

Resolutions

1 Membership and Shares

1.1 Ratification of the Decisions of Council regarding the Shares of Members

Council accepted two requests from members to increase their shares

19 February 2017

India to increase shares

Council approves the request from India to increase its shares from 8 to 15, subject to ratification by the 29th General Assembly. This increase takes effect in 2017. On ratification, it gives India 5 votes at the General Assembly.

17 March 2017

Singapore to increase shares

The request from Singapore to increase its shares from 1 to 2, received on 23 July 2015 was inadvertently not referred to the October 2015 C&CC meeting. It has now been approved by Council effective from 1/1/2016, subject to ratification by the 29th General Assembly. The number of votes for Singapore will increase from 1 to 2.

The 29th General Assembly RESOLVES to ratify these decisions of Council with immediate effect, so that these members may exercise the votes appropriate for their increased shares at the reminder of this General Assembly

1.2 Readmission of Pakistan as a member

Council received a request from the Pakistan National Centre for Physics for Pakistan to be readmitted as a member with reduced fees in an initial period. Pakistan was a member of IUPAP from 1951 to 1955 and it would be very help for IUPAP for them to again be a member.

The 29th General Assembly RESOLVES that Pakistan be admitted as a member of IUPAP, with the Pakistan National Centre for Physics as the adhering body, and that Pakistan be grated all the rights and responsibilities of membership and that its membership dues for the period 2018-2020 be set at 50% of one share.

The Pakistan National Centre for Physics is requested to establish a Liaison Committee to maintain relations between its physics community and the Union.

2 Ratification of Decisions made by Council

The 29th General Assembly notes the decisions made by Council, as set out in the minutes of Council available on the IUPAP website, **and RESOLVES to ratify the decision of 31 March 2017**

Ruling on retiring commission members

Council approves the ruling that, when a member retires from a Commission during a term and is replaced, if the replacement member serves more than half of the term, they

are counted as a member for that term in determining terms of service. If the replacement member serves less than half of the normal term, that service shall be disregarded in determining terms of service.

3 Resolution regarding the IUPAP Dues for 2018 to 2020

As advised to members in a memo distributed on 13 March 2017, on the recommendation of Commission C1: Commission on Finance, and in agreement with the Resolutions of the 27th General Assembly of IUPAP.

- for 2018: 2276 EUR
- for 2019: 2347 EUR
- for 2020: 2420 EUR

The 29th General Assembly of IUPAP RESOLVES that dues for 2015 to 2017 be based on the World Bank annual inflation rate for 2016 of 3.1%, and will be

4 Special Resolution regarding the Chair of C2: SUNAMCO.

For a number of reasons the usual succession arrangements for Commissions did not work to ensure that existing members of C2 have built up the experience necessary to be effective Chairs of the Commission for 2018-2010. It is desirable to appoint a previous Chair of the Commission as the Chair of C2 in this period to bridge this experience problem.

By-Law II.2.2 states that

“Chairs may not be re-elected to any position on the Commission beyond their term as Chair, and Vice-Chairs and Secretaries may not be re-elected to the same positions nor be re-elected as an ordinary member – except in extraordinary circumstances, and, in such circumstances, special approval by the General Assembly is required.”

Council therefore requests that the

29th General Assembly RESOLVES that special approval is given to appoint Peter Mohr, who was Chair of C2 from 2009-2011, as the Chair of C2 from 2018-2022

5 Resolution for Continuation of Working Groups

After consideration of the reports of the Working Groups the 29th General Assembly RESOLVES that all working groups except WG5 and Interim WG15 be continued until the 30th General Assembly in 2020, and DELEGATES to the Executive Council the Authority to approve those changes to the membership of Working Groups which it sees as appropriate.

6 Resolutions regarding WG5

The General Assembly received the report of WG5, the Working Group on Women in Physics, and notes that the 6th International Conference on Women in Physics (ICWIP) in 2017 noted many areas of progress in many countries, but in the current changing global landscape some countries are experiencing stagnation and reversal of gains.

6.1 Continuation of the Working Group

Noting that:

- The problem which this Working Group addresses is unlikely to be solved within 3 years. An element of continuity would be very helpful in sustaining and growing the influence that the WG is exerting.
- The difficulty that the Working Group faces in managing the next ICWP conference when it will happen outside its agreed term of existence
- In addition, the ICSU Collaborative Gender Gap project runs 2016-2019. It is likely that the WG will wish to undertake implementation of the findings. The IUPAP Working Group in fact wrote the first draft of this project, and 4 WG members are on the project executive.

Guaranteeing its existence to 2022 will give the working group the confidence to plan that implementation.

