Safety Training Workshop – 9 August

(Cesa slide)

Public face of the industry- presentation on the STP needed at an ICCA meeting.

Action: Humphris will follow up.

UNESCO needs to be kept involved. Pokrovsky offered to pen an appropriate letter. At the CCE meetings in Mauritius and Kenya the same talk could be given as for ICCA. Delegates from WHO and UNEP attending the WCLM could sit in on the STP workshop. Opportunity to tap into their organisation.

Action for Humphris to follow up.

Knowledge transfer organisations in UK could be prospective Company Members.

2011 was confirmed as being International Year of Chemistry. There would be collaboration with UNESCO to declare the event. Pokrovsky would guide the process with the UN as UNESCO itself cannot declare 2011

Public Appreciation of Chemistry

(Evan's slide)

Article for Chemical International in July.

'IUPAC Speaker Pack' How to give a lecture.

Action: Evans' would circulate the pack for comment to the committee.

Evans' mentioned 'A Simple Guide to the principles of Scientific Method' More on scientific method. Follow up on article on how to debate with NGOs.

An important issue is the matter of "uncertainty".

Henry mentioned that within ICSU there is a Psychological Union which we might tap into together with CCE on this topic. Call for proposals in next few months.

RSC and CEFIC have a website called 'Making Sense From Science'

Speaker kit would be useful for fresh graduates and Chemists in industry.

Pokrovsky can translate Evans' document into other languages- Russia and Arabic.

Action: Evans' will circulate pamphlet on 'Giving a Talk' after Humphris has perused it. Evans' will write Chemistry International article.

Company Recruitment

(Evans' slides)

New brochure. Who pays? Secretariat agreed at the Bureau meeting to cover the cost.

Action: Evans, Cesa, Booth to follow up on arrangements for preparation and printing of new brochure.

Company Associates will help to develop Agenda ie we need industry input. Henry will ensure that the departure of Erin Carter from the IUPAC office will not prejudice the CA programme. We need someone like Meyers to provide leadership role.

Action: Pokrovsky: Chemistry International article on successes on recruitment in Russia.

Persons in IUPAC- would be a good channel into industry. Need to provide brochures as well as encourage personal interaction. Henry offered to promote in Malaysia. An untapped resource of CAs is the oil industry.

Action: Henry could promote IUPAC at the ICCA meeting in Brussels at the beginning of October.

Unger has had little success in recruiting Italian CAs. Humphris will contact two companies he has contact with and Cesa will follow up Ineos (Italy)

Action: Booth to follow up those companies who have sponsored the Congress.

A further action will be to follow up with John Jost and Black those companies that have sponsored IUPAC conferences recently.

Action: Booth

NGO/IGO/Trade Associations

(Humphris' slides)

There is still an opportunity for IUPAC to become a scientific NGO.

WCLM in Torino. UNEP and WHO should be involved. We are trying to get NGO status with SAICM

Action: Humphris to notify Michael Freemantle at Chemical and Engineering News about article on meeting.

Action: The committee was asked to suggest people to add to the debate or to attend the WCLM.

Responsible Care

(West's slides)

COCI and IUPAC. \$4500 apiece secured. Other USD 9000 still to be arranged through ICCA and UNESCO.

Pokrovsky will investigate UNESCO. This should be done by the 30 June. He said that we should close Kenya workshop matter now and get contract in by 20 June for this project. Humphris will talk to Geoff Lewis about sponsorship. David Ferbis is the person at CEFIC on RC. He will speak to WWF Chemical Division as well.

A question was asked if the book would be available for publication? If UNESCO is providing sponsorship then this would not be possible. Meyers would follow this up.

West suggested we could proceed with the Case Study using the COCI/ IUPAC funds and use the extra money for the development of the book. (Time lines are given in his slides).

Division/Standing Committee Collaboration

Cesa will give update at each of the Division Meetings at the General Assembly. We should establish whether our representatives are acceptable to the Divisions. All representatives should be prepared to attend the Division meetings at the GA. to provide feed back on some of the industrial related work we do.

Action: Cesa and Smith to convey to Divisions our reps

Action: One pager on division activities and projects. Cesa to circulate to other reps.

Review of COCI Organisation and Strategic Directions

An open discussion took place on possible new projects for COCI. The following topics were put forward by the committee.

Global warming

Energy

Conversion of carbon (CHEMRAWN conference on greenhouse gases was already to take place in Canada in the immediate future)

Trace element in animals?

Toxic chemicals in an area in which we can get involved

Safety aspects of nanotechnology (should this come under REACH)

Emerging issues on endocrine disrupters

Epigenetics

Metabolites in the water system

Biomonitoring

Disinfectants

Biofuels/Biorefining

Toxicology and Ecotoxicology

Water quality and water supply

The following was agreed:

Smith will write an article on water for CI.

The topics were short listed to:

Global Warming-too broad for us to tackle

Biomass conversion/biofuels-subject for a symposium

Safety/toxicology/capacity building-already moving on this with the safety training programme

Nanotechnology and the environment/health-Article for Chemical International. Smith for Action

Chemicals and Health/biomonitoring/ecotoxicology-Work with John Duffus in Division VII

Water Quality and Supply-covered by above.

Action: Smith to report on Nanotechnology, Humphris – Biomonitoring and Evans – Biofuels at the Torino meeting.

It was decided that a special issue of Chemistry International could be considered on COCI matters

Possible expansion of safety training programme. What would it take to grow the programme?

For discussion in Torino. One suggestion would be to target universities as hosts.

Unger's e-mail: Cesa will follow up with Unger his willingness to continue with the workshop in Gottenberg.

An e-mail from Peter Mahaffy of CCE was considered for possible subjects at the COCI/CCE/CHEMRAWN meeting in Torino.

The following was tabled that could be raised at that meeting:

If there are future actions from CHEMRAWN conferences these should be considered for project money

Projects of mutual interest only. Either in progress or planned

Role of standing committees with Divisions

The meeting adjourned with grateful thanks for the assistance provided by the people at Ineos.