



IUPAC
Chemistry and Human Health Division

IFCC
Scientific Division

Committee/Subcommittee on Nomenclature, Properties and Units (C-SC-NPU)

Draft minutes for the Committee meeting in Istanbul, Turkey, in connection with the IFCC WorldLab Istanbul 2014 Congress

Venue: Istanbul Congress Center

- Tuesday June 24 2014 – Committee meeting 9.00 to 14:30.
- Wednesday June 25 2014 - Committee meeting 9.00 to 17.00
- Thursday June 26 2014 – Project WG 9.00 to 13.00

Several issues were discussed in context with related items rather than in the order of the agenda. These minutes follow the numbering of the original agenda in general, but conclusions on some items may appear out of place.

1.

The WG on 'Definitions' (2010-035-700 Establishing definitions for non-referenced terms in the NPU terminology) met on Thursday, June 26 2014 9.00-13.00

Participants: HMJ, RF

2.

The WG on 'Molecular Biology' (2013-009-5-700 Properties and units in clinical molecular biology and genetics – supplement) met on Thursday, June 26 2014 9.00-13.00

Participants: UMP, JdD

3. Participants

The meeting opened Tuesday 24.06.2014 at 9:00 a.m.

Present:

- Robert Flatman (RF)
- René Dybkær (RD)
- Helle Møller Johannessen (HMJ)

- Ulla Magdal Petersen (UMP)
- Johan den Dunnen (JdD) (from Wednesday 25.June)
- Daniel Karlsson (DK) joined via Skype for selected items, but intermittently due to insufficient Internet connection.

Apologies received from:

- Gunnar Nordin (GN)
- Urban Forsum (UF)
- Xavier Fuentes-Arderiu (XFA)
- Ariadna Padró i Miquel (APA)
- Jens Michael Hertz (JMH)
- Gilbert Hill (GH)
- Annette Larsen, Norwegian Directorate of Health

4. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved with correction of the meeting hours; it was decided to rearrange the items to allow DK to participate at selected items.

5. Approval of the minutes

The minutes from last meeting, Istanbul 2013, were approved with minor corrections

6. Members and corresponding members

The current IFCC members are:

- Robert Flatman (Chair) AUS
- Urban Forsum SE
- Ulla Magdal Petersen DK
- René Dybkaer (Consultant) DK
- Kazuyoshi Yamauchi JP (KY)
- Antonin Jabor CZ (AJ)

RF will contact IFCC to establish the number of vacant slots now or by the end of this year, and initiate that calls for nominations go out.

Members of current IUPAC projects initiated by the C-SC-NPU are all Elected Members of the IUPAC subcommittee, with RF serving as Chair and UMP as Secretary. Members Elected via current IUPAC projects are:

2001-070-1-700 (Properties and units for urinary calculi)

- Gunnar Nordin (chair)
- Pedro de Araujo (PdA)
- René Dybkaer
- Urban Forsum
- Antonin Jabor
- Wolf Külpmann (WK)

2006-008-1-700 (Mapping of IFCC-IUPAC laboratory coding system to SNOMED CT (SNOMED CT - Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine Clinical Terms))

- Ulla Magdal Petersen (chair)
- Ivan Bruunshuus (IB)
- Urban Forsum
- Daniel Karlsson
- Gunnar Nordin

2010-035-3-700 (Establishing definitions for non-referenced terms in the NPU terminology)

- Helle Møller Johannessen (chair)
- Ivan Bruunshuus
- Robert Flatman
- Urban Forsum
- Ulla Magdal Petersen
- Gunnar Nordin

2013-009-5-700 (Properties and units in clinical molecular biology and genetics – supplement)

- Ulla Magdal Petersen (chair)
- Johan den Dunnen
- Xavier Fuentes-Arderiu
- Ariadna Padró i Miquel
- Jens Michael Hertz

The members of the committee for the Silver Book revision are:

