

162nd Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: 27 March 2023, 13h00 - ~14h20 CEST

Present: Christopher Brett, Mei-Hung Chiu, Javier García Martínez, Richard Hartshorn, Greta Heydenrych (e.o.), Ehud Keinan, Wolfram Koch, Laura McConnell, Fabienne Meyers (guest), Zhigang Shuai

1) Nature of each of the GA, Council and Handover meetings: presence, hybrid or remote?

- All three of these meetings (or collections of meetings in the case of GA) will be held in hybrid format with the caveat that “hybrid” in some cases may simply mean that everyone connects via Zoom/Teams, i.e. no dedicated facilities for hybrid meetings will be available.
- Specifically for the Council Meeting non-interactive hybrid attendance will be possible, and people will be able to vote remotely.
- For the handover meeting, people with no compelling need to stay in The Hague past the General Assembly will be able to attend remotely. IUPAC will not support a week-long stay in The Hague for people who do not have IUPAC-related business in the period between the General Assembly and the final Handover meeting.
- More generally, however, hybrid meetings should be avoided in favour of online meetings in most cases. In-person meetings should be the exception, not the rule.

To do: We should set up a meetings policy, also with an eye on managing costs.

2) Voting: electronic or paper or a mix?

- **It was decided** to have electronic voting, likely the same system as we have used in 2021.
- A few dry runs would be needed, beforehand and on-site.

3) Continuing our discussions at frequent intervals

- **Next meeting:** Bureau meeting on 24 April, at 12h30 – 14h30 CEST. Invitation already sent.

4) Breakdown of GA expense

- Not discussed.
- Please refer to Excel file: GA_expense_breakdown_18_22. Please do note, though, that some of the software expenses for 2021 are not listed here, but rather under IUPAC’s general IT expenses. So some of these numbers are lower than they should be.

5) The proposal we got from the Finance Committee regarding Centenary Endowment Board

- Not discussed.
- Please refer to pdf file: ceb_fc_status_quo

6) Follow up with the DP/SCCs about the low number of candidates for internal members of the SB.

- Attached Excel file: eb_sb:officers_24march, yellow-highlighted lines, four eligible in total
- **It was decided that** the DPs/SCCs must be contacted again to encourage them to get nominated by their NAOs. Javier has asked Christine to take care of this, and this has already been done.

7) Having only one candidate both for VP and Secretary General

- Attached Excel file: eb_sb_officers_24march, orange-highlighted lines, 1 for each position
- **It was decided that** the DPs/SCCs must be contacted again to encourage them to get nominated by their NAOs. Javier has asked Christine to take care of this, and this has already been done.

8) Update on the status of Nigeria, Egypt, and any other NAO that we hope their fees will come in soon

- Nigeria on its way (24 March)
- Egypt reminded on 23 March
- Some NAOs still outstanding for 2022

9) Russia payment – implications

- There are no clear and consistent legal ways for Russia to pay their National Subscriptions or for IUPAC, nor for IUPAC to refund their participants.
- **It was decided that** we could inform them that refunding of events taking place during the period of sanctions can happen once sanctions are lifted, for the time that Russia is still a member. De facto, this would apply in 2023 only. The Russian NAO has been informed accordingly.

10) Possibility of Div/STCC posters at the GA/WCCA

- **It was decided that** the divisions and standing committees should prepare posters of their activities for the GA and for the Council. These should then be easily accessible throughout the event.
- The GWB, Top 10 Technologies, WorldFAIR, IYCN and so forth should be involved as well.
- **To do:** Fabienne will check with Frank about available space (done)
- **To do:** Fabienne will inform the people who will be making the posters, including a due date and specifications for the posters.

11) IYCN integration with IUPAC

- **It was decided that** Richard, Javier, Greta and Fabienne should prepare a proposal to be presented to the Council in cooperation with IYCN representatives
- **To do:** An initial meeting should be scheduled. **It was not clear who is responsible and by when this should be done.** Greta will follow up.

12) Development of *Chemistry International*

- The outcome of the discussion by Richard and Colin had been that it is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to decide what function they want *Chemistry International* to fulfil for IUPAC (internal communications or advertorial of IUPAC's activities to the broader chemistry community, something completely different?). The *Chemistry International* Editorial Board can then decide what the best path towards this goal would be.
- To do: As Colin and Richard have met now, the three-way meeting between Colin Bonnie and Wolfram is not really necessary. The Executive Committee (or a subgroup) needs to discuss this first and come up with clear recommendations. **It was not clear who will organise this and by when.**