

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY

MINUTES OF 91st MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HELD AT FONDATION UNIVERSITAIRE, BRUSSELS

ON

THURSDAY, 31st AUGUST 1978, 9.00-15.55

PRESENT:

Prof. G. Smets	-	President, in the Chair
Dr. R. W. Cairns	-	Past-President
Prof. H. Zollinger	-	Vice-President
Prof. G. Ourisson	-	Secretary General
Prof. O. Horn	-	Treasurer
Prof. Sir Derek Barton		
Prof. N. M. Emanuel		
Prof. C. G. Overberger		

IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr. M. Williams	-	Executive Secretary
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Minute 14/78

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS AND FINALIZATION OF AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda circulated by the Executive Secretary (78.08.14) before the meeting:

- 2.2.5 Overrepresentation (Minute 3.4.2.7/78)
- 2.2.6 Status of Taiwan in IUPAC (Minute 6.8/78)
- 6.1 Public Liability Insurance
- 6.2 Travel and Subsistence Expenses for IUPAC Meetings in a Person's Own Country

Minute 15/78

MINUTES OF 90th MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

15.1/78 Amendments and Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the 90th Meeting of the Executive Committee were approved, subject to the following amendments:

- (i) Minute 6.5/78, lines 8-9, to read "... Dr. A. F. Langlykke, who was currently Vice-President of the Applied Chemistry Division and working ..."
- (ii) Minute 7.2/78, line 1, to read "The nomination by Dr. Cairns, on behalf of the President, of Dr. R. J. Fawcett (USA) ..."

15.2/78 Matters Arising from Minutes

15.2.1/78 Recommendations of Usage of the Terms "Equivalent" and "Normality"
(Minute 2.2.1/78)

IUPAC final recommendations on the matter had now been published in PAC, and IDCNS had reaffirmed the view of the Executive Committee that the Union had clearly fulfilled its obligations. Prof. T. S. West had represented IUPAC at a recent meeting of ISO/TC 47 (The Hague, 78.06.12-16), where it was decided to allow a transition period of three years for continued usage of the term "normality", after which only "molarity" would be used. It appeared that ISO/TC 12 would accept that decision.

15.2.2/78 Membership of Finance Committee (Minute 3.4.2.11/78)

The President reported that Dr. H. F. Wilson (USA) had accepted an invitation to fill the vacancy which would arise when Dr. B. W. Rossiter retired from membership of the Finance Committee after its February 1979 meeting.

15.2.3/78 ACAST and UN Conference on Science and Technology (Minute 3.5.2/78)

The Executive Secretary reported that immediately following the previous meeting of the Executive Committee he had visited the ICSU Secretariat, where he learned that ACAST was, in practice, without any real power. There was apparently little chance that a paper on CHEMRAWN could be presented directly at the 1979 UN Conference on Science and Technology in Vienna. Instead it had been suggested that the paper should be given at the International Symposium on Science and Technology for Development in Singapore (79.01.21-28), and arrangements were now in hand for that to be done by Dr. B. W. Rossiter. It was hoped to feed material from Singapore automatically into Vienna later in 1979.

15.2.4/78 IUB-IUPAC Joint Commission on Biochemical Nomenclature
(Minute 6.6.1/78)

No objection had been made by JCBN to the revised draft standing orders for it. A possible conflict with the Bylaws of IUB would be considered when its Council met shortly in Caracas (78.09.9-10).

15.2.5/78 Overrepresentation (Minute 3.4.2.7/78)

Prof. Smets said that he had looked carefully into the matter of multiple commitments for persons within IUPAC and he wondered if a limit should be set by the Executive Committee in future. The Secretary General recommended the President to take the matter into account when making appointments to Standing Committees and as official representatives of the Union to other organizations. Prof. Ourisson was strongly in favour of no member of the Executive Committee being allowed simultaneously to serve on a Commission.

The Executive Committee approved a proposal from Prof. Zollinger that, in general, commitments for IUPAC should be limited to three per person from Davos onwards, exceptions to be judged by the President and Executive Committee according to the needs of the Union.

15.2.6/78 Status of Taiwan in IUPAC (Minute 6.8/78)

The President reported that no comment had been received from the National Adhering Organization in Taiwan regarding replacement of "Republic of China" by "Taiwan" and of "Chinese Chemical Society" by "Chemical Society" in IUPAC records.

