

**MINUTES OF COCI ANNUAL MEETING  
AT THE IUPAC GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
TORINO  
6-7 AUGUST 2007**

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Mark Cesa	Chair	USA
Mike Booth	Secretary/Treasurer	South Africa
Aldo Bologna Alles	Titular Member	Uruguay
Alex Pokrovsky	Titular Member	Russia
Colin Humphris	Titular Member	Belgium
Jonas Unger	Titular Member	Sweden
David Evans	Titular Member	UK
Akira Ishitani	Titular Member	Japan
Alan Smith	National Representative/Bureau	UK
Carolyn Ribes	National Representative	USA
Kelvin Khisa	STP Fellow	Kenya
Isiaka Bakare	STP Fellow	Nigeria
Jane Nyakang'o	STP Fellow	Kenya
Ruth Hearn	Young Observer	UK
Paul Baekelmans	National Representative	Belgium
Roland Andersson	Observer	Canada
Bill Work	Division IV Representative	USA
John Grosso	Division V Representative	USA
Hideyuki Ishida	Observer	Japan
Daniel Bernard	National Representative	France
Harkku Leskela	Division II Representative	Finland
Kathleen Kelly	Young Observer	USA
Michael Droescher	National Representative	Germany
Elsa Rachmanns	Bureau	USA
Ted Becker	Past Secretary General	USA
Esma Toprak	National Representative	Turkey

**2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Jinliang Qiao (China)

**3. Review and approval of minutes of Chicago and Lyndhurst meetings**

The Minutes of the Chicago and Lyndhurst meetings were approved.

**4. The Structure and Functions of COCI 2007-2009**

Cesa took the Committee through COCI's role and strategic priorities, the organisation structure for 2006/7 and the Committee's programme roles and accomplishments. He was presently emphasizing the need for joint projects between divisions and other standing committees. We have a particular interest in bio-monitoring and human health. Cesa continued with the challenges and goals for 2008/9. Pokrovsky raised the question of trace elements and representation of company associates. Smith particularly raised the lack of company associates from India and China.

**5. Budget and Finances**

Booth presented the budget for 2008/9. There was considerable discussion on this item. Evans commented that there was some funding coming from the Bureau for brochures. Members needed to go to companies for any re-commitment. \$2000 was expected to be

spent on projects by the end of the year. Projects need industrial financial support. West said that in his project, time would be spent on development of case studies. Cesa reminded the Committee that we are encouraged to use a 50%/50% split of projects to operating costs with the total budget; however, with operating costs higher than the \$20K allotted for the biennium, we were instructed to remain below \$27K in operating expenses.

To save costs on meetings it was proposed that we should try tele-conferencing possibly at 12h00 Brussels time. It was suggested that we include in the budget investment from other resources including STP workshop funding, contributions in kind. Finance Committee of IUPAC – budget should move with funding required. We should also include any industrial contributions in the budget.

**Action:** Booth to poll members for contributions in kind. Prepare a pro-forma to be returned before the next meeting.

Pokrovsky proposed that UNESCO funding for West's project should be put in a special account.

Droescher suggested that we should use our success with specific projects to solicit corporate sponsorship. We should also consider the recruitment of a professional fund raiser or have a COCI member take on the role of fund-raising or have a COCI member take on the role of fund-raising. Humphris said that work done should provide benefits to industry where industry sees the organisation as being independent. Evans suggested the following: capacity building, trust in chemicals, alignment with industry, selling of publications in conjunction with Division VIII. Generate money to provide more people at IUPAC offices. It was mentioned that the Canadian Chemical Society already had the services of a fund raiser. IUPAC should tie into international organisations, for example IUPAC not recognised with UNESCO/UNIDO or has official status with UNEP, whereas ICCA recognised by WHO as NGO.

Droescher, Bologna-Alles, Humphris, Booth, Pokrovsky, Baekelmans, Evans and Smith agreed to serve on a fund raising committee and meet the following morning.

## 6. Reports from Bureau and Executive Committee Meetings

Cesa provided a summary of IUPAC highlights 2006/7. IYOC (International Year of Chemistry) – 2011 needs to be sanctioned by United Nations. Humphris asked are there clear objectives. Industry would have to have a role. CCE has been tasked with moving forward on this. ICCA involvement would be welcome. How does IUPAC make most of that?

It has been decided that there will be a new schedule for Bureau meetings. These will take place in Spring of each year starting in 2008 and not at the General Assemblies.

At the Council meeting there will be a motion to reclassify Argentina's membership status (at their request) from an NAO to an ANAO. Also note Uruguay's application for IUPAC NAO status.

IUPAC is taking on a more direct role in the International Chemistry Olympiad competition amongst school pupils at the secondary school level.

Elements 112-118: claims for their discovery are being reviewed and will possibly be actions for Council in 2009.

On the question of recovering unexpended project funds it was mentioned that at the end of a project this goes back to the Strategic Opportunity Fund.

Staffing changes at the secretariat had involved a reassigning of duties as a result of the resignation of Erin Carter.