- George Féraud (Chair) (GF)
- René Dybkaer
- Xavier Fuentes-Arderiu
- Dongchon Kang (DoK)
- Clem McDonald (CM)
- Gilbert Hill (GH)

Corresponding Members (as nominated by Full IFCC Members' Societies) are:

- Gilbert Hill (Canadian Society of Clinical Chemistry (CSCC))
- Helle Johannessen (Danish Society of Clinical Biochemistry (DSKB))
- Georges Féraud (Société Française de Biologie Clinique (SFBC))
- Masayuki Totani (Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC))
- Dalius Vitkus (Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine)
- Valentina Koloska (Macedonian Society of Medical Biochemists)
- Nada Majkic-Singh (Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia (DMBS))
- Ariadna Padró-Miquel (Sociedad Española de Bioquímica Clínica y Patología Molecular (SEQC))
- Arden Forrey (American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC))
- David Armbruster (Abbott Diagnostics) Corporate c. m.

HMJ will ask DSKB to replace her with another corresponding member for Denmark. UMP has suggested to the Norwegian Society of Medical Biochemistry to appoint a corresponding member to replace Jens Gleditch who stepped down this spring.

7. Budget for the meeting

- RD is sponsored by IFCC for the congress as a former IFCC president
- JdD fully via the IFCC C-NPU budget.
- RF and UMP partly via the IFCC C-NPU budget, partly via their employer.
- HMJ via the Danish eHealth Authority

RF has been informed by Ian young that no reduction of budget for next year is expected.

8. Date and place of next meeting

Several alternatives were discussed in connection with events where members might already be present:

- The 45th IUPAC World Chemistry Congress in Korea in August 2015
- The 21st IFCC-EFLM European Congress on Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine (EuroMedLab 2015) in Paris, France in June 2015
- The IHTSDO Business Meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark 26th-29th April 2015

To avoid the holiday season considered one reason for the slim participation at the present meeting, and to allow space for an on-line meeting in the fall 2015, the next meeting will be in Copenhagen, Denmark, at the NSI premises, in late April 2015. Exact dates to come...

In Memoriam

Dr. Françoise Pontet, Chair of C-SC-NPU from 2006-2012, and president of IUPAC division VII from 2012 to 2013, was remembered. Françoise died in an accident in August 2013.

9. Report from members (short items not on the agenda)

HMJ reports from IUPAC division VII Chemistry and human health in May 2014:

IUPAC financial situation

The financial situation of IUPAC has been worsening in recent years. Two main sources of income were reduced.

A project is typically supported with 5000-7000 USD. Should there be a very good application asking for a higher amount, then the IUPAC project committee may consider co-financing.

Reimbursement of travel expenses

The rules have changed, beginning 2014. Until then, there was a fixed per diem amount to cover the cost for hotel plus other expenses. Since 2014, one has to collect receipts not only for travel, but also for hotel, food etc. Many Division members find this inconvenient.

IUPAC organization

There were some personnel changes in IUPAC: The former Executive Director of the IUPAC Secretariat, Terry Renner, retired and was succeeded by J Peterson, who resigned last year. IUPAC presently searches for an adequate successor. Moreover, Bryan Pearson,

who was in charge of the website, recently left IUPAC. Finally René Deplanque stepped back as Secretary General a few months ago. An Acting Secretary General, Colin Humphris, was elected at the Bureau meeting in April. He has been active in IUPAC for many years.

Emeritus Fellows

According to Division VII guidelines, each of the three subcommittees can honor one former Division member with this award and plaque each biennium. For the present biennium, nominations for Robin Ganellin (DDD) and for Doug Templeton (TRA) were submitted.

RD expresses his thanks to RF for providing a corrected version of his 'Emeritus plaque of honor'

RF reports on Australian project PITUS:

PITUS (Pathology Information, Terminology and Units Standardisation) project supports standardization in health informatics, including development of common reference intervals, critical results limits etc. on a national scale.

