

June, 2011

Preparations towards the IYC 2011 in Israel

The first meeting regarding the IYC 2011 committee in Israel took place on September 13th. The committee consisted of: The president of the Israeli chemical society, and people from the chemistry industry and the academia, and chemistry educators (researchers and teachers). The main decisions and plans were:

1. Establishment of five sub-committees referring to: (1) The tertiary education, (2) the elementary and secondary education, (3) the informal education the chemistry industry, (4) the chemistry industry, and (5) information and communication.
2. Definition of the IYC 2011 local goals:
 - a. Increasing the interest of the young generation in chemistry and in chemistry studies.
 - b. Increasing the interest of the general population in chemistry and in chemistry studies.
 - c. Increasing the positive attitudes of the society towards the chemistry industry.
 - d. Linking the chemistry issues to other disciplines and to society issues.
3. Activities:
 - a. Issuing 2 stamps which relate to the research of three recent Israeli Nobel Prize winners: (1) Ada Yonat, and (2) Chechanover and Hershko.
 - b. Establishment of an IYC 2011 website.
 - c. Development of stuff foe the media in order to enable publicity and dissemination of the IYC 2011 ideas.
 - d. Development of a special issue in one of the Israeli newspapers.
 - e. Demonstrating interesting experiments on the web (Utube for example).
 - f. Activities for non-science oriented students and for their parents.

- g. Producing a monthly calendar consisting of historical documentation about chemists and about chemistry innovations (in the framework of the National Center for Chemistry Teachers).
- h. Producing a monthly newsletter devoted to the 2011 IYC (in the framework of the National Center for Chemistry Teachers).
- i. Monthly events aimed at the large population. For example: "The Chemists Night", which already took place in several places in Israel, and consisted of formal and informal conversations with chemists, as well as demonstrations.
- j. Activities devoted to the IYC 2011, which took place during the Annual Meeting of Chemistry teachers in the framework of the National center for Chemistry teachers (December 6th, 2010).
- k. Activities devoted to the IYC 2011, which took place during the Annual Meeting of the Israeli Chemical Society (February 2011).

Attached please find an activity which took place in an Arabic school in Israel.

With best wishes,

Rachel

International Year of high school chemistry Alahaliia Umm al-Fahm,
Israel, Led by Issam Agbaria, a chemistry teacher

The main theme of the international chemistry in high school Alahaliia is "The sound of chemistry." For example, running a radio station during the breaks once a week. Radio broadcasts relevant chemical articles, or reports written by chemistry students. Parallel to the broadcasts, one may look at the screens scattered hallways at school, and watch power point presentations on the subject of the article.

Additional activities:

- During the breaks – students who major in chemistry, performed experimental demonstration, quizzes, and puzzles related to chemistry.
- There was a competition of "The best logo" for the international chemistry at school.
- A unique event held on the 3rd of March, 2012 -

The event included activities for students during the morning, with the participation of the school board, school teachers, and guest teachers (please see the attached invitation).

The students presented their activities, lit candles in honor of the international chemistry, made a cake in the form of the periodic table, composed poetry and chemical contexts, and the guest speaker Prof. Hussam Haick from the Technion, lectured about electronic sensors for the cancer disease.

During this day, each class got a chemical name, and all corridors were decorated with posters related to chemistry. The general atmosphere was a holiday atmosphere. The students were enthusiastic and motivated. The school board was proud of the activities, and paid for all the expenses.

A few attached photos will serve as examples to the festive atmosphere.