

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY

MINUTES OF 96th MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

YMCA Building, Zürich: 31st August 1980

Present: Prof. H. Zollinger (Chairman), Dr. W. Graulich, Prof. J. Michalski, Prof. S. Nagakura - in part, Prof. G. Ourisson, Prof. C. G. Overberger - in part, Prof. A. Perez-Masiá, Prof. G. Smets

In Attendance: Dr. M. Williams (Executive Secretary), Miss A. Troughton (Assistant Secretary) - in part

11/80      INTRODUCTORY REMARKS AND FINALIZATION OF AGENDA

The following rearrangements and additions were made to the agenda circulated by the Executive Secretary (80.08.11):

- 3.2 Revision of Latimer's "Oxidation States of the Elements and Their Potentials in Aqueous Solution" and Multilingual Dictionary of Analytical Terms
- 7.1 Reports of Division Presidents - Bureau Item 8
- 7.2 Revision of IUPAC Dues Policy - Bureau Item 7
- 7.3 Arrangements for 31st General Assembly - Bureau Item 5.1
- 9.1 Membership of COCI
- 9.2 Terms of Presidency of Division Presidents

12/80      MINUTES OF 95th MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

12.1/80      Amendments and Approval of Minutes

It was agreed to add to Minute 3.2.4/80:

Prof. Perez-Masiá was against the additional paragraph: he believed the case of China to be exceptional and extraordinary, and he was worried about the wider possible implications in the future from the amended statute.

Subject to this addition the minutes, as circulated by the Executive Secretary (80.06.20), were approved.

12.2/80      Matters Arising from Minutes

12.2.1/80      International Symposium on Synthesis and Properties of New Elements  
(see 3.1.3/80)

The President was pleased to report that the matter of USA participation had been settled satisfactorily: Prof. E. K. Hulet (Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, California) was to present two papers, making a total of seven main contributions. Prof. Zollinger was unable to be present at the symposium and Prof. V. A. Koptuyg would act as the official representative of IUPAC.

12.2.2/80 Venezuelan Membership of IUPAC (see 3.4.3.1/80)

No answer had yet been received from IVIC to the letter (80.07.02) from the Secretary General. Prof. Ourisson would be visiting Brazil during October and some time had been reserved to discuss IUPAC relations with South America: he would report back at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

12.2.3/80 Listing of Published Commission Reports (see 3.4.3.2/80)

The President reported that COCI had now given an indication of the usefulness to industry of the 211 publications in the listing. On the whole the response was highly positive, with very few negative comments. The publications of the Macromolecular Division were particularly highly regarded. Prof. Michalski suggested that the COCI evaluation might be brought to the attention of the individual Company Associates. In the opinion of Prof. Zollinger and subject to the agreement of COCI, this could best be done through an article by Dr. M. Gellender in Chemistry International similar to the one based on the opinions of the young chemist observers at Davos (see CI, 1980, No. 3).

12.2.4/80 Proposed Meeting of Associated Organizations at 31st General Assembly  
(see 3.4.3.4/80)

The replies received from 14 of the 24 Associated Organizations to the letter (80.03.26) seeking comments on their collaboration with IUPAC, were considered. Prof. Ourisson found them more positive than he had anticipated: he noted three distinct types of AO and the collaboration may need to differ in each case:

- (i) international specialized groupings (ICR, etc.);
- (ii) international groups organizing regular specialized symposia (ICC, etc.);
- (iii) regional federations of associations (FECS, etc.).

The Executive Committee asked the Secretary General to invite the AOs to send a representative to a special lunch meeting (lunch paid by IUPAC) on 81.08.27 at Leuven, to be attended by the Officers of the Union and the Division Presidents, to discuss ways of improving collaboration.

Prof. Ourisson said that some good existing collaborations (ICTA, IFCC) should be emphasized at Leuven. Prof. Overberger thought it important to be clear in advance of Leuven what sort of collaboration IUPAC itself wanted: are cross-memberships on the relevant bodies needed? Prof. Perez-Masiá drew attention to some complaints about IUPAC publication policy for its sponsored symposia (ICCC, ICC): a few general remarks from the Union on the matter at Leuven might be worthwhile.

Prof. Michalski thought that it would be useful to have, say in CI, some information about each AO - their activities and who is in charge. The details were not easy to find in some cases.

