



Minutes of meeting, Sousse 2004-05-14/17

1. **Opening of the meeting** - the meeting opened at 9:00 am, May 14, 2004
2. **Participants and apologies** - Present for the opening of the meeting were the following C-NPU titular members: Urban Forsum (UF) C-NPU chairman, Pedro Soares de Araujo (PSA) C-NPU secretary, Françoise Pontet (FP) and Gunnar Nordin (GN). René Dybkaer (RD) arrived on May 16 because he had to attend another meeting in Paris. Wolf R. Külpmann (WRK), who is the chairman of another IFCC committee, joined C-NPU only in May 16. Apologies were presented for the absence of Antonin Jabor (AJ) and Ivan Bruunhuus Petersen (IB).
3. **Approval of the provisional agenda** - The provisional agenda prepared by PSA was approved with a few additions, which were proposed by the members. Therefore, the agenda for the meeting contained the following items:
 - I. Opening of the meeting
 - II. Participants and apologies
 - III. Approval of provisional agenda
 - IV. Meeting schedule
 - V. Update of C-NPU membership
 - VI. Minutes of the Lund meeting
 - VII. Member's reports
 - VIII. Concepts for requests in clinical laboratories. (UF)
 - IX. C-NPU concepts and traceability of measurements (GN)
 - X. Global use of C-NPU concept system for properties in Toxicology (WRK)
 - XI. Manuscript on HbA1c. (GN)
 - XII. Uno. RD's Uno paper was circulated with some comments from members of ICTNS of IUPAC. The C-NPU should definitively have an opinion on the Uno suggestion.
 - XIII. MEQUALAN-project; left over from the Lund meeting. Documents already circulated to C-NPU members
 - XIV. C-NPU and LOINC collaborative work by Clem McDonald and Urban Forsum scheduled for September 2004. Update during the meeting.
 - XV. ISO/CD 18112-1. Letter from Xavier Fuentes-Arderiu. The e-mail from Xavier was forwarded to C-NPU members.
 - XVI. ENV 1614 revision- should we appoint a working party?
 - XVII. R. Zender paper draft on Terms for a Global Scientific Vocabulary. Draft already distributed to C-NPU members.
 - XVIII. New projects
 - XIX. Maintenance of the C-NPU database
 - XX. Budget
 - XXI. Miscellany
 - XXII. Next meeting
 - XXIII. Closing
4. **Meeting schedule** - UF presented the schedule proposed for this meeting, which was approved.
5. **Update of C-NPU membership** - PSA presented the membership situation concerning permanence in office. IFCC members are allowed two terms in office, each of 3 years. Extensions are granted in special cases for one year. PSA, AJ and WRK are due to resign at the end of their second term in 12-2004. GN and UF will be in office for their second term until 12-2005. RD is a permanent member. UF will contact the IFCC Office for nominations by national societies. For acquiring new members, contacts with Xavier Arderiu from Spain, with Douglas Templeton and Gilbert Hill from Canada, and Howard Morris from Australia, liaison for C-NPU in IFCC SD, were

- suggested. IUPAC membership depends on the participation in approved projects. UF also mentioned that he is not a candidate for the incoming elections for the C-NPU chairmanship.
6. **Minutes of the Lund meeting** - The minutes of the Lund meeting prepared by PSA were approved without any corrections.
 7. **Member's reports** – UF proposed that C-NPU nominate Henrik Olesen for the IFCC Distinguished Clinical Chemistry Award. We will seek nominations from Xavier Fuentes-Arderiu, Clem Mc Donald, Czech, Nordic, and Argentinean Clinical Chemistry Societies. The IFCC Executive Committee will receive the nominations by end of December. UF will send the documents needed to C-NPU members, so they can start the contacts. PSA reported that the Properties and Units in Medical Molecular Biology manuscript was accepted for publication in Pure and Applied Chemistry. Since this is a very long manuscript, most probably only an excerpt will be published in J-IFCC. PSA made a report on the IUPAC Division Committee (DC) meeting he attended in London as a new DC titular member (2004-2006). He stressed the importance of increasing C-NPU representation in the DC and the offer from DC member Michel Liberman on collaborative efforts for the maintenance of C-NPU database with USA's National Science Foundation support. FP is currently translating the C-NPU database into French.
 8. **Concepts for requests in clinical laboratories.** No progress was reported on this project.
 9. **C-NPU concepts and traceability of measurements** – PSA reported that this project was definitely rejected during the DC meeting in London in December 2003.
 10. **Global use of C-NPU concept system for properties in Toxicology** – The last version of this document prepared by John Dufus and WRK was revised and several important points needing correction were raised like the lack of element codes and the misuse of serum as a system. A new draft should be prepared for the next C-NPU meeting.
 11. **Manuscript on HbA1c** – GN introduced a new version, a draft dated 2004-05-14. The document was revised and this revised version will be presented to the HbA1c committee and the Global Initiative on Diabetes during this IFCC General Conference. It was agreed that this new version should be sent to the IFCC Bureau to collect comments from all IFCC members.
 12. **The Uno article** - We agreed to answer to ICTNS comments indicating why we support the need for Uno. UF should send a reply to Jack Lorimer.
 13. **MEQUALAN project** - In our views the Mequalan project did not address topics of high interest for C-NPU. The Nordic project could in a year or so to provide some interesting data on the sensitivity of qualitative tests.
 14. **C-NPU and LOINC collaborative work** - UF reported on the contact maintained with members of the Regenstrief Institute. He mentioned that a position paper dealing with the common agreement achieved would be prepared. In this context, a proposal for obtaining support from IFCC (including a ½ salary for IB to maintain the database) to keep the database up and running until the future merger with Loinc was approved. This proposal will be presented in the meeting with SD during this IFCC General Conference.
 15. **ISO/CD 18112-1. Letter from Xavier Fuentes-Arderiu** – UF will consult with Anders Kallner about this topic and will share his views the committee. After that, most probably, we will be able to suggest to the national societies that we should vote no. PSA will send e-mail to XFA. C-NPU members should read these documents for discussion in the next meeting.
 16. **ENV 1614 revision- should we appoint a working party?** - RD suggested that ENV 1614 revision should be a new C-NPU project. This proposal was considered to be one of the most interesting ways to deal with this topic. Now that VIM was released we could propose to Magnus Fogelberg, head of TC251 Working group 2, that the revision should be undertaken as a joint project. The revision needs to provide an XML format to ENV1614 and update the definitions to VIM.
 17. **R. Zender paper draft on Terms for a global scientific vocabulary** – Robert Zender's vocabulary version 2 was proposed to be another C-NPU project as a tutorial or educational document. UF will write to Robert Zender about this proposition.
 18. **New projects** – With the visit of the B-D Analytical Systems corporate member, a new project was suggested in pre-analytical solutions for sampling systems, which could be of interest to B-D. Another suggestion for a new project was Clinical Physiology, with exception made to imaging. It was also mentioned that C-NPU should contact IFCC flow cytometry working group to start a collaborative project. PSA proposed a joint project with EMD to publicize the information on C-NPU coding and Medical Informatics.
 19. **Maintenance of the C-NPU database** – This topic of the agenda was already addressed in item 14.
 20. **Budget** – UF informed that C-NPU has a total budget of 10000 CHF per year from IFCC.
 21. **Miscellany** – Nothing to be discussed under this item.

22. **Next meeting** – UF proposed that the next meeting should be in Indianapolis, with the participation of Clem Mc Donald from the Loinc consortium. The tentative dates are 6 –7 November 2004.
23. **Closing** – The meeting was closed at 17:30 of May 16, 2004.