Prof. Ourisson had written (78.06.19) to the President of Academia Sinica, inviting it to send an observer to the Bureau meeting in Brussels or to the General Assembly in Davos. He would shortly be sending a reminder via a colleague who was going to work in China. Also, in July Prof. Ourisson had spoken in Paris to the Vice-President of Academia Sinica, a physicist, and asked him to look into the matter.

At a recent function in Paris Sir Derek Barton and his wife had established friendly relations with the Ambassador from People's Republic of China and followed up their discussions with a letter.

Prof. Smets requested Prof. Ourisson and Sir Derek Barton to press personally through the Peking Embassy in Paris with the hope of eventually bringing People's Republic of China into active membership of the Union.

Minute 16/78

MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

16.1/78 Committee on Publications (78.04.25-26)

The Minutes of the Meeting at Oxford of the Committee on Publications were recorded as having been received officially by the Executive Committee. Prof. Ourisson gave a brief résumé of the deliberations and some remarks on more recent developments:

mentioning the continuing good royalties received from Pergamon Press; favourable comments made on the new style Information Bulletin, the second issue of which would appear at the end of September and include synopsis minutes of meetings of IUPAC bodies at Warsaw; the contents of PAC were of a very high standard from his personal reading, with the change to printing from camera-ready copy supplied by authors now fully implemented and accepted; Dr. M.

Gellender (USA) recently appointed as editor of the proposed new IUPAC news journal and information officer of the Union from 78.12.01, working fulltime from Oxford; the new style Bulletin would be developed further in 1979, allowing time to decide more carefully the format and contents of the news journal for 1980, especially with respect to PAC; a major problem was still to improve dissemination of IUPAC recommendations on nomenclature and symbols, but the Union should meanwhile adhere to the guidelines on reproduction and translation agreed with Pergamon Press at Warsaw.

Prof. Overberger stressed the need for good publicity by Pergamon to launch the news journal. Profs. Smets and Zollinger had met Dr. Gellender at the CHEMRAWN Conference in Toronto (78.07.10-13) and been favourably impressed. Prof. Ourisson said that a first task for Dr. Gellender would be to survey the contents of existing national news journals and publications like IUB's Trends in Biochemistry to see how IUPAC should proceed.

16.1.1/78 Selection/Rejection of Lectures from Symposia (Minute 9.1.2/78)

Prof. Smets preferred the recommendations of the Committee on Publications to be in the order (i), (iii), (ii) in practice if endorsed by the Bureau at Brussels.

The Secretary General mentioned concern expressed by the Division/Section Presidents at Brussels the previous day (Minute 8.1/78) on the extent of editing by the new Scientific Editor of PAC of technical reports and recommendations on nomenclature and symbols prepared by IUPAC Commissions. He had agreed to ask Dr. H. Grunewald to keep his editing to a minimum, so as not to alter the meaning of the text. Similar considerations should apply to plenary lectures from symposia.

Prof. Overberger regretted the insistence of IUPAC on its right alone to publish the plenary lectures from the International Symposium on Macromolecules (Mainz, 79.09.17-21) when the organizers wished to include them in the proceedings published outside the Union. The Executive Secretary pointed out that a more flexible attitude was now possible in terms of the guidelines for reproduction and translation agreed at Warsaw. For example, the four plenary lectures from the 2nd International Symposium on Scientific Bases for Preparation of Heterogeneous Catalysts (Louvain-la-Neuve, 78.09.04-06) would appear first in PAC, then six months later in symposium proceedings outside IUPAC.

16.2/78 Committee on Teaching of Chemistry (78.05.13-14)

The Minutes of the Meeting at Cassis of the Committee on Teaching of Chemistry were recorded as having been received officially by the Executive Committee. It was noted that the question of funding for 1979 (Minute 78/5) was to be considered by the Bureau at Brussels (Item 4.3).

16.3/78 CHEMRAWN Planning Committee (78.07.13)

A rough draft of the Minutes of the Meeting of the CHEMRAWN Planning Committee at Toronto had been prepared, but some editing was required when Dr. B. W. Rossiter returned from holiday, prior to submission to the Executive Committee.

