### CHEMRAWN Committee Meeting Frei Universität Berlin Tuesday, August 10, (9:00-13:00, 14:00-17:00)

**Members Present**: Dr. P. Norling (chairman), Dr. I. Buncel, , Dr. Min Che Chon, Prof. M. Droescher, Prof. R. Hamelin, , Mr. M. Kawamata Prof. J.A. Kopytowski, Prof. F. Kuznetsov, Dr. J. Malin (secretary), Prof. P. Moyna, Prof. I. Onyido, Dr. S. Sivaram , Dr. A. Smith (*part-time -- member also of COCI*)

Attending: Dr. E. Altman, Dr. J. Boggs, Dr. J. Bradley (CTC), Dr. J. Cowan, Dr. J. de Paula, Dr. R. Goldstein, Dr. Grzywa, Mr. Alan Hayes (IUPAC Chair-Elect), Mr. M. Imanari, Dr. J. Lagowski, Dr. S. W. Page, Dr. A. Pohland, Dr. J. Roberts Dr. .A. Shoukry (Egypt)

#### Agenda

- 1. Introductions and welcome to observers and guests.
- 2. Minutes of the Philadelphia Meeting
- 3. Approval/modification of the agenda
- 4. Follow-up on past CHEMRAWN Conferences

CHEMRAWN VII – Dr. Parry Norling for Dr. Rudy Pariser CHEMRAWN IX - Dr. M. C. Chon CHEMRAWN XI - Prof. Patrick Moyna Proposal to review past conferences. Prof. Kopytowski

- Report on CHEMRAWN XII (African Food Security ...) Prof. Buncel and Prof. Onyido
- 6. Status Report on CHEMRAWN XIV "Toward Environmentally Benign Processes and Products". Dr. John Malin and Dr. Parry Norling
- Status Report on CHEMRAWN X ("Educational") Dr. Parry Norling/Prof. James Boggs
- 8. Status report on CHEMRAWN XIII: Chemistry for Clean Energy Prof. Fedor Kuznetsov
- 9. Discussion of content for joint meeting with COCI on August 11.
- 10. Proposals for additional/new CHEMRAWN conferences:
- 11. Discussion/clarification of CHEMRAWN conference proposals: overall goals, outline, model budget, timeline, future actions. Dr. Parry Norling et al.
- 12. Plans/location/timing of CHEMRAWN committee meeting in 2000
- 13. Other items as needed.

- **1. Welcome.** The Chairman greeted new members of the committee and welcomed all present. especially the Young Observers from the United States.
- **2. Minutes.** The Minutes of the Philadelphia meeting (August 31-31, 1998) were APPROVED unanimously without correction.
- **3.** Agenda. The committee agreed upon the agenda listed above, although the order in which items were taken was modified occasionally for convenience.
- 4. Follow-up on past CHEMRAWN conferences.
- A. CHEMRAWN VII. "The Chemistry of the Atmosphere: Its Impact on Global Change," was held in Baltimore, MD in 1991. Dr. Norling reported on behalf of Dr. Pariser, noting that the highly successful CHEMRAWN VII conference had been able to raise funding nearly \$100,000 in excess of that needed for the direct expenses of the conference. Some of the funding was used in follow-up experiments, for example, for measurements of atmospheric carbon dioxide levels at various altitudes above the Amazon basin. Sampling was accomplished using high-flying kites towed behind boats on the Amazon river. Articles describing this work have been submitted for publication.
- B. CHEMRAWN IX. The Role of Advanced Materials in Sustainable Development", took place in Seoul, Korea, in September, 1996. Dr. Chon noted that the Asian economic crisis has substantially impeded the Future Actions operations beyond those outlined in the Minutes of the Philadelphia meeting. As noted in those Minutes, a Perspectives and Recommendations booklet has been published and several subcommittees have been formed.
- C. CHEMRAWN XI "Environmental Analytical Chemistry", Montevideo, Uruguay, March 15-20, 1998. As reported in the Minutes of the Philadelphia meeting, this first regional CHEMRAWN conference included 240 participants, 29 lectures, 14 other oral presentations and 46 posters. Dr. Moyna noted that the Future Actions Committee produced a statement that was published in *Pure and Applied Chemistry* last year. Partly as a result of this conference, a subsequent workshop on analytical methodology was held in Prague in June of 1999. Dr. Moyna added that only six out of thirty countries in Latin America are members of IUPAC. This rather low rate of national subscription, he said, is detrimental to IUPAC activities in the region. Efforts should be made to increase IUPAC enrollment in Latin America..
- D. Review of past CHEMRAWN conferences. All present agreed that a summary and review of previous CHEMRAWN conferences is needed to identify the important issues arising from past conferences and assess current methods for organization of events. Dr. Kopytowski volunteered to produce a document listing the critical elements for the conferences. Dr. Kopytowski and Dr. Malin will begin by compiling a list of records currently available from past conferences. Dr. Kopytowski will contact organizers of previous conferences or members of the CHEMRAWN committee to assemble the information.
- 1. Status of *CHEMRAWN XII*. "African Food Security and Natural Resource Management: The New Scientific Frontiers"- Drs. Buncel and Onyido reviewed the history of the conference. They noted that Dr. Sanchez, a cochair of CHEMRAWN

