



International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry

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Chemistry and Human Health Division
Commission VII.C.1: Nomenclature, Properties and Units

Minutes of meeting, Copenhagen 2002-02-09-12

1. **Opening of the meeting** – The meeting opened at 01:00 PM, February 09, 2002.
2. **Participants and apologies** – Present for the opening of the meeting were the following titular members for the C-NPU (TM): Urban Forsum (UF) chairman of the C-NPU, Pedro Soares de Araujo (PSA) secretary of the C-NPU, René Dybkaer (RD), Wolf R. Külpmann (WRK) and Gunnar Nordin (GN). UF introduced Huib Storm, from the Netherlands, as an invited guest to this meeting. Apologies were presented for the absence of Antonin Jabor (AJ). Henrik Olesen former C-NPU chairman (HO) introduced Stig Bojesen (SB) from the Dept. of Clinical Biochemistry, Rigshospitalet (Copenhagen University Hospital) and Kim Warming (KW) from the Dept. Clin. Immunology, Aalborg University Hospital, Aalborg, who attended the afternoon sessions of Monday 11.
3. **Approval of provisional agenda** – The provisional agenda prepared by PSA was discussed and approved.
 1. Opening of the meeting
 2. Participants and apologies
 3. Approval of provisional agenda
 4. Meeting schedule
 5. Update of C-NPU membership
 6. Minutes of Brisbane
 7. Member's reports
 8. Properties and units for Transfusion Medicine and Immunohaematology (UF)
 9. Properties and units in Medical Molecular Biology (PSA)
 10. Properties and units for Urinary calculi (AJ)
 11. Concepts for requests in clinical laboratories (UF)
 12. C-NPU concepts and traceability of measurements (GN)
 13. Global use of C-NPU concept system for properties in Toxicology (WRK)
 14. Properties and units for Function examinations (AJ)
 15. C-NPU generic database hosting
 16. Procedures and funding for the maintenance of the codes in the generic C-NPU database
 17. Procedures and funding for the maintenance of the physical and software structures needed to work with and archive the generic C-NPU database
 18. Publication of the C-NPU database in the IFCC website
 19. Information on the new IUPAC Human Health and Chemistry Division meeting, Brussels December 2001
 20. IUPAC C-NPU subcommittee composition and terms of office
 21. WHO and C-NPU, current state of affairs
 22. C-NPU and the 18th Intern. Conf. Of Clinical Chemistry, Kyoto Japan 2002-10-20/25
 23. Review and deliberation on the Zender letter
 24. The use of "arbitrary" in properties concerning concentrations. Suggestion by R. Zender
 25. VIM and the C-NPU. Report by RD
 26. Env 1614 – VIM – C-NPU and TC 251. Status report
 27. CUMUL, LOINC, etc. – Recent developments
 28. MEQULAN and metrology in the field of qualitative chemical analysis
 29. Membership and recruiting of new members
 30. Budget
 31. Miscellany
 32. Next meeting
 33. Closing
4. **Meeting schedule** – After a round of presentations around the table to introduce all the persons attending the session the meeting schedule was prepared and approved.
5. **Update on CNPU membership** – UF mentioned the recruiting policy of C-NPU, and the difficulties on getting new people. This is especially true with people from other areas other than Clinical Chemistry. GN mentioned that we

should have more active PR papers to make a bigger exposure of our work. WRK asked about some industrial support for C-NPU as a way to go. RD suggested approaching IFCC to have an industrial member. UF will take care of this initiative.

