Main outcomes of the 32nd IUPAP General Assembly

9 October 2023, hybrid meeting run from CERN, Geneva, Switzerland

The agenda and the relevant documents used during the GA can be found on the link on indico: https://indico.cern.ch/event/1267694/

Members present: Actual quorum: 116/153

98 votes representing territories:

Australia (3 votes); Belgium (3 votes); Brazil (3 votes); Bulgaria (1 vote); Canada (4 votes); China - Beijing (5 votes); China - Taipei (3 votes); Czech Republic (3 votes); Estonia (1 vote); Finland (2 votes); Germany (5 votes); Hungary (2 votes); India (5 votes); Ireland (1 votes); Italy (5 votes); Jordan (2 votes); Korea (5 votes); Lithuania (1 vote); Netherlands (3 votes); New Zealand (1 votes); Norway (2 votes); Poland (3 votes); Portugal (1 vote); Russia (6 votes); Senegal (1 vote); Slovak Republic (1 vote); South Africa (2 votes); Spain (4 votes); Sweden (4 votes); Switzerland (3 votes); UK (5 votes); USA (6 votes); Ukraine (1 vote); Uruguay (1 vote).

18 votes representing Commission Chairs (1 vote each):

C1 Commission on Policy and Finance; C3 Statistical Physics; C4 Astroparticle Physics; C5 Low Temperature Physics; C6 Biological Physics; C8 Semiconductors; C9 Magnetism; C11 Particles and Fields; C13 Physics for Development; C14 Physics Education; C15 Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Physics; C16 Plasma Physics; C17 Laser Physics and Photonics; C20 Computational Physics; AC2 ISGRG; AC3 ICA; AC5 IAPS; AC6 IUHPST/DHST

Each participant was called to verify that the General Assembly had the required quorum. Present members represented 116 out of the total 153 votes. The quorum of the General Assembly consists of sufficient Members to produce two-thirds of all votes available to Members—hence, the quorum was reached.

The General Assembly started precisely at 1 p.m. with a ceremony in memory of Kennedy Reed, President of IUPAP from 2017 to 2019 who passed away in June this year. A very moving text written by Past President Bruce McKellar was read.

It was reminded that the 2023 General Assembly took place 100 years after the first IUPAP General Assembly, held in Paris in December 1923, and some of its documents were shared.

The proposed agenda and the minutes of the last GA were approved.

It was informed that the former Singapore secretariat is now closed. The Singapore IUPAP company is still kept open—with close to no money on the bank account—just to allow transfer of dues from places which cannot easily transfer money to the IUPAP main bank account in Geneva.

The administrative secretariat in Trieste operates efficiently and will hopefully be a long-term solution for IUPAP. The legal headquarters and bank account in Geneva are also functioning well. IUPAP has status as tax exempt, is inscribed in the Registre du commerce, undergoes audits, etc.

The Executive Council & Commissions Chairs proposals for designated commission chairs were presented as well as the exploration of possible officers and Vice Presidents at Large to be nominated for election at the GA 2024. The open call for nominations will be issued in January-February 2024.

The two Interdisciplinary (inter-commission) Early Career Scientist Prize winners were presented. The 2023-winners are Evelyn Tang (Rice University) and Stefano Martiniani (New York University). The IUPAP centenary and the International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development activities were presented. Furthermore, it was informed about the proclamation of the International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development by the UN General Assembly.

The following Corporate Associate Members were accepted:

- Advanced Laser Light Source (ALLS), incorporated in 2022 with one unit.
- European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), incorporated in 2022 with one unit.
- Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR), incorporated in 2023 with two units.
- Park Systems , incorporated in 2023 with two units.
- Synchrotron-Light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East (SESAME), incorporated in 2022 with one unit.

Nepal was accepted as the first Associate Territorial Member (see Resolution 4 listed below), based on a MoU recently signed between IUPAP and the Nepal Physical Society.

A presentation was made on the next possible steps to attract new Associate Territorial Members, particularly from Africa.