The 29th General Assembly RESOLVES that WG5 be continued for 6 years until the 31st General Assembly of 2023

6.2 Charge WG5 to organise the 7th ICWIP

The Conference every 3 years has become an implement of change and of inspiration. Countries were expressing interest in bidding for the 7th WCIP well before the 6th ICWIP.

The 29th General Assembly RESOLVES to charge the working group to organise the 7th ICWIP

6.3 Diversity and inclusion in physics

It has been demonstrated that discussions on gender issues can be one of the most important actions in bringing about positive change in a community. IUPAP supported conferences are an important venue to facilitate these discussions among physicists, not just women physicists.

The 29th General Assembly RESOLVES to encourage IUPAP-funded conferences to have a session for all participants on diversity and inclusion in physics

6.4 Female plenary speakers

The reports of the IUPAP Gender Champion refer specifically to low numbers of women as invited or plenary speakers. This provides a negative impact in terms of career role models, professional development of leading women, and leadership in physics.

The 29th General Assembly RESOLVES to encourage IUPAP-sponsored conferences to include more female plenary speakers, and asks that the number of male and female at the conference be reported in the conference report to IUPAP

7 Resolution regarding WG14

The 29th General Assembly DELEGATES to the Executive Council the authority to receive a proposed new mandate from WG14 and to approve it if it sees fit to do so.

8 Resolution regarding WG15

Having received the report of the Interim Working Group on Soft Matter Physics (Interim WG15) the 29th General Assembly RESOLVES to establish the Working Group on Soft Matter Physics, WG15, with the mandate

1. To organize or assist in the organization of an International Conference “Soft Matter Around the World” which rotates every 3 years to each geographic region (Europe-Africa, the Americas, and Asia-Pacific).
2. To coordinate soft-matter-related regional, national & local conferences, meetings & workshops
3. To coordinate soft matter education, such as summer and winter schools and short courses and help organize them if a need appears
4. To promote soft matter research through information exchange, publicity, prizes, publications, etc.
5. To strengthen the connections between academic and industrial soft matter research and development through outreach events, short courses, etc.
6. To advise the 30th General Assembly in 2022 on the best way to ensure that IUPAP continues to nurture soft matter physics.

The 29th General Assembly delegates to the Executive Council the authority to approve the membership of the Working Group on Soft Matter Physics.

The term of the Working group in the first instance shall be until the 30th General Assembly

9 Resolution regarding terms of New Commissions

Statute IV. C states that

C. The term of office of Councillors normally begins and ends at the end of each General Assembly. In exceptional circumstances the General Assembly may extend the term of office.

However, nothing in the statutes or By-Laws states the starting and ending dates for members of Commissions. Looking at the recorded dates for previous commission demonstrates a confusion on this. By-Law II. 2 now states:

Terms of Office

1. All elections are for a term of three years.
2. Chairs may not be re-elected to any position on the Commission beyond their term as Chair, and Vice-Chairs and Secretaries may not be re-elected to the same positions nor be re-elected as an ordinary member – except in extraordinary circumstances, and, in such circumstances, special approval by the General Assembly is required. Ordinary members may be elected twice.
3. Normally the Secretary, Vice-Chair and Chair are to be chosen from among those who have served at least one term on the Commission.

4. Service in all capacities shall not exceed three terms.

The 29th General Assembly RESOLVES that By-Law II.2 be amended

- 1 by the insertion of a new clause 2 that states

The term of office of Councillors normally begins 1 January of the year after each General Assembly, and ends on 31 December of the year of the General Assembly. In exceptional circumstances the General Assembly may extend the term of office.

- 2 by the appropriate renumbering of the following clauses

10 Resolution to confirm new mandate for C17

C17 has indicated that they wish to propose a revised mandate. That revised mandate is not yet available

The 29th General Assembly DELEGATES to the Executive Council the authority to receive a proposed new mandate from C17 and to approve it if it sees fit to do so.

11 Resolution regarding the International Year of Basic Science for Development

Having received the document *16.2 IYBSD* describing the proposed International Year of Basic Science for Development

The 29th General Assembly RESOLVES to pursue and strongly support the plan to establish 2022 as the International Year of Basic Sciences for Development, along the guidelines outlined in the document IYBSD

12 Resolution regarding the ICSU-NSSC merger

The 29th General Assembly of IUPAP RESOLVES that IUPAP casts its vote at the ICSU General Assembly in favour of the proposal to merge ICSU and ISSC.

13 Resolution to establish a Working Group on Physics and Industry

The 29th General Assembly RESOLVES

1. To establish a Working Group on Physics in Industry to serve until the close of the 30th General Assembly
2. To charge the Working Group on Physics in Industry to report to the 30th General Assembly with recommendations on how IUPAP can strengthen its connections with physicists working in industry, and with industries which make strong use of physics to develop and deliver their products.
3. To delegate to the Executive Council the responsibility of appointing the Chair and the members of the Working Group on Physics in Industry.