12.2.5/80 Late Payment of Subscription (see 3.4.3.6/80)

Prof. Zollinger referred to the support from Dr. R. W. J. Keay (letter of 80.08.04) for the interpretation of Statutes 9.1 and 9.2 by Prof. Smets, viz. the sense of the English of "for one year" in 9.2 is in favour of "for the period of one year". The Executive Secretary felt it desirable for the wording of Statute 9.2 to be changed accordingly. Dr. Graulich feared the danger of more countries paying consistently late like Belgium: there was still no explanation why the Belgian subscription for 1979 had been received on 80.05.02 although said to be in hand in a letter to the Treasurer dated 80.01.31.

On the other hand Prof. Overberger thought maximum flexibility was needed for countries like Venezuela which had genuine difficulties in paying their subscription.

The Executive Committee accepted as official IUPAC policy for the future the principle, but without any need for statutory change at present, of the interpretation by Prof. Smets and Dr. Keay of Statute 9.2.

12.2.6/80 New Contract with Pergamon Press (see 3.8.2/80)

The Executive Secretary reported that the new contract had been finalized and signed by both the Union and by Pergamon. A supplemental agreement had been drafted by the Assistant Secretary (Publications), Mr. P. D. Gujral, to take into account various matters approved at the recent meeting of the Publications Committee (see 13/80 below).

12.2.7/80 Installation of Telex at IUPAC Secretariat (see 5.3/80)

The Executive Secretary reported that the IUPAC Secretariat had commenced using the telex facilities of Oxford Relay Associates (83147 attn. IUPAC) for a trial period from 80.05.01 through the rest of 1980 and during 1981.

12.2.8/80 Requests for Grants and Loans from ICSU in 1981 (see 5.5/80)

Prof. Ourisson referred to his submission to ICSU (80.07.10), developed in conjunction with the Executive Secretary, for financial support totalling US-\$24 000 in 1981 and to his recent more detailed request (80.08.10), emphasizing the relevance to the UNESCO programme. Documentation regarding UNESCO-ICSU contracts for 1981-1983 had been circulated prior to the Division Presidents meeting at Zurich (80.08.30) and several possibilities existed for the potential involvement of IUPAC. Yesterday Prof. Ourisson had invited each Division President to make suggestions for possible input from IUPAC, but he had emphasized that IUPAC bodies should only take on any new activities if some existing project(s) was first discontinued.

In the absence of any definite longrange planning within the Union, the Executive Committee endorsed as innocuous the outline proposals of Prof. Ourisson for the UNESCO Medium-term Plan for 1984-1989:

- (i) 'SCIRAWN' - an extension of the CHEMRAWN concept;
- (ii) improved collaboration with regional federations of national chemical societies, especially in less developed parts of the world;
- (iii) continuation of support requested in 1981 in respect of multilingual dictionaries, critical compilation of data, and teaching of science.

Dr. Williams recommended that Prof. Ourisson should communicate his SCIRAWN proposal for comment by at least the Officers of the CHEMRAWN Committee.

Prof. Smets felt that IUPAC, with IUB, should press for some funding of inter-union activities, such as JCBN. He was surprised that Dr. B. W. Rossiter had not made more of a direct approach to UNESCO (Dr. Abdul-Razzak Kaddoura) for funding, which would be free from the restrictions of ICSU. Also he reiterated his conviction that it would be good diplomacy to invite an observer from UNESCO to future meetings of the organizing committee for CHEMRAWN II.

Prof. Perez-Masiá recommended that Dr. Gellender should pay particular attention in CI to IUPAC activities which were helpful to developing countries, in order to facilitate further collaboration with and funding from UNESCO-ICSU.

12.2.9/80 ICSU Matters (see 6.4/80)

Regarding the Villefranche recommendations (i)-(iv) of the Executive Committee to ICSU, Prof. Smets reported that the replies so far received from other Members of ICSU were in general similar to the views of IUPAC. On the basis that an additional Vice-President would be created to the post of President-Elect at the forthcoming ICSU General Assembly (Amsterdam, 80.09.08-12), Prof. Zollinger had nominated Prof. Smets as a candidate. Should Prof. Smets be elected, it was agreed by the Executive Committee that Prof. Y. Jeannin should succeed him as official representative of IUPAC to the ICSU General Committee. Prof. Jeannin had in any case agreed to succeed Prof. Smets at the end of his term in mid-1981.