The presentation of the report from Working Group 16, Physics and Industry, was highly appreciated.

The annual activity report and updated strategic and action plan were presented and appreciated.

The report from the task force on the rejuvenation of the functioning of IUPAP, together with the self-evaluation were presented with the proposal of having now an external evaluation to be ready for a vote at the next GA. Resolution 11 (see below) was approved to advance in this regard.

The current financial situation of the Union was discussed. The assembly approved the accounts for 2021 and 2022 and took note of the expenditures for the first three quarters of 2023. Furthermore, the proposed budget for 2024 and a draft outline for 2025 were approved. It shall be noted that the surplus generated in the COVID-year 2021 will—as planned at the 2022 assembly—have been spent by the end of 2024.

It was decided that the next GA will be in person from October 6th to October 12th, 2024, in Hainan China. This will be at the time of the 25th anniversary of the creation of WG5 Women in Physics and at the time of a proposed inter-commission symposium on Physics Research for a Sustainable Planet.

The meeting ended at 6 p.m. Geneva time with the President's proposed slogan: "In physics we trust!! And on the IUPAP secretariats we relied for the success of the meetings (EC & CC and GA)!!"

Resolutions of the 32nd General Assembly
Geneva, Switzerland. October 9, 2023

The resolutions listed in what follows were endorsed or approved by the GA. Some of them (IUPAP affiliation and conference fees) might need small amendments in the future depending on the experience acquired.

Resolution 1. Ratification of Statements issued by Council.

The 32nd IUPAP General Assembly notes the statements issued by Council after the previous GA and approves them all. This implies approving: the IUPAP Statement on Ban on Women in Afghanistan, 2023-02-07 and the IUPAP statement on unrest and violence against women in Iran.

Resolution 2. Currency.
On the motion of the Commission on Policy and Finance (C1), the 32nd IUPAP General Assembly adopts Swiss Francs (CHF) as the official currency for the Union. (See background note.)

Resolution 3. Dues.
On the motion of the Commission on Policy and Finance (C1), the 32nd IUPAP General Assembly adopts the dues for 2024 to be set to 2500 CHF per unit.

Resolution 4. Changes in Articles and Regulations to accommodate the new category of Associate Territorial Member

Following Resolution 2 of the 32nd GA of 2022, the proposed changes in the Articles and Regulations of the Union to accommodate the new category of Associate Territorial Member were approved unanimously.

Resolution 5. Appointment of Associated Members to IUPAP Commissions.

IUPAP resolves to appoint the Associated Members to IUPAP Commissions that are listed in what follows. The appointments will start immediately and remain effective until the next *in person* IUPAP General Assembly to be held in 2024, unless otherwise noted.

- C8: Ryan YK Yoo (Rep. of Korea)
- C9: Masahiro Yamaguchi (Japan) and Clarina Reloj Dela Cruz (USA)—both already approved at the GA in 2022
- C11: Anna Machado (Brazil) and Liangjian Wen (China, Beijing)
- C13: Anisa Qamar (Pakistan)

Resolutions 6. Conference matters

6.1 *Resolution on anti-harassment policies for IUPAP conferences*

IUPAP insists that all participants at IUPAP conferences should be able to enjoy the conference and its benefits free of discrimination and harassment. To emphasize this policy and to indicate that remedies are available to those who are harassed or discriminated against, all IUPAP supported conferences are required to publish the following statement on their website and in all publications related to the Conference: *It is the policy of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) that all participants in Union activities will enjoy an environment which encourages the free expression and exchange of scientific ideas, and is free from all forms of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.*

The conference organizers will name an advisor who will consult with those who have suffered from harassment and who will suggest ways of redressing their problems, and an advisor who will counsel those accused of harassment. The conference organizers may, after due consideration, take such action they deem appropriate.

In case that harassment and/or discriminatory behaviors occur during the organization period, particularly, among conference organizers, the person who suffered or witnessed an incident can contact the Gender Champion or the Associate General Secretary who will take the necessary steps to analyze the incident with discretion and confidentiality and help achieve a solution.