4. To authorise the Executive Council to act on recommendations from the Working Group on Physics in Industry, except for recommendations which prolong the Working Group, transform it to a Commission, or change the membership structure of IUPAP.

14 Resolution regarding SESAME

The 29th General Assembly congratulates the Council, Director and management on the successful opening of SESAME, RESOLVES that IUPAP will continue its support of the SESAME travel program at the existing level until the 30th General Assembly, and DELEGATES to the Executive Council the Authority to conclude any agreement necessary to formalise this resolution

15 Resolution regarding MOU with UNESCO

The 29th General Assembly DELEGATES to the Executive Council the authority to conclude a Memorandum of co-operation in pure and applied physics between the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) and the International Basic Sciences Programme (IBSP) of UNESCO's Sector of Natural Sciences

16 Resolution regarding redefinition of SI

Proposed by the Chair and Vice Chair of C2

Noting that:

The SI came into being in 1960 with IUPAP providing important impetus for that international adoption of a complete and coherent system of units. It is fitting that IUPAP continue its role in support of internationally agreed-upon units by supporting the current plans for redefinition.

The most immediate need for redefinition arises from the problem of the kilogram. Today, the kilogram is defined as the mass of the International Prototype Kilogram (IPK), a platinum-iridium cylinder kept in a vault at the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (the BIPM). For some time, and most especially in recent years, it has become clear that the mass of IPK has been drifting and changing with respect to other mass standards manufactured at the same time as IPK, and subsequent to that time. The circumstance of having the standard of mass itself subject to changes in, for example, the surface contamination of an artifact, is unacceptable in the modern era. It is akin to the situation when the unit of time, the second, was defined as a fraction of the mean solar day, a time interval known to be changing due to the variability of the rotation rate of the earth. That problem was solved by defining the hyperfine interval in atomic cesium to be a fixed and exact frequency.

The electric unit, the ampere, is now defined in terms of the forces between current-carrying wires. Because the realization of that definition is so difficult, a parallel system of electrical units based on conventional (but not SI) values for the Josephson ratio $2e/h$ and the quantum Hall resistance, h/e^2 , is commonly used instead of the SI. The redefinition will join the SI and this parallel system of practical units, removing ambiguity and allowing the highest possible accuracy realization of SI electrical units.

The redefinition of the kelvin, the unit of temperature, will resolve issues with the difficulty of realizing the current definition, which is based on defining the triple point of water. The redefinition of the mole represents a major simplification and a democratization relative to the element chosen to define it.

The SI redefinition will modernize the SI, eliminate drifts and uncertainties in the definitions of four base units, and reduce the uncertainties in the values of the fundamental constants.

Further information about the introduction of the new definitions of the units is available from the website of the Bureau International de Poids et Mesures,

www.bipm.org/utis/common/pdf/24_CGPM_Resolutions.pdf

and

http://www.bipm.org/cc/CCU/Allowed/23/CCU_Final_Recommendation_U1_2017.pdf

or for the definitive recommendation in French

http://www.bipm.org/cc/CCU/Allowed/23/CCU_Final_Recommendation_U1_2017_FR.pdf

The 29th General Assembly RESOLVES that the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics strongly supports the proposed revision of the International System of Units (Système International d'Unités, the SI) in which the current definitions of four of the base units of the SI will be replaced with definitions involving the specification of fixed and exact values of four of the fundamental constants of nature. Specifically, the current definitions of the kilogram, the ampere, the kelvin, and the mole will be replaced with definitions that fix the values of the Planck constant, the elementary electric charge, the Boltzmann constant, and the Avogadro constant. IUPAP supports the institution of the redefined SI on the timescale recommended by the Consultative Committee on Units (CCU) so that it takes official effect on World Metrology Day, 20 May 2019.

17 Resolution regarding funding of Science, especially in Brazil

The funding of science research and education is under significant threat in many countries. Budget cuts of 5-10% have been common and are to be deplored. The disruptive effects of such cuts can delay and diminish education, research and development for many years after an improved economic situation allows their restoration.

In Brazil, the budget for research of the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovations, and Communications had a cut of 44% in 2017, and a new cut of 15.5% is expected for 2018. This will damage the country for many years, with the dismantling of internationally renowned research groups and a brain drain involving its best scientists.

The 29th General Assembly RESOLVES to write to the President of Brazil and the Minister of Science Technology, Innovations, and Communications to explain that the effects that this large cut will have, and that they will seriously jeopardize the economic future of the country, and to publish that letter on its website.