

IUPAP EC&CC Meeting, October 26-29, 2026

Review of Day 1

The IUPAP EC&CC Meeting of October 2026 is taking place in a hybrid format with the in-person part at the [Principia Institute](#) in Sao Paulo, Brazil, thanks to the generous support of the [ICTP-SAIFR](#) of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The meeting started as scheduled with 25 attendants connected online, among them, 10 Commission Chairs, 5 members of C1, and 11 people in person in Sao Paulo, among them, 4 Commission Chairs and 5 members of C1.

After the welcome by the members of the presidential line and the introduction of the participants present, the agenda was adopted. The first presentation was made by IUPAP's Secretary General for Administrative Affairs, Stefano Fantoni. Stefano gave a report on the IUPAP office in Trieste which was established in 2021 via an agreement between the International Trieste Foundation (FIT) and IUPAP that expires in December 2026. The new MOU to be signed by the two organizations was presented to the participants. This new MOU establishes that IUPAP will contribute with 45000 CHF per year to FIT for the secretarial support it provides to the Union. It also mentions that FIT will handle the IUPAP's communications as long as the Union gives them specific funds to this end. Everybody agreed on the terms and duration of the MOU that will be signed by IUPAP's president during the time course of the EC&CC meeting and by the FIT representatives the week after. The report on the IUPAP status as a non-profit association based in Geneva was subsequently presented by the Union's Secretary General, Jens Vigen. Jens described the operations of the Geneva office explaining that the renewal of the tax-exempt status was already filed with the local authorities. It is expected that the renewal will be approved in the next few months. After sharing the minutes of the last EC&CC meeting held an year ago, IUPAP's president listed the "To do list" that stemmed from that meeting. She enumerated the 13 action items briefly commenting that we had advanced with all of them, except for two that will be discussed in the coming days. Silvina also described various matters that arose since last year's meeting, among them, the drafting and signing of MOUs with several organizations including [CERN](#), the Committee on Space Research ([COSPAR](#)) and the Latin American Center for Physics ([CLAF](#)). Each of these MOUs is particularly relevant. The one with CERN replaces the one which expired in November 2024 affecting the operations of the IUPAP office in Geneva. This renewal was sought for a long time by IUPAP. The signing of this MOU with the new DG of CERN will likely start a new cycle of close collaborations between these two organizations with common vision and aims. The MOU with COSPAR is also important because it establishes a framework for a closer collaboration between both institutions and a stronger involvement of IUPAP in matters related to space science, an interdisciplinary area of great current interest. The agreement with CLAF is also key since it establishes the incorporation of the first IUPAP Corporate Associate Member in the region. This agreement as well as the discussions that are being held at the time of the EC&CC meeting with the national and regional organizations related to physics will likely lead to a stronger participation and impact of our Union in Latin America and the

Caribbean. Silvina also mentioned two MOUs that are being revised by the signing counterparts (the International Association of Physics Students, IAPS, and the Division of History of Science and Technology of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, IUHPST/DHST). The latter MOU has been drafted to replace the existing one establishing the creation of the Inter-Union Commission on the History and Philosophy of Physics, to make it compatible with what has been the common practice of this joint effort since it started. Among other things, according to the new MOU, the Inter-Union will only cover the history of physics. The main complication right now is to find a formula for the renewal of the commission members and authorities with a frequency that could be compatible with the current terms of office of Commission members in IUPAP and in IUHPST/DHST. This is a minor discussion that will be solved soon. The decisions made by the Council since the last GA held in October 2025 were then shared. There were no objections to those decisions that will hopefully be ratified by the GA to be held on October 30.

After a short break, the Vice-President for Membership and Development, Igle Gledhill, gave a presentation describing the Union's membership scheme, the current efforts to attract and retain members, as well as the community building initiatives the Standing Committee for Membership and Development has been engaged in. In particular, a brief description of the activities organized in Fiji together with UNESCO to promote physics and physics education in that region were described. This presentation was followed by a slot devoted to IUPAP special projects. In 2025, the IUPAP GA voted to increase the funds allocated for the EC to spend on new strategic projects. The purpose of this slot was to portray the efforts that IUPAP initiated since then with these funds and of the project it has been contributing to for about 10 years now, LAAAMP (Light Sources for Africa, the Americas, Asia, Middle East and Pacific). The Vice-President for Special Projects, Kuijuan Jin, described the most recent advancements in LAAAMP, such as the incorporation of the International Union of Pure and Applied Biophysics (IUPAB) as a partner in the project and the [HEPS-High Energy Photon Source](#) facility in Beijing, China as a new LAAAMP AdLS partnering facility. Kuijuan also gave a presentation on the Special Project on STEM Education carried out by members of the Standing Committee on Physics outside Academia. This project aims at liaising high school students with technological companies. The chair of WG14 on Accelerator Physics, Christine Darve, gave a brief presentation on the presence of IUPAP at the Second IAEA International Conference on Accelerators for Research and Innovation, where four IUPAP prizes were awarded to the best presentations by early career scientists. Christine also mentioned the IUPAP stand that was set up at the conference and the printed material, produced by Francesca Zavino in Trieste, that was handed over to the conference participants. She included other efforts carried out by WG14 to engage with the accelerator science community. IUPAP's Secretary General, Jens Vigen, then described the development of the "Transdisciplinary Research Platform" in collaboration with CERN colleagues to expand the use of Zenodo for transdisciplinary research initiatives associated with the International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development. Finally, the Deputy General for Administrative Affairs, Sandro Scandolo described the collaboration established with the [Physics without Frontiers](#) program of the ICTP in Trieste. Starting in 2027, IUPAP will give financial support of about 2300CHF to the program and will be

involved in the selection of three projects to be sponsored with the IUPAP funds. Joe Niemela will act on the selection committee on behalf of IUPAP. Sandro requested everybody to invite colleagues from the Global South, especially students or early career scientists, to submit proposals for the call which will open soon.

The activities of the first day ended with a presentation by the Associate Secretary General, Rudzani Nemutudi, on conference sponsorship. This is one of the main activities of IUPAP. After giving a brief description of the Conference Types that IUPAP sponsors and endorses, Rudzani made a detailed account of the submissions received and the level of funding with which he suggested IUPAP should support each of them. This year slightly fewer applications than usual were received. Rudzani explained that these are common fluctuations and that, most likely, we will receive more applications next year compensating, in part, this year decrease. There were no objections to his suggestions and the meeting was adjourned.

The meeting occurred in a friendly atmosphere as can be observed in the groups photos that were taken before a short break.