The STP project and company associates recruitment activities of COCI were highlighted in Professor Henry's Presidential Address.

## 7. **Health, Safety and Environment Programme**

Two trainees have recently been trained at the Mitsui Corporation in June-July 2007. We are grateful to them for covering half the travel expenses of the trainees. Cesa reminded the Committee that training is a two-way street; Trainees can also become more involved with their Host Companies as their technical background and interests overlap. He also mentioned that we are looking for new host countries and Host Companies.

**Action:** Smith and Booth to explore India and Malaysia as possible sources of new trainees.

Ted Becker reported to the committee on recent efforts in IUPAC related to the Chemicals Weapon Convention, including a Workshop in Zagreb in March 2007 and a planned Academic Forum on the CWC in the Hague in September.

Becker also spoke on the Chemicals Security Engagement Programme. This is the subject of an upcoming workshop in Kuala Lumpur (late August 2007). Booth will attend this workshop and make a presentation on the Safety Training Programme. Objectives are to investigate what are the gaps, what education is required and the opportunity to work with chemical security organisations. Booth will seek possible ways to enhance the STP with respect to chemical security, plus possibly getting trainees from Malaysia. Someone from ICCA will be at the workshop. Module on security of sites etc.

Alles presented a project idea from new STP Fellow Fabian Benzo Moreira – development of written or Internet-based Safety Training Programmes modules in South American context at university level. This would resemble E-learning distance courses in use in South America. They will present academic and industrial points of view. First version of such modules may be available next year. A proposal was made for a workshop in Uruguay to talk about content and procedure for moving forward. Some discussion on the possibility of UNESCO money this year to get things going. One pager to distribute to industry. There are courses that could be tapped into in Canada and the USA.

**Action:** Bologna Alles to follow up on preparing an IUPAC project proposal, working with Mr Benzo.

## 8. **NGO/IGO/Trade Association Programme**

(Humphris' slides)

Objective- overlap with the global programmes and IUPAC. WCLM workshop to initiate some communication. Responsible Care and new strategies for Product Stewardship. Toxicology impacts. IUPAC might be able to fill the gap on the technology. Discussion might be leveraging bio-monitoring. Shape possible projects e.g. genetics. One year time period to get projects up and running. UNEP/WHO and IUPAC. Possible actions could be a workshop on a theme coming out of the WCLM. Humphris said that the Press should be there. He would write up a list of actions that come out of the meeting.

**Action:** Humphris to prepare a list of actions from the WCLM and a brief summary of the WCLM for publication in CI.

## 9. Responsible handling of chemicals

(West slides)

West presented briefly on the history of Responsible Care, status and future prospects. The theme of his project is focused on ethics and culture, as described in the recent CI article on RC by Jean Belanger. Final draft of monograph by end of year. The project output will be the first in a series of case studies to get people talking about Responsible Care in workshop mode. Gail Krantzberg is progressing this. Project will start in Spring 2008. \$8,500 available from UNESCO but has to be spent this year; will need to explore funding from UNESCO and other outside sources in the 2008 time frame. Monograph should be ready for publication in PAC 2008. Case studies completed by Autumn of 2008 and workshop planned for 2009 at the General Assembly.

## 10. Company Associates

Ishitani gave report on an annual meeting of CAs in Japan planned for 31 August with Bryan Henry in attendance.

How to retain CAs? (Evans' slides). COCI and the IUPAC Secretariat have not yet completely agreed on their roles in the CA recruitment and retention process, although Evans' proposal on this subject has been agreed as the basic framework. Improvement is needed on communication to prospective CAs on tangible benefits of membership. A COCI newsletter for CAs was proposed. The Newsletter would be used to communicate the roles of COCI and IUPAC with the goals of improving contact with and feedback from the CAs. The CA brochure is in preparation and was agreed to be useful as a tool for personal contact between COCI members and CAs. Pick out what is going on in IUPAC that will be important for CAs. Smith is already doing that to some extent with his biannual summary of IUPAC projects of interest to industry. A suggestion was to go into list of member companies of national societies for possible recruitment of new members.

**Action:** The CA recruitment and retention programme will be a major focus of the next COCI annual meeting.

**Action:** Evans. Will send out a .pdf version of the revised brochure by the end of September to COCI members for comment. Plan is to produce approximately 1,000 copies, with funding from IUPAC as a project.

It was unanimously agreed that CI will be vehicle not newsletter. Evans will submit existing article. Unger mentioned that useful discussions within IUPAC can be published in summary form in the publications of other scientific societies.

**Action:** Evans to submit article to CI.

## 11. Division/Standing Committee Collaboration

**Action:** Smith to prepare paper to be sent around that could be used for Division involvement in nanotechnology.

Representatives of Divisions and Standing Committees to COCI were invited to give brief presentations on their respective division's activities, especially where they may relate to industrial interests.