12.2.10/80 Limitation of IUPAC Commitments to Three per Person (see 7.5/80)

It was noted that the requests for various persons to reduce their IUPAC commitments had all been effective, but a successor for Prof. Jeannin on JCBN was still to be proposed. Should Prof. Jeannin have to replace Prof. Smets soon at ICSU (see 12.2.9/80 above), he may need to discontinue yet another IUPAC commitment.

The Executive Committee confirmed that simultaneous membership of the IUPAC Executive Committee and Bureau was to be regarded as a single commitment, and it reaffirmed the view that leniency should be observed in cases when membership of subcommittees or IUPAC representatives was involved.

13/80 MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS (80.05.15-16)

The minutes were recorded as having been received officially by the Executive Committee.

13.1/80 Membership of Committee on Publications (see 11.1/80)

The President had written to Prof. S. Claesson (80.07.29), noting his absence from Davos due to ill health and his failure to reply concerning the 1980 meeting of the Publications Committee. If no answer was received by 80.09.30, Prof. Zollinger would assume that Prof. Claesson was no longer interested to continue his membership.

13.2/80 Revision of Latimer's "Oxidation States of the Elements and their Potentials in Aqueous Solution" and Multilingual Dictionary of Analytical Terms (see 6.2.2/80)

These two projects were included in the requests for funding from ICSU in 1981 (see 12.2.8/80 above), but additional financial support was needed in the form of compilation fees recoverable in due course from royalties arising on publication. Pergamon was agreeable to provide advance compilation fees in both cases, as was already being done since Madrid (1975) for the Solubility Data and Stability Constants projects.

Prof. Ourisson still believed the principle of compilation fees to be correct, especially when voluntary work in IUPAC was to be supplemented by compilation activity. However, a proper financial evaluation was necessary in future by Pergamon for each particular project: if the proportion of potential royalties to be consumed by compilation fees was, say, greater than 50%, then IUPAC must make a decision whether to implement the project.

The Executive Committee noted that royalties arising in 1979 from Stability Constants were already double the compilation fees, while those from Vols. 1-3 of the Solubility Data Series indicated an eventual healthy net payment to

the Union after deduction of compilation fees.

Irrespective of any potential funding from ICSU, the Executive Committee decided definitely to provide financial assistance via the compilation fee system for the revision of Latimer and for the Multilingual Dictionary. Also it resolved to consider any future request for compilation fee assistance, in conjunction with the Publications Committee and Pergamon and on merit, but it should receive a proper summary for the project. An independent referee opinion from outside the relevant Commission may be needed on the scientific necessity for a proposed publication. There was no need for the Publications Committee to recommend any guidelines when it met at Leuven.

Finally the Executive Committee endorsed the decision taken by the IUPAC Officers (Zürich, 79.11.13), that Divisional funds should not be allocated for any publication in preparation which had not first been discussed by the Publications Committee and through it with Pergamon.

14/80            PROPOSED CHANGES TO STANDING ORDERS FOR IUB-IUPAC JOINT COMMISSION ON BIOCHEMICAL NOMENCLATURE

A request was considered from JCBN (letter dated 80.06.24), seeking permission from the parent Unions for it to have Associate Members. Based on the situation for the Joint Commission on Biothermodynamics, the following changes to Composition and Terms of Office of the JCBN Standard Orders (see 1980 Supplement to CI, p. 40) were suggested by Dr. Williams and approved by the Executive Committee:

- (i) ... eight regular Members, ... as Secretary, and up to eight Associate Members.
- (iii) Four of the regular Members ... One of the four IUB regular Members ... (CEBJ). Four of the Associate Members shall be appointed by IUB and four by IUPAC.
- (iv) The regular Members ...
- (vi) ... of regular Members and of Associate Members and the sum ... as a regular Member and as Chairman ...

The reaction of the IUB Executive Committee to the suggested changes was not yet known.

15/80            MEMBERSHIP OF CHEMRAWN COMMITTEE

The following Members had recently completed their initial four-year period of service:

Dr. B. W. Rossiter (January 1980)	Prof. A. Abou-El-Azm (January 1980)
Dr. H. Egan (January 1980)	Prof. D. Behrens (May 1980)
Prof. C. G. Overberger (January 1980)	

and Prof. G. E. Zaikov would shortly do so (November 1980). Drs. Rossiter and Egan plus Prof. Overberger were willing to serve again and the Executive Committee renewed their membership to a maximum of eight years. It was not yet known if Profs. Abou-El-Azm, Behrens, and Zaikov were willing to be renominated.