XII, canceled the event because (1) insufficient support had been raised, (2) the proposed scope, and therefore the budget, of the proposed conference were too large, (3) the organizers may have faced some "donor fatigue" as well as conflict of interest in their fundraising activities and, (4) there were concerns that recent unrest in Uganda and Kenya, the proposed sites for the conference, would greatly diminish attendance. It was also noted that the subject of the conference seemed to have drifted away from chemistry. Drs. Buncel and Onyido expressed their hope that CHEMRAWN XII could be reorganized with a more modest budget, a more focused program and a safer venue. They suggested that South Africa would be a relatively secure location and that the organizers should seek a suitable conference there on which to "piggyback" CHEMRAWN XII. It was further noted that the 8<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Chemistry in Africa is scheduled for Dakar, Senegal in 2001.

In response to a request from Drs. Buncel and Onyido, the committee VOTED unanimously to" reinstate" CHEMRAWN XII and authorized Drs. Buncel and Oynido to study the feasibility of a reorganized and restructured e conference.

Drs. Buncel and Onyido agreed to begin by reconstituting the organizing committee.

- 2. Status of CHEMRAWN XIV "Toward Environmentally Benign processes and Products" Dr. Malin distributed a publicity flyer describing the conference. He reported that plans for CHEMRAWN XIV, scheduled to be held in Boulder, Colorado in June, 2001 are going well. The organizing committee has met several times and appointed Program, Finance and Future Actions Committees. A request for \$25,000 was submitted to American Chemical Society for consideration at its August, 1999 meeting in New Orleans and an organizing committee meeting was scheduled to take place there. For details see: http://cires.colorado.edu/env\_prog/chemrawn,
- 3. CHEMRAWN X. Dr. Lagowski and Dr. Boggs distributed to the committee their proposal (attached) for *CHEMRAWN X Chemical Education in Global Development: Preparing Scientists and Engineers for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Dr. Lagowski noted that the major goal of the conference is to establish a dialog among all parties interested in chemical education, as needed to support global development in industry. Participants from educational institutions, transnational industry and government will produce position papers forming a basis for discussion at the conference. After the conference, the future actions committee will disseminate the results. The proposal indicated a number of possible venues worldwide and suggested the conference could be held in the Fall of 2000 or Spring of 2001.

In discussion, the following points were raised,

- Since most doctoral level chemists find employment in industry, a conference on how to prepare individuals for industrial employment seems appropriate and timely.

Several committee members noted, however, that most or all CHEMRAWN conferences already have an educational component.

- The early appointment of a Future Actions Committee will be crucial. The FAC should be active in providing inputs to the Program Committee.
- It is important to recognize that educational needs in emerging economies are different from those in the developed countries. The conference should find ways to serve both constituencies.
- Dr. John Bradley, Chair of the Committee on the Teaching of Chemistry, noted that CTC is very interested in participating in CHEMRAWN X.
- Funding should come from transnational industry.
- It is important to monitor other conferences, e.g., ICCE, BCCE, to avoid overlaps in timing and to make sure that CHEMRAWN X doesn't duplicate material presented elsewhere.