Inorganic - Professor Leskela, Finland. Commitments: Elements, isotopic abundancies and atomic weight, new elements, periodic table. Co-operation with Division VIII on Inorganic nomenclature. Cross-divisional sub-committee on Materials Chemistry. High

Temperature Materials Chemistry (HTMC) and Advanced Materials (WAM) meetings. Glossary of nanomaterials.

Possible collaboration on nanomaterials (J Garcia-Martinez). Bioinorganic compounds (J. Reedijk). Need to define area, biomarkers may be useful projects.

**Action:** Smith to make contact with Dr. Garcia-Martinez on possible collaboration on nanomaterials.

Organic and Biomolecular Chemistry – Janine Cossy. Training to small companies, conferences, employment possibilities, company prizes to IUPAC such as Richter Prize.

Polymers - Dr William Work covers polymer terminology. Committee is half industrial half academic. Structure and properties of commercial polymers. Modelling of polymerisation kinetics (strongly supported by industry). Developing polymers (high activity with industry). Molecular characterisation (high temperature chromatography). Polymer education – Post-Graduate polymer course for students from developing countries. Use of nano materials in polymeric materials.

Chemical Nomenclature – Alan McNaught. Mainly to do with structure representation.

Colour books - Inorganic Red Book. Year ago.  
- Organic Blue Book. One year to go  
- Preferred nomenclature  
- Polymer Purple Book  
- Two-dimensional modelling  
- IUPAC Chemical Identifier

**Action:** Smith to write article for COCI Corner.

## 12. Public Appreciation of Chemistry

Pokrovsky reported COCI progress at the CCE Annual Meeting in Seoul. Humphris enquired how do you debate with NGOs?

Are there other topics that we should be commenting on a.la. endocrine disrupters. Possible collaboration and input into article with CHEMRAWN and CCE. Identify people to kick this off.

**Action:** Evans to explore possible topics for collaboration with CHEMRAWN and CCE.

## 13. Adhering Organisation Interactions

Unger suggested that to celebrate the IYOC in each country each member should do something.

(Unger slides)

Mandate for project in Nordic Countries. Newsletter to those active members to keep them informed and motivated.

Unger is retiring from COCI at the end of 2007. We therefore need someone to run the Workshop project. We need a proper agenda. Chemical Societies and NGOs should be approached to give names. In some countries you could be competing with the NGOs.

Workshop – reasons as before. Need to identify person to activate and attend such a workshop. Two per country would be sufficient. Should be good outline of what we want to accomplish. General support for the proposal moving forward. Pokrovsky volunteered facilities in Geneva. Proposal to have high level participants and contact at the technical level. One or two day meeting. Someone from Chemical Societies and someone from Industry. We need to appoint a person to move on the project. Driescher proposed to build a table of people. We can progress this project together. To cover what we are doing on Company Associates and what they can do for IUPAC. We can combine the meeting with the German meeting. We can invite 20 to 30 people from 10 to 12

countries. Can be done in the Frankfurt area. It was decided that Ribes, Evans, and Droescher would form a committee of three.

**Action:** Ribes, Evans and Droescher to collaborate to organize and implement the Workshop, with Droescher as lead.

#### 14. New Projects

From the previous COCI meeting, several ideas for new projects were identified in a brainstorming session. A few of these project ideas were selected for further thought, and presentations were made to the committee to decide on whether project proposals should be advanced.

Biomonitoring – can now analyse  $10^{-20}$  g/g. How do we talk about this level in a realistic way with regard to risk. This issue will be raised with Dick Phillips at the WCLM. Identify the role of IUPAC at the meeting. This will shape things for us to tackle. Safe level in toxicology and how this relates to biomonitoring.

Nanotechnology and Human Health -  
(Smith's slides)

Precious little toxicity data at this time. Terminology, characteristics, safety and health.

ISO standard on nanomaterials – all the attributes of IUPAC.

Divisions have stronger interests. Explore them with possibility of divisional projects.

IUTOX should be involved.

Co-operation with CCE for introducing nanotechnology in schools.

Keep an eye on the ball for possible negative connotations.

Biofuels -

(Evans' slides)

By 2100 we will have a shortfall of 50% of energy supplies. Steady decline in fossil fuels by 2030. The proposal which is very much in the COCI remit will be aired at the CHEMRAWN meeting that afternoon. Evans will check Divisions for expertise.

**Action:** Evans to work with CHEMRAWN and the Divisions as appropriate to explore interest in a CHEMRAWN on the topic of biofuels and the different world regional approaches.

#### 15. Other Business

COCI Award – recommendation at next meeting. The following suggestions were put forward. Reinforces and recognises ideals of COCI. Recognise and reward applied science. Something quite modest like a plaque.

**Action:** Ribes, Grosso and Cesa to come up with proposal.

Polymer Division – approach for names for possible CAs.

**Action:** Evans, Ishitani

#### 16. Next Meeting

April/May in Frankfurt or its environs. Combined with workshop.

Cesa will provide

- List of members for 2008/9 plus Fischer plus Timmerman.
- List of Division Reps.