Minute 17/78

ITEMS FROM AGENDA OF 39th BUREAU MEETING REQUIRING DISCUSSION, RESOLUTION, OR RECOMMENDATION BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

17.1/78 IUPAC Per Diem Allowance (Item 4.2)

The decision of the President and Treasurer to raise the agreed IUPAC per

diem allowance of US-\$40.00 for 1978 (Minute 3.4.2.8/78, 90th Executive Committee - Villefranche) to US-\$45.00 for the Bureau meeting in Brussels was ratified by the Executive Committee. Furthermore, it was agreed to recommend to the Bureau:

- (i) to raise the IUPAC per diem to US-\$45.00 for the rest of 1978,
- (ii) to ask the Finance Committee to reconsider with the IUPAC Banker whether it was possible for the financial transactions of the Union to be conducted in a more stable currency than the US-dollar (Minute 3.4.2.2/78, 90th Executive Committee - Villefranche), or to introduce a system to take account of the fluctuating value of the US-dollar,
- (iii) to await the report of Dr. P. J. Agius to the Finance Committee, investigating various possibilities to counteract inflation/deflation effects on the IUPAC per diem when fixed at the start of each year (Minute 3.3/78, Finance Committee - Zürich).

Referring to Bylaw 4.307, the Treasurer was anxious not to be asked to pay contributions towards travel and subsistence of non-Titular Members to meetings of IUPAC bodies from Divisional/Sectional Contingency Funds. After careful consideration of the need to retain flexibility in the use of those Funds and so long as the allocated Funds were not exceeded, the Executive Committee agreed that payments might be made to non-Titular Members if justified in writing by the Division/Section President to the Treasurer.

17.2/78 Arrangements for 30th General Assembly (Item 5.1)

Doubts were expressed as to whether further deflation would render the agreed per diem allowance of US-\$40.00 (Minute 4.1/78, 90th Executive Committee - Villefranche) adequate for the 1979 General Assembly in Davos. As a result of a vote (5 in favour, 1 against, 2 abstentions), it was agreed to recommend the Bureau to raise the per diem for Davos to US-\$45.00 and to add the extra money (about US-\$10 000) to the total budget of US-\$260 000.

17.3/78 Reconsideration of Policy for All IUPAC Bodies to Meet at General Assembly (Item 5.2)

Prof. Zollinger agreed to evaluate, with the Treasurer, the written replies of the Division/Section Presidents to the circular letter of Prof. Smets (78.05.22), concerning the possibility that all IUPAC bodies might not be allowed to meet at future General Assemblies. He suggested that he should first invite the National Adhering Organizations and Titular Members of all IUPAC bodies also to comment, with a view to Prof. Horn and himself reporting to the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

A formal resolution from Prof. T. S. West to the Bureau, stating that the Division/Section Presidents were unanimous on the need for Commissions to continue to meet at each Assembly in order to interact with their Division/Section Committees and also to have access to the Officers and permanent staff of the Union (Minute 8.3/78, Division/Section Presidents - Brussels), was noted by the Executive Committee. Ways and means to effect economies had been suggested, including holding the Assembly on a three-year cycle. Prof. Zollinger would solicit additional suggestions.

17.4/78 Report of Subcommittee on New Projects (Item 6.2)

There was brief consideration of the initial report of the Subcommittee on New Projects, set up by the Applied Chemistry Division at Warsaw to report on:

- (i) IUPAC projects of applied interest,
- (ii) Projects which might be candidates for transfer or joint study,
- (iii) Neglected areas of industrial and environmental interest appropriate for IUPAC study.

Prof. Zollinger stressed that it was impossible for the Union, financially or otherwise, to become active in all relevant areas of chemistry. Sir Derek Barton said that it was important for IUPAC to become aware of any external groups being formed in new areas and to try and ensure they were integrated immediately into the Union. Prof. Overberger suggested that:

- (i) each Division/Section should be asked to indicate if it foresaw some new emerging areas over the next five years or so, which should receive the attention of IUPAC,
- (ii) the views of the Divisions/Sections should be sought on the priorities suggested by the Subcommittee on New Projects.

17.5/78 Proposal for Experimental Modification of IUPAC Organizational Structure (Item 6.4)

Prof. Overberger introduced a proposal from the US National Committee for IUPAC for Divisional membership of the Union by external individuals on payment of an annual subscription. This would entitle them to participate in elections to Division Committees and Commissions and to receive some publication(s) of the Union. Changes to the IUPAC Statutes and Bylaws would be necessary. He visualized the participants at the main international chemistry symposia as being the potential membership, say 10 000 individuals. Care would be needed so that such a scheme did not become a threat to the existence of national chemical societies.