10. Project report - RD: Vocabulary for nominal properties and nominal examinations — basic and general concepts and associated terms (IUPAC project 2004-023-1-700)

Last meeting in the VIN WG was in Sévres in the spring. In the latest version links have been inserted, where definitions refer to other defined terms, in accordance with ISO 704/ISO 10241. Hopefully this version will be final.

A suggestion for updating the VIM (JCGM 200), to include nominal properties, creating a merge of VIN and VIM was discussed.

2nd edition of GUM (JCGM 100) has now been issued as a draft.

11. Project report – RD: Silver Book Revision

The Silver Book v.2 has been submitted, reviewed, revised and resubmitted – a few comments more may be expected.

HMJ: IUPAC will not produce paper editions of the 'Color books' in the future.

12. Project report - HMJ: The definition project for non-referenced terms (IUPAC project 2010-035-2-700)

The working group has reviewed approximately 1/3 of terms to date. Guidelines are currently under development to assist with progression. The task group held their first WG meeting in August 2013 in connection to the C-SC-NPU meeting. Next WG meeting will be in June 2014 year after this C-SC- NPU in Istanbul.

13. Project report: Urinary calculi. (IUPAC project 2001-070-1-700)

There is no information on project activities. UMP will mail WG members and ask for information.

14. Project report - UMP: The Mapping project (IUPAC project 2006-008-1-700)

This first attempt at SCT mapping was stalled because of changes in the SCT concept structure. There is still budget available – it should be used soon for related activities.

15. Project report - UMP: The Molecular Diagnostics revision project (IUPAC project 2013-009-5-700).

The Part number for the publication in the 'Properties and units' series will be XXIV. The publication structure will be somewhat revised. The total collection of developed NPU definitions in a traditional 'Properties and units' technical report will be replaced by type examples, and new text formats will be developed and tested.

A Skype or physical meeting is suggested for November 2014, with possible support from Committee budget. UMP will set up a Doodle.

16. Project proposal - DK: Piloting CNPU-SNOMED CT mapping.

(The Internet connection caused this item to be discussed in bits and pieces over 2 days)

The Project has been submitted to IUPAC and is under review. The budget applied for is \$ 5000 intended to cover only travelling expenses, not tooling for the work. Part of the project will be to specify the tooling (and estimate its cost) needed to perform full scale mapping.

The NPU Steering Committee can formally approach IHTSDO on support and mapping issues.

IFCC may provide support for e.g. a workshop.

17. Suggestions for new projects.

A Promotion project is discussed. There is also a need for revision of the terminology in the fields of microbiology and immunology. More C-NPU members are needed to manage more projects. RF suggested a workshop with participants from the scientific societies in the countries now establishing NPU release centers, to invite participation in the C-NPU work.

18. Report from the NPU Steering Committee

An Agreement between the three stakeholders (IFCC, IUPAC and Danish e-Health Authority) have been signed in January 2014, to support and secure the future on the Nomenclature, Properties and Units (NPU) Terminology.

The increasing success and growing use of the NPU terminology has created a need for a formal organization, a Steering Committee to be responsible for governance, priority of development, promotion, resources etc.

The Steering Committee have held some meeting via Skype Call , and are at present working on several documentation issues. One of the issues is criteria for licensing of the NPU terminology for National Release Centers.

An application from the Norwegian Health Directorate to the SC

- Discussed the application for NRC status from the Norwegian Health Directorate
- Agreed to support this application subject to confirmation that the applicants provide evidence to satisfy the criteria to be licensed as a NRC (see 4a)
- Agreed that once accepted the Norwegian Health Directorate be invited to nominate a person to serve in an observer capacity on the SC (as the two User positions are currently filled)

19. Implementing a Norwegian laboratory code system based on the NPU terminology

Apologies were received from Annette Larsen from the Norwegian Directorate of Health.

UMP gave a short status review. Norway has decided on mandatory use of the NPU Terminology on a national scale, and is asking for recognition of a National Release Center. The Steering Committee will need to work out a formal procedure for this.