6. **Minutes of Brisbane** – The Brisbane minutes were accepted with minor revisions.
7. **Member's reports** – RD published an article on katal – Unit “Katal” for catalytic activity – *Pure Appl. Chem.* **73**: 927-931, 2001. Gilbert Hill also published an article on katal. — The katal....a little history....and current status *CSCC News* **43**, no.5, December 2001. GN reports on the Swedish activities on Equalis and the support for the basic activities of the system. RD reports that the situation of NPU in Denmark is similar, supported by the Health Ministry. AJ (by e-mail) co-operates with Czech Ministry of Health on three projects: 1) Introduction of ISQua requirements to laboratory quality management (new project), 2) Introduction of XML format for data interchange (new project), 3) National database of properties in laboratory sciences (continued). WRK and GN brought to discussion the question of the use of local codes and there was an agreement that GN will prepare a list of codes for discussion at the next meeting.
8. **Project Properties and units for Transfusion Medicine and Immunohaematology** (UF) – The manuscript was revised and a new version should be considered at the next meeting
9. **Project Properties and units in Medical Molecular Biology** (PSA) –The Molecular Biology manuscript was revised and some corrections were added to it. A new version should be submitted at the next meeting.
10. **Project Properties and units for Urinary calculi** (AJ) – The manuscript on Urinary calculi was revised. A copy of the revised manuscript will be e-mailed to AJ. RD pointed out that it needs structured entries according to the usual NPU structure.
11. **Project Concepts and structure for requests in Laboratory Medicine** (UF) – UF reported that this project has not yet been started, but the work should start this spring. WRK asked about the intended structure of requests and reports, considering the specifics of the various clinical laboratory disciplines.
12. **Project C-NPU concepts and traceability of measurements** (GN) – GN reported no activities. This project has become an interdivisional project and so far no activity was reported. UF commented on the minutes from the Division in Brussels and the need for contacts with Anders Kallner (AK) to get information on how this project will be conducted. RD added some comments on this interdivisional IUPAC project chaired by Paul De Bièvre (PB). Another branch in this subject is the JCTLM. This committee will meet in Paris with BIPM hosting. The third axis on that is the EN Standard from ISO and from CEN, which is going to be voted also in traceability. It seems that the starting point would be GN contacting PB.
13. **Project Global use of C-NPU concept system for properties in Toxicology** (WRK) – WRK reported on the interdivisional project on toxicology. The project was approved by IUPAC and funded. The first meeting was not yet scheduled. Budget considerations for this project were discussed. Possibilities for the first meeting were reviewed.
14. **Project Properties and units for Function examinations** (AJ) – AJ informed by e-mail that there was no progress in this project and that a new version will be presented at the next meeting.
15. **C-NPU generic database hosting** – Ivan Bruunshuus and Ulla Jacobson, were invited guests to the meeting session of February 11. UF gave a report on the situation of the update of the generic database and its migration to SQL. This version will be maintained and hosted in the IFCC website, and will be the source for the Swedish database. The question on how to administer the issuing of new NPU codes was addressed. The importance of having CNPU generic database running on the IFCC site in version 1.0 was discussed and there was a general consensus that this was an urgent matter.
16. – 18. **Procedures and funding for the maintenance of the codes in the generic C-NPU database; Procedures and funding for the maintenance of the physical and software structures needed to work with and archive the generic C-NPU database; Publication of the C-NPU database in the IFCC website** – UF presented the situation of the C-NPU database and the situation of the funding for its maintenance. UF reported on the construction of the generic C-NPU database in English, which will be published in the IFCC website. There was an agreement on the proposed actions to be taken here. WRK returned to financial considerations on how to get funds to maintain the database. UF will write a report for IFCC SD meeting in mid March about these matters.
19. **Information on the new IUPAC Human Health and Chemistry Division meeting, Brussels December 2001** – UF reported on the establishment of two subcommittees from the Division. AK is the chairman. Next Division meeting will be in Boston in June.
20. **IUPAC C-NPU subcommittee composition and terms of office** – UF gave a report on the situation of the C-NPU. From the IFCC viewpoint we are still a committee endowed with 10000 Swiss francs per year. From the IUPAC side, we are now under the project driven system. AK tried to get 4 projects funded starting in 2001 after the Brisbane meeting, but they were approved only in December 2001. The other 3 are still under review. There is a suggestion from the Division to create a sub-committee, UF wrote a proposal that was already accepted by the Division
21. **WHO and C-NPU, current state of affairs** – We tried, we failed and we will try again as soon as we have an opening. This statement defines with precision the current state of affairs in our connections with WHO.
22. **C-NPU and the 18th Intern. Conf. of Clinical Chemistry, Kyoto Japan 2002-10-20/25**– Our primary goal is to go to Kyoto, extending the stay for some three days before the meeting. The funding question for this proposal was raised and a few alternatives were discussed to obtain more funds from IFCC.
23. – 24. **Review and deliberation on the Zender letter; The use of “arbitrary” in properties concerning concentrations. Suggestion by R. Zender** – Robert Zender's letters on the use of the term “arbitrary” and RD's

answers were discussed. There was an agreement that we have been using this term a bit loosely. The matter is obviously of interest but we have not yet reached a consensus. UF will write a letter to RZ.

25. **VIM and the C-NPU. Report by RD** – RD reported that GUM would not be updated in the near future. VIM has divided itself in 3 groups that are revising the VIM. The idea is to have a final draft for circulation at the end of this year.
26. **Env 1614 – VIM – C-NPU and TC 251. Status report** – UF have managed to postpone its revision until the revision of the VIM is finished.
27. **CUMUL, LOINC, etc. – Recent developments** – Loinc – no comments. CUMUL – no further comments. RD and GN advocate that we manifest CPNU opinion on the ECLM endorsing the CUMUL.
28. **MEQULAN and metrology in the field of qualitative chemical analysis** – UF tried to establish contacts with the chairman of Mequalan, but had no returns. RD reported that there were no developments on that subject.
29. **Membership and recruiting of new members** – Stig Bojesen and Huib Storm were considered as possible new members of C-NPU. The secretary will send mail to Eugene Yourtov asking for his interest in continuing on this committee
30. **Budget** – UF suggested that we use IUPAC money to pay for this meeting with funds from the Molecular Biology project.
31. **Miscellany** – No items to be discussed.
32. **Next meeting** – Next meeting location discussion considered Kyoto (IFCC meeting) as our first alternative, for which we need more money in our budget. UF will make efforts to obtain more funds. Kyoto meeting is scheduled to 20-25 October 2002. Another possibility would be a meeting in Hanover organized by WRK, for which the schedule would be from Friday (November 8) to Monday 10, or Tuesday 11 half of the day.
33. **Closing** – The meeting closed at 11:00 AM February 12, 2002