

Report to CCE Meeting – Torino 2007

National education policy

The 3+2 system is implemented with about 30 courses in the first level and 20 courses in the +2 level. Many students complain rightly that they have not sufficient time to study. With the change of national govern in 2006, the new Minister of University proposed the reduction of the number of the courses: 20 courses for the first level and 12 courses for the +2 level. But the proposal did not become a law, so now there is some confusion. In absence of a national legislation, some University will start quite soon to discuss the reduction of the number of the courses.

In November 2005 a letter of intent between the Ministry of Education and the three national scientific associations of teachers (Chemistry, Physics, and Science). The goal of this major project (*ISS - Insegnare Scienze Sperimentali*; teaching experimental sciences) is the use/making of laboratory in schools and especially the continuous training of teachers using the action research method.

Events in chemical education

The division of chemical education worked together with INDIRE, a National agency for the growth of scholastic autonomy with 3 project devoted to newly-recruited teachers.

Another major activity is Progetto Lauree Scientifiche (Scientific degrees project) run by Science faculties of universities and the regional scholastic authority. The aim of the project is the orientation of students and the updating of high school teachers.

Activities of the National Chemistry Society (Division of Chemical Education)

The 5th National Conference on Chemical Education took places in Florence (11-13 September 2006). The title of the conference was: “Chemistry for excite and educate”.

The theme of the national olympiads was “chemistry for the life, chemistry for a better life”. The national team attended the international olympiads at Gyeongsan and won a bronze medal.

Several regional projects were devoted to the improvement of chemical education and many refresher courses took places in several regions.

A summer school (SPAIS, Scuola Permanente per l’Aggiornamento degli Insegnanti di Scienze, School for the updating of science teachers) took places in Sicily and 50 teaches attended it. The theme was “Nanotechnologies and nanomaterials”.