Implementation of the terminology in Norway causes a rising workload in NPU management and development. Sweden may decide on national use too. The Danish eHealth Authority may have to ask for support from the other user countries.

20. The other side of the equation sign

Johan den Dunnen, WG MolBiol, Leiden Genome Technology Center gave a presentation of his work on structuring result values in the field of molecular biology.

The organization is supported by the 'genome society', enabling maintenance of a dedicated website and production of 'merchandise' like flyers and mousepads. A strong influence on publication in scientific journals supports international implementation of the structure.

21. Changes when moving from development to maintenance of the NPU terminology

The IUPAC project system is too slow and limited to support maintenance and development of a clinical terminology in actual use.

If the NPU terminology is to advance, the Steering Committee will need a budget for communication and promotion. A dedicated homepage should communicate not only contact information, but also info on what the NPU terminology is, is good for, costs, may be acquired etc.

- RF will try to formulate some essentials on promotion for presentation to the SC.
- RF will ask Ian Young or Graham Beastall to consider IFCC support to the SC.
- DK will look for calls on EU projects/frameworks like Horizon 20/20.
- UF and DK may find expertise on how to proceed at the university.
- JdD will send links on 'funding possibilities' to UMP/HMJ
- UMP will query Danish EU office on possibilities

22. May virtual meetings (via e.g. Skype, Lync or Hangout) supplement the physical C-NPU meetings?

The number of C-NPU meetings has been declining, and project funds today rarely allow IUPAC Elected Members to participate in the C-NPU meetings. The MolBiol WG has held on-line meetings with varying success. The different tools (Skype, Lync, Hangout) should be tested. DK will set up short test meetings e.g. once a week in September-October.

Visit by professor Dilan Aslan

Professor Aslan from the Pamukkale University Medical Faculty in Turkey told of a project "Development of Database and Electronic Mapping Software for in vitro diagnostic medical devices". She asked for input from the NPU terminology to help describe analyses in Turkish.

UMP will send an extract of active Components from the NPU database (*is done. U.*).

23. Terminology issues

- Criteria for accepting the unit '%' in selected NPU codes – queries received from Norway and Sweden cannot be answered without further discussion. It was agreed not to accept the unit % or $\times 10^{-2}$ in cases where there already is a similar code with the unit $\times 10^{-3}$, as the risk of misreading result values is too great. (This will mean conversely that any code with the unit %

will prevent later establishment of a similar code with the unit $\times 10^{-3}$). As steps of a factor 1000 is recommended, this merits further discussion next meeting, examples should be prepared.

- Request received for codes for immunology, stating temperature at determination for antibodies. Old codes with temperature specification have to be retired and replaced by codes specifying IgG or IgM type. UMP/HMJ will place on maintenance to-do list.
- A reference terminology for diseases/syndromes/clinical problems for use in list headers? OMIM accepted for the Molecular Biology field, ICD-10 for general use. ICD-11 to be considered when released.
- Suggestion for revision of the formalized 'NPU entry in printed form' accepted, WG MolBiol Technical Report to be testing ground.
- Epinephrine is the authorized (CAS) term for Adrenaline. Will be replaced in the NPU terminology – goes on maintenance to-do list.
- Nomenclature and references for weak acids and bases is problematic as no clear criteria for when to choose the ionic form exist. Decisions will continue to be ad hoc. UMP/HMJ will try to extract and test strategies and report to the C-NPU.
- Criteria for accepting an 'International Standard/Reference Preparation' do not exist – WHO continues as the only authority meriting 'international units'. The work done by JCTLM in regi of BIPM may supply relevant input for a set of criteria.
- UMP/HMJ must report to the SC that there are several large maintenance jobs on the to-do list – some have waited for years from lack of resources.

24. Items left for further work after the Istanbul meeting 2013:

NPU on Wikipedia –RF: Will be upcoming

25. Miscellany

Nothing

The meeting closed Wednesday 25, 2014 at 17:00