6.2 *Resolution on registration fees and ample participation in IUPAP conferences*
This Resolution is to replace Resolution No. 3 approved by the 24th IUPAP General Assembly held in Berlin, Germany, in 2002.

To ensure that IUPAP supported conferences (sponsored and endorsed) are accessible to physicists at all stages of their careers and from all groups and countries, IUPAP requires that there should either be affordable registration fee categories or support in other ways to facilitate participation. The Executive Council will recommend yearly the maximum allowed fee for the affordable categories.

Resolution 7. Change of name of the IUPAP Medal awarded by C13.

It is resolved that the "IUPAP Medal for Outstanding Contributions to the Enhancement of Physics in Developing Countries" awarded by the Commission on Physics for Development (C13) be renamed as **"IUPAP Kennedy Reed Medal for Outstanding Contributions to the Enhancement of Physics in Developing Countries"** as a sign of recognition to IUPAP's past President, Kennedy Reed, who worked tirelessly to improve the conditions of physics and physicists in the developing world.

Resolution 8. Use of IUPAP affiliation in academic papers.

IUPAP embraces and promotes the principle of open science and believes that sharing the results of scientific research is essential for the advancement of science and for its peaceful applications. Physicists, and scientists more generally including students, from any country around the world who feel excluded from the academic exchange through publishing in journals, based exclusively on their affiliation and/or country of origin, may formally apply to the IUPAP Executive Council to use the IUPAP as their affiliation. The papers shall have to be evaluated by the Executive Council before permission is given. Scientific contents must be totally unrelated to non-peaceful applications. IUPAP encourages authors to publish open access, but IUPAP is not in the position to cover the related publishing fees.

Resolution 9. Approval of the creation of the Working Group on Physics for Climate Change Action and Sustainable Development *(proposed by Nithaya Chetty, Vice-President at Large for New Members, and Igle Gledhill, Past Chair of the Working Group on Women in Physics).*

In view of the decision of the EC of September 2022 to advance with the creation of a Working Group on Physics for the Green Economy and the subsequent request by Prof. I. Gledhill to change its name to reflect better its scope, the 32nd IUPAP General Assembly approves the creation of IUPAP Working Group 21 on Physics for Climate Change Action and Sustainable Development (WG21) with the following mission:

- Identify, promote, engage and discuss the unique role that physics is and should be playing in this area.

- Entrench an evidence-based approach to responses to climate change studies and the energy transition process in close collaboration with experts from other disciplines.
- Establish a strong bridge with the broad international public on these topics.
- Suggest and encourage ways of incorporating green economy and sustainability thinking in university curricula and research training.
- Advise Executive Council on actions to be taken, work to be done, statements to be issued.
- Organize at least one major conference over the next three years.
- Engage with the activities that are expected to take place in connection with the International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in August 2023.
- Liaise with Regional, national Physics Society, with other Unions in other fields in the spirit of IYBSSD.

The 32nd GA also approves the designation of Nithaya Chetty as the first Chair of WG21. This mandate has been slightly updated from that of September 21st, 2022 to reflect the changes that have occurred in the interim.

Resolution 10. Dissolution of IUPAP Working Group 17 on IUPAP's Centenary

It is resolved that Working Group on IUPAP's Centenary be dissolved with its termination taking effect immediately. IUPAP wishes to express its gratitude to WG17 Chair, Monica Pepe-Altarelli, for the tremendous work done to celebrate IUPAP's centenary.

Resolution 11. IUPAP's restructuring

In view of the self-evaluation report that has recently been produced, the 32nd IUPAP General Assembly charges the President Designate to set up, in consultation with Officers of the Executive Council, an external evaluation committee that will look into the structures, actions and functioning of the Union, focusing on particular aspects as specified on the accompanying documentation. It is expected that the committee will produce a report with advice on pathways for improvement by the time of the in-person General Assembly that will be held in 2024.