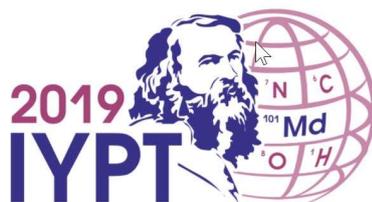


IYPT2019 Management Committee mid-term Report



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



International Year
of the Periodic Table
of Chemical Elements

With the IYPT2019 celebration being halfway in the year 2019, it is appropriate to report the status to the founding and sponsoring partners of IYPT2019.

All co-applicant societies will receive a copy of this intermediate report.

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1. How it started.

During 2017 it was realized by prof. Martyn Poliakoff (UK), IUPAC President Prof. Natalia Tarasova (Russia) and the Mendeleev Russian Chemical Society that in 2019 it would be 150 years since a system of arranging chemical elements was introduced by Dmitry Mendeleev, nowadays called Periodic Table, or in some countries Periodic System.

2. On **the initiative** of Prof. Natalia Tarasova an international interdisciplinary Steering Committee was formed to prepare and submit a proposal to UNESCO to officially declare the year 2019 as the “International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical

Elements". At the end of 2018 the favorable resolution of UNESCO was adopted and then, following the recommendation of UNESCO, the resolution of the UN General Assembly to proclaim the year 2019 as the International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements.

3. In December 2018 the **IUPAC Executive Committee** accepted the suggestion of Prof. Tarasova to take the lead in publicizing the IYPT2019, and appointed Profs. Tarasova (RF) and Reedijk (NL) as co-chairs of the Management Committee for IYPT2019.
4. To **generate the basic funds** for website and administrative support, an IUPAC Proposal was submitted, and subsequently accepted (amount of 37 k\$) with financing from all Divisions and Committees, and the MC was extended with 4 more IUPAC members, i.e. Profs. Lars Öhrström, Mei-Hung Chiu, Chris Brett and Chris Ober. The strategic plan was presented at the April 2018 Bureau meeting. Additional fund raising started in the spring of 2018, first with our co-organizing unions, followed by some companies and organizations.
5. A **website was generated** and made operational and an administrative manager, Mr. Frank Sekeris, was appointed for 1 day/week and located at the office of KNCV in The Hague, the Netherlands. Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts were also generated. A **special issue of Chemistry International** was prepared by IYPAC (January 2019), dealing almost completely with the Periodic Table and IYPT2019, and made available to all delegates at the Opening Ceremony in Paris, January 29.
6. The **MC was subsequently extended** by representatives from the founding co-organizers, IUPAP, IAU, EuChemS, IUHPST, ICS (formerly called ICSU) and each of these organizers added financial contributions for running costs and preparing an opening ceremony at the UNESCO HQs in Paris. Also, representatives of major chemical societies and UNESCO were added to the MC, and by the end of 2018 the MC consisted of some 45 members. The MC never met physically, and corresponded by e-mail.
7. It turned out that **funding the Opening Ceremony** was a costly event, not so much from speakers and chairs, but also because UNESCO – contrary to past events and recent experiences – started to charge all kinds of in-house events. Fortunately, PhosAgro (Russian Federation) donated a major grant, transferred to UNESCO and also CEFIC/ICCA added a significant grant to the MC to help covering these and other expenses. Importantly, the exhibition part of the opening ceremony was largely financed by an expert company "Science Festival" (Russian Federation).
8. Preparing a balanced **program of speakers at the Opening Ceremony** appeared as quit time consuming, as it required fulfilling complicated UNESCO rules on geographic, age and gender balances. The final program of the ceremony will remain available till 2021 and the whole >7hr show is still accessible on video (in three of the official UNESCO languages: French, Russian and English) at <https://www.iypt2019.org/opening-ceremony>

9. The **website lists a large amount of other activities and meetings** (organized by many other organizations, and visible on a world map), and from these the following selection is mentioned as examples:

- Brussels (European Parliament): January 23; The Periodic Table and us: its history, meaning, and element scarcity (organized by EuCheMS)
- Paris: January 29; Opening Ceremony in UNESCO HQs
- Moscow: February 6; Opening Ceremony in Russia
- Murcia (Spain): February 11-12; “Setting their Table” – International Symposium on Women and the Periodic Table of Elements (combined with International Day of Women and Girls in Science)
- Brussels: April 11-13; Centennial celebration of the International Astronomical Union
- Dar as Salam (Tanzania): May 12-19; IUPAC Post-Graduate Summer School in Green Chemistry
- Brisbane (Australia), May 23; Be in your Element! Celebrating International Year of the Periodic Table 2019
- Campo Grande (Brazil), July 22: Cosmic Origin of the Chemical Elements of the Periodic Table
- Paris: July 22-29; the 51st International Chemistry Olympiad
- Saint-Petersburg: September 9-13; 21st Mendeleev Congress in General and Applied Chemistry
- Sao Paulo (Brazil), October 21, “Meeting Elements”
- Tokyo (Japan): December 5; Closing Ceremony

10. The **Closing Ceremony** is scheduled for December 5 2019, in Tokyo, Prince Hotel; its brief program will soon be available at the website):

<http://www.iypt2019.jp/eng/index.html>

11. **A final report and a final detailed financial report** can only be prepared in early 2020. As it turns out, the funds remaining after the Opening Ceremony are just sufficient for a proper MC representation at the closing ceremony and at IUPAC100 and for archiving all data..

12. After the end of the International Year the **website will be saved in the IUPAC archives**, and several “physical” matters will be kept in the archives of a number of chemical societies, and also in the Science Museum in London.

Jan Reedijk, Natalia Tarasova

June 2019