Prof. Emanuel said that it would be difficult for individuals in East-European and developing countries to pay a subscription in hard currency. He suggested that the proposal should be circulated to National Adhering Organizations and national chemical societies to ascertain their reactions and an indication of the expected level of participation. Prof. Overberger doubted if such a circulation was worthwhile at this stage.

Some concern was expressed that membership by subscription should entitle an individual to participate in elections to Commissions. The Executive Secretary stressed that the existing IUPAC Secretariat capability was insufficient to take on any additional administrative work in connexion with the proposal, e.g. handling of subscriptions, maintenance of address lists for dispatch of publications, postal voting in elections. Additional staff would have to be employed from some of the monies derived from the subscriptions.

The Executive Committee agreed that if there was a positive reaction to the proposal from the Bureau at Brussels and support from at least one Division to undertake an experimental evaluation of its effectiveness in practice, Prof. Overberger should take the matter back for more detailed consideration by the US National Committee and further proposals at Davos.

17.6/78 ICSU Abstracting Board (Item 7.2.3/78)

The President had received letters from Dr. H. Grünwald (Chairman, IUPAC Committee on Publications) and Internationale Dokumentationsgesellschaft für Chemie recommending the Union to discontinue its participation in ICSU AB.

He wished to learn the reactions of Dr. K. L. Loening (Chemical Abstracts Service) to the views expressed in those letters and also to invite Dr. J. W. Barrett (official representative to ICSU AB) to comment.

17.7/78 Contract Work with CEE (Item 7.11)

The President reported briefly on his recent visits with the Executive Secretary to CEE headquarters in Brussels. For the foreseeable future no further contracts were possible on analytical methods for food additives. Prof. Smets would therefore recommend the Bureau to dissolve the IUPAC Coordinating Committee for Analytical Methods for CEE and IARC, and to constitute a new Coordinating Committee from interested Divisions/Sections in order to take up new initiatives with CEE.

Minute 18/78

PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

The Executive Secretary reported his concern, when making arrangements to hold some meetings of the Macromolecular Division at Imperial College of Science and Technology in London (78.08.29-30), to receive an ultimatum that IUPAC must hold a public liability insurance policy with a limit of indemnity of not less than £250 000. Prof. Smets mentioned a similar problem in connexion with a meeting of UNESCO-IUPAC experts at University of Leuven.

The Executive Committee approved the interim action of Dr. Williams in taking out insurance for one year with an indemnity limit of £250 000 to cover IUPAC meetings at various venues worldwide. Prof. Horn agreed to ascertain the views of experts at Hoechst AG on the matter.

Minute 19/78

TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE EXPENSES FOR IUPAC MEETINGS IN A PERSON'S OWN COUNTRY

The Executive Committee approved the proposal of the Treasurer that reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses for IUPAC meetings in a person's own country should in future be on the following basis:

- (i) Meeting at a location other than person's home town, requiring travel and living away from home
 - eligible for travel expenses and full IUPAC per diem
- (ii) Meeting at a location other than person's home town, requiring travel but still living at home
 - eligible for travel expenses and half IUPAC per diem
- (iii) Meeting at person's home town and living at home
 - ineligible for travel expenses but eligible for half IUPAC per diem

Minute 20/78

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

A formal invitation had been received from the Egyptian National Committee for IUPAC (77.10.17), for the Executive Committee to meet in Cairo during

the Spring of 1979 with all costs of accommodation to be covered by the Academy of Science and Technology of the Arab Republic of Egypt. The Treasurer pointed out that there was a substantial difference in travel costs for the Executive Committee to meet in Cairo (ca. US-\$8 462) and, say, Nice (ca. US-\$4 237). In view of the difficult financial situation of the Union, the President was asked to inform Prof. A. Abou-El-Azm that the Executive Committee was unable to accept the invitation, but it hoped to meet in Cairo at a later date.

Prof. Ourisson agreed to find a low-priced location in the region of Nice for the Executive Committee to meet on 9th-10th April 1979.

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CHAIRMAN: _____

f. Ourisson

DATE: _____

April 9 1979