The committee encouraged Drs. Lagowski and Boggs to continue organization of CHEMRAWN X. Dr. Koptyowski volunteered to produce a questionnaire that could be distributed to industry. The survey would investigate the topics that industrial chemists recommend for CHEMRAWN X. After Dr. Kopytowski distributes the questionnaire to the committee, each member will use it in contacting five industrial firms. The committee recommended that Drs. Lagowski and Boggs discuss CHEMRAWN X at the August 11, 1999 joint meeting with the Committee on Chemical Industry (COCI).

- 1. Status of *CHEMRAWN XIII* "*Chemistry for Clean Energy*." Dr. F. A. Kuznetsov distributed a proposal for the conference (attached) outlining the scientific program, likely participants, proposed venue (New Delhi or Bangalore, India), chief organizer (S. Vandarajan), potential supporting organizations and expected results. He proposed that the conference take place in 2001 or 2002. An organizing meeting should be held in India as soon as possible. It may also be possible to hold a "mini-CHEMRAWN at the Brisbane IUPAC meeting in 2001 where a session on the topic is already planned.
- 2. Discussion of content for joint meeting with COCI on August 11. Alan Hayes, President-Elect of IUPAC, noted that he is in touch with the Chemical Manufacturers Association and CEFIC on behalf of the Union. He informed the committee that IUPAC cannot represent the chemical industry, but it can expose important issues and validate the fine work being done. Hayes estimated that 90% of persons active in IUPAC are not industrial scientists and it is therefore necessary to develop more effective liaison with industry. He cautioned, however, that one shouldn't try to address too many issues at once. Members suggested the following topics for discussion with the Committee on Chemical Industry.
- A brief review of current CHEMRAWN committee activities
- Chemical Safety regional workshops
- Industrial and COCI involvement in the CHEMRAWN X meeting; international standards in education
- Industrial research capabilities in developing economies

- Intellectual property rights issues
- Shared environmental problems

# 1. Proposals for additional/new CHEMRAWN conferences.

- **a.** Food safety. Dr. M. Droescher submitted a pre-proposal (attached) from Drs. A. Pohland and S. Page regarding a possible CHEMRAWN conference on Food Safety. The organizers propose a conference to be held in College Park, MD, in 2001 or later. The committee reminded Drs. Pohland and Page to keep the conference focused on chemistry. Members suggested the title of the conference should be "*Chemistry and Food Safety*." The committee encouraged Drs. Pohland and Page to present a full proposal at a subsequent meeting.
- **b.** Water availability. Dr. Hamelin suggested there should be a CHEMRAWN conference on this important topic. Dr. Kuznetsof and other members supported the idea.
- **c.** Japan. A member of the committee suggested it is time to have a CHEMRAWN meeting in Japan. Consensus was that this be deferred until after the Asian financial recession has ended.
- **d.** Virtual CHEMRAWN. The idea of an electronic CHEMRAWN meeting was brought forward. The virtual conference could perhaps be set up through IUPAC's home page.
- **11.** Discussion/clarification of CHEMRAWN conference proposals: overall goals, outline, model budget, timeline, future actions.
- Dr. Norling noted that, at its meeting in Philadelphia in 1998, the committee saw a need to provide guidance to persons preparing proposals to organize CHEMRAWN meetings. He said he is working on a generic proposal form which will be circulated as soon as possible.
- Dr. Norling cautioned that the CHEMRAWN Committee budget is limited to some \$22,000 for two years. The meeting in Philadelphia cost \$17,000. Funding is not available for task force or organizing committee meetings except through the new project-oriented IUPAC financing system.
- 11. Plans/location/timing of CHEMRAWN committee meeting in 2000. The committee decided to meet on a Sunday and Monday in Paris in October or November, 2000. Dr. Hamelin volunteered to assist by finding an appropriate location. Committee members were asked to inform Dr. Hamelin of dates during the months suggested when they would be unavailable.

## 12. Other issues.

- Dr. James Bull of the University of Capetown, Special Topics Editor of *Pure and Applied Chemistry*, appeared before the committee to discuss the status of the journal's special topics program. He noted successful issues, e.g, the "White Book on chlorine", and the articles on environmental estrogens. *Pure and Applied Chemistry*  will devote two issues per year to special topics. The magazine also publishes feature articles.

- Alan Hayes, President-Elect of IUPAC, discussed the upcoming changes in IUPAC structure.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted Parry Norling, Chair John Malin, Secretary

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