Bad health had prevented Prof. Abou-El-Azm from participating in recent meetings of the CHEMRAWN Committee. Unless a reassurance was received by mid-October regarding his health and future activity, he should be replaced, preferably by a person from a developing country.

16/80

PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL PRIZE IN CHEMICAL EDUCATION

At a recent meeting of the ICSU Committee on Teaching of Science (Malvern, 80.03.29-30) it had been suggested that each of the unions might give an Annual Prize, Medal or other form of recognition to someone who had made a major contribution to science education in their field. Such prizes were considered to be an enormous encouragement and were substantially more important than any monetary value of the prize.

The Executive Committee approved the suggestion of Prof. Michalski for a small subcommittee to consider the immediate implications for IUPAC of initiating an education prize and also the wider implications: IUPAC would be competing with many existing awards from national chemical societies. The composition of the subcommittee was agreed as Profs. Nagakura (coordinator), Michalski, and Overberger. It should work by correspondence and report back to the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

Prof. Ourisson thought that IUPAC would need some new definite income to finance such an award(s) and that it should not come out of the Union's existing income. Prof. Overberger was apprehensive: where does IUPAC stop and how does it control such awards? Prof. Zollinger drew attention to a proposal to use surplus funds from the 4th International Pesticide Chemistry Congress (Zürich, 1978) to endow an international pesticide prize. On behalf of IUPAC he had approved the proposal in principle. Prof. Ourisson felt it essential for the Chairman of the IUPAC Commission on Pesticide Chemistry to be a member of the selection committee.

17/80 ITEMS FROM AGENDA OF 42nd BUREAU MEETING REQUIRING DISCUSSION, RESOLUTION, OR RECOMMENDATION BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

17.1/80 Bureau Item 8 - Reports of Division Presidents

Prof. Zollinger reminded the Executive Committee of one of the main points in his speech as incoming President of the Union at the close of the Council meeting in Davos: his intention to focus attention on keeping the IUPAC label as a label of quality and even to increase the qualitative value of that label.

In the opinion of Prof. Zollinger, the Division Presidents in the past had not made sufficiently critical evaluations of the work of their Commissions (Bylaw 4.302). Clearly, any inefficient Commissions should be discontinued, but the Bureau and Council must first be provided with the relevant background. To that end the Listing of Published Commission Reports was a useful guide, he had recently read all Commission reports published in the last three volumes of PAC, and he had cross-checked several annual reports of the Division Presidents to see if progress was really being made on the various projects. With regard to the individual interviews just carried out at Zürich by the Officers with the Division Presidents, there were not yet any clear indications of which Commissions should definitely be discontinued at Leuven, although he had some feelings on the matter.

Prof. Ourisson felt that the interviews with the Division Presidents had been informative, and he agreed with Prof. Zollinger that it was not yet possible to reach any conclusions regarding dissolution of Commissions. It was, however, evident that some Division Presidents themselves were not well enough informed about their Commission activities. He referred briefly to the need for IUPAC to establish a longrange planning philosophy. This matter would be considered by the Bureau on the following day and it had already received preliminary discussion by the Division Presidents (see 3.1/80, Zürich meeting). In connexion with the listing of 1981 IUPAC Current Programmes, Prof. Ourisson said that the 'active starting date' (or 'activity not yet started') was to be included

for each project. In addition it would be useful to distinguish between specific short-term projects and longrange broad programmes, preferably with an indication of "cost" (two further meetings, or work by correspondence, or ten years of general meetings, etc.). The possibility had been raised of the Division Vice-Presidents having similar responsibilities for their respective Divisions to the proposed annual evaluation of IUPAC work by the Vice-President of the Union (see 3.1/80 and 8/80, Division Presidents - Zurich).

Following the suggestion of Dr. Williams, the Executive Committee invited Prof. Ourisson to send a followup letter to that of Prof. Zollinger already sent to the Division Presidents initiating preparation of the 1981 IUPAC Current Programmes listing. The relevant sections for each Division from the June 1976, May 1977, and May 1979 listings should be enclosed, with the request to check carefully what progress had been made in the various projects over the past five years.

Prof. Zollinger stressed that the organization of symposia was not a primary justification for the existence and function of an IUPAC Commission. Liaisons with other bodies, unless substantiated in detail, were also not relevant to the Current Programmes listing. He reiterated his view that if IUPAC was seen clearly to be efficient and to have quality programmes, then in the longer term the financial difficulties of the Union would be resolved.

