

# 31st IUPAP General Assembly

Run in hybrid mode from ICTP, Trieste, Italy

Thursday 14 Jul 2022, 13:00 → 18:00

## Welcome by IUPAP President, presentation of delegates

All [delegates](#) were called. The quorum was confirmed.

## Approval of the minutes from the 30th IUPAP General Assembly (2022)

**Decision:** Approved without remarks.

## Reports from the secretariats (Singapore and Trieste) and the Swiss IUPAP association

**Trieste report:** Stefano Fantoni presented the FIT staff working for IUPAP. Further he reported on the progress of the various activities handled by the administrative office in Trieste and the procedures related the Early Career Scientist Prize.

**Swiss association and activities in Singapore:** Jens Vigen reported that the “new” IUPAP is officially recognized as an association with its seat in Geneva regulated by Swiss law. All IUPAP members have transferred to the new association. The “new IUPAP” is not yet registered in the Geneva commercial registry, but this process is under way. The new IUPAP is also likely to obtain tax exempt in Geneva within the next weeks. IUPAP has already a bank account in Geneva (PostFinance).

The activity related to the Singapore office is gradually being reduced to zero.

However, the bank account will be kept until Trieste/Geneva is fully ready to take over. The Singapore accounts for 2021 are about to be audited.

**Decision:** Note taken.

## Matters arising—for information only

- **Centenary symposium.** The President consider he Symposium a magnificent event with excellent scientific exchange and social interactions. He congratulated the organizing committee, the secretariat, and highlighted the role of Sandro Scandolo and Monica Pepe Altarelli.
- **The International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development (IYBSSD).** This was another considerably success—agenda/video available is available from [IYBSSD](#).
- **New task force to rejuvenate the internal structure of IUPAP (links between commissions, working groups, projects, MoUs).** The President pointed out that IUPAP has articles/rules, but we should study if IUPAP can work in more efficient manners—possibly by simplifying existing structures. He suggested to establish task force that will report back at the next GA.  
**Follow up: Establish an administrative task force.**
- **Closing ceremony for IYBSSD and next General Assembly, October 2023.** The ceremony will take place at CERN, Geneva, on 6 October 2023. The EC&CC will meet the same week., Saturday 7 October will be devoted to CERN visits, Monday 9 October will be the GA 2023—100 years since the

first GA! Will invite other unions connected to IUPAP. Will be a different event from the Symposium.

- **Henri Abraham award.** The award is given for long service—more than nine years—to IUPAP. The prize is named after [Henri Abraham](#) who was IUPAP Secretary—General from 1934 to his death in 1943. The 2022 prize, following a nomination process, was given by the Executive Council to [Judy Franz](#) and [Lev Shchur](#).

Silvina did also take the opportunity to present the winners of the IUPAP photo contest. The ceremony itself took place at the Symposium.

**Decision:** Noted.

### Update on Members and proposal for associate territorial members

- Admission of Ukraine as member See resolution 3
- Associate Territorial Members
  - [See resolution 2](#)

Nithaya Chetty argued that IUPAP needs to grow the membership further as still many countries are not member of the Union. However, IUPAP must continue nurturing relations with those who are already members. “One to one conversations” are being carried out with liaison committees. Currently IUPAP is at a “steady-state situation”—it seems like that IUPAP cannot achieve more that 65 (+/-5) members within the current framework. IUPAP should not be an “elite club”, so after careful considerations we will propose a new category of membership, Associate Territorial Members. It should not be free, it should minimum cost 10% of the value of an IUPAP unit. It is not a discounted membership fee; it is a new category of membership, Associate Territorial Member (ATM). Chetty suggested that ATM should not be more than 10% of the total membership. The IUPAP Articles will need to be amended accordingly, but we do already want to get started now.

Ukraine is a special case. IUPAP has had long discussions with Ukraine before the war.

Nepal has a large potential that IUPAP can help to develop. For the Pacific island nations, New Zealand has offered help and Fiji will be a natural first candidate.

Mexico has a 50% reduction over the next cycle.

Uruguay has special conditions and will also pay only 50% of one share in its second cycle.

President: ATM will have no voting rights and no full members of Commissions.

C19: No good idea to have ATM on invitation, should be accepted by application.

NC: We are concerned becoming overwhelmed—this is meant as a sort of pre-membership. This is a special opportunity for us to work closely with Nepal. We do not have capacity to include many ATMs. Two countries for now is a natural limit.

Silvina: Cannot see how we can differentiate the countries that are potential ATMs.

President: IUPA should be as inclusive as possible. ATMs will not have voting rights.

Canada: Concerned about the suggestion to set limitations on ATMs.

Silvina: In any case, all new members shall have to be approved by the GA.

President: Well received—we just have to decide on “upon invitation only”/application.

NC: We should not be overwhelmed. If the GA does not want to set limits, I am ready to go for an open call. This will require quite a fair of effort by the EC with regards to evaluation, but the GA has the highest authority.

President: reads [resolution 2](#). (bullet point 2 shall be deleted, bullet point 7 shall also state no full commission members—only associate members).

There must be a transparent procedure for applications—this should be included in the text.

**Decision:** A revised text shall be submitted for approval at the next General Assembly.

### **Endorsment of EC resolutions (Res. 1) and new resolutions for consideration (Res. 2–5)**

- Resolution 1. [Ratification of decisions made by Council](#)
  - a) [IUPAP Statement on the events occurring in Ukraine, 2022-03-01](#)
    - **Decision:** endorsed.
  - b) [IUPAP resolution regarding international conferences in this time of crisis](#)
    - **Decision:** endorsed.
  - c) [Use of IUPAP affiliation at conferences](#)
    - **Decision:** endorsed.
  - d) [Document to be signed to request the use of the IUPAP affiliation](#)
    - **Decision:** endorsed.
- Resolution 2. [Associate Territorial Member in the pre-stage to Membership](#)
  - **Decision:** approved with small modifications. *Follow up: work in the modifications (see discussion above) and prepare the changes needed to the articles.*
- Resolution 3. Membership and members
  - a) [Incorporation of Ukraine as new Territorial Member of IUPAP](#)

- **Decision:** approved. Ukraine will have one unit, however the territory is until further notice not expended to contribute dues to IUPAP. **Follow up: Nothing special for now.**
- [Memorandum of Understanding between the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics and the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine](#)
- Resolution 4. IUPAP commissions
  - a) [Election of new member for C11](#)
    - **Decision:** approved. **Follow up: Update website**
  - b) [Revised mandate for the Commission on Low Temperature Physics \(C5\)](#)
    - **Decision:** approved. **Follow up: Update website**
  - c) [Establishment of the IUPAP Medal for the Physics of Life \(C6\)](#)
    - **Decision:** approved. **Follow up: Update website**
  - d) [Appointment of associated members to IUPAP commissions](#)
    - **Decision:** [all names](#) approved. **Follow up: Update website**
- Resolution 5. IUPAP working groups
  - a) [Dissolution of inactive working groups](#)
    - **Decision:** WGs 2, 10 and 12 are dissolved. **Follow up: Update website**
  - b) [Extension of existing working groups](#)
    - **Decision:** All remaining WGs were extended.
  - c) [Chairs of Working Groups 18 and 19](#)
    - **Decision:** approved. **Follow up: activate the WGs set up at the GA in 2021.**
  - d) [Creation of a working group on open science \(WG20\)](#)
    - **Decision:** approved. **Follow up: define membership and activate the WG in collaboration with relevant commission chairs.**

### **Possible new working group on the role of physics in the green economy**

Nithaya Chetty: The proposal is to set up a new WG. The mandate will be to identify, grow, stimulate the green economy. The composition should be high-profile colleagues—open call for nominations. The role will be to advise the Executive Council regarding issuing of statements etc. and possibly organize a major conference on physics and the green economy.

Discussion. Brazil supports the proposal. Representative from C12 outlines that the WG needs to members from other disciplines than physics.

**Decision:** approved. **Follow up: define the detailed mandate and appoint chair and members.**

### **IUPAP activity report for the period 23 October 2021 to 13 July 2022**

**Decision:** Note taken. **Follow up: Work on procedures to implement “IUPAP sponsored conferences are strongly encouraged to make their content available online, real time if possible”.**

### **Revised strategic and action plan.**

**Decision:** Note taken. *Follow up: The text should be updated before the next General Assembly to reflect achieved progress.*

### **Financial matters.**

- Report on 2021 final position
- Approved budget for 2022
- Indications for 2023 and 2024

**Decision:** Note taken. *Follow up: Campaign to collect a maximum of dues.*

### **Question from members, corporate associate members and observers**

Luis Vina: Inspired from the panel held at the Symposium, Luis suggests creating a group to train physicists to talk to decision makers (politicians). Laura Greene responds that at this point we can bring a group together to share best practices.

*Follow up: propose a working group?*

**Any other business: next GAs,....**

**Summary of the day and concluding remarks**

**Closing of the General Assembly by the President.**