Prof. Perez-Masiá declared himself highly appreciative of the intensive efforts being made by the President and his fellow Officers to improve the quality of the work of IUPAC.

#### 17.2/80 Bureau Item 7 - Revision of IUPAC Dues Policy

A summary prepared by Prof. Björkman (80.08.20) of replies so far received from the National Adhering Organizations to the circular letter of the President (80.05.23) was examined briefly by the Executive Committee. The Executive Secretary pointed out that the summary had been delayed because of the initial poor response from the NAOs. This had necessitated 19 urgent telexes/cables being sent out on 80.07.29 to get a more meaningful input from the NAOs.

Dr. Graulich drew attention to the suggestion from Japan to use the average chemical turnover figure over five years rather than the latest single value. Prof. Zollinger said that in any document tabled before Council at Leuven, references should be included to show from where the national CT values had been derived. Prof. Ourisson reiterated his view that the number of votes per category would be a powerful national incentive for a country to reach its appropriate category.

The Executive Committee accepted the suggestion of Prof. Björkman for a last reminder to be sent urging the outstanding countries to reply by 80.10.31 to the questionnaire of 80.05.23. Prof. Björkman's subcommittee should then draw up a definite recommendation for discussion by the Finance Committee and by the Executive Committee early in 1981, with a view to circulating it to the NAOs in advance of Leuven.

#### 17.3/80 Bureau Item 5.1 - Arrangements for 31st General Assembly

The Executive Secretary referred briefly to developments since Villefranche (memo of 80.08.08), which had led to the decision to work in terms of a sliding-scale for travel reimbursement. Miss Troughton and he recommended that US-\$4 000 should be provided for local travel in Belgium and, taking into account the latest available information, Miss Troughton suggested rises in the scale values for participants from Canada and Norway but a decrease for Australia. These proposals were exactly the type of special cases which Prof. Zollinger had envisaged for call on the reserve of US-\$16 000, and they were accepted by the Executive Committee.

Prof. Smets said it was now clear that Sabena could offer on average a reduction of 40% on economy class air fares for those routes which it flew. The Executive Committee agreed that Leuven participation forms should be passed to Sabena, via the Belgian local organizing committee, so that Sabena could contact participants with travel suggestions. However, Sabena would not be granted the status of "official carrier". A letter from Specialised Travel Service (UK) was noted and should be distributed to all participants.

The possibility was raised by Prof. Smets of some participants, who might obtain considerably greater reductions than anticipated by the sliding scale, being over-reimbursed by IUPAC for travel. Prof. Ourisson said that an appropriate remark should be included in the invitation letter for Leuven and the matter left to an individual's conscience to return any excess money to the Union.

18/80            MEMBERSHIP OF COCI

There were now two Company Associates in South Africa and under the Standing Orders for COCI that country was eligible to propose a candidate for membership of COCI. The Executive Committee accepted the nomination of Dr. G. S. Harrison.

19/80            TERMS OF PRESIDENCY OF DIVISION PRESIDENTS

Prof. Smets drew attention to the fact that six of the seven current Division Presidents were scheduled to retire from office at Leuven (four of them could not even continue as Past-President under the ten-year limitation on period of service). This constituted a large discontinuity in leadership of the Divisions and he judged that it would be better to have on average only three-four retirements each biennium. Prof. Zollinger suggested, as a partial solution for 1981, for each Division President to be accompanied at the Division Presidents meeting in Leuven by the incoming Division President, otherwise the Executive Committee agreed to wait and see how the situation developed.

The Executive Secretary referred to the discussions by the Division Presidents on the previous day (see 10/80, Zürich) about the election of Division Vice-Presidents. The Executive Committee accepted as a Presidential ruling (Statute 14.4) that in Bylaw 4.104:

- (i) by "its Members" (page 11, line 19) was meant "its existing and newly elected Members";
- (ii) "and in the case of newly elected Members in accordance with Bylaw 4.103" should be added to page 11, line 21.

The change in wording and addition to Bylaw 4.104 should be brought to the attention of the Bureau in Zürich for possible recommendation of adoption by Council at Leuven.

20/80            DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was agreed for 2-3 April 1981 at Villefranche-sur-Mer, with Prof. G. Ourisson to make the necessary arrangements.

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CHAIRMAN: H. Zollinger

DATE: April 2nd, 1981