

Minutes of the 62nd IUIS Council Meeting

Date & Time Sunday, 30 November 2014, 09:00-18.30 (EAT)

Place Nairobi, Kenya, Safari Park Hotel, Mt. Elgon Room

- Invited
- Executive Board 2013-2016
 - Council Members 2013-2016
 - Committee Chairs (non-voting)
 - Regional Federations (non-voting)
 - Liaisons and Affiliated organizations (non-voting)
 - Representative of the 16th ICI 2016 in Melbourne (non-voting)
 - Potential GCC Regional Federation (non-voting)
 - Frontiers in Immunology, Kendall Smith (non-voting)
 - IUIS Central Office in Berlin, Sumiko Tanaka (non-voting)
- [*Actual list of participants](#)

Table of Contents:

1. Welcome address
2. Approval of minutes
3. Strategy presentation and discussion
4. Financial report
5. Election preparation
6. Other matters
7. Closing

Agenda:

1. Welcome address from IUIS President Jorge Kalil

The IUIS President Jorge Kalil welcomes everybody to the Council meeting and the participants introduce themselves. The agenda for the Council meeting is approved.

2. Approval of the minutes of 60th and 61st Council Meetings, Milan, May 22, 2013

The minutes of the 60th and 61st IUIS Council Meetings, held in Milan 2013 is approved.

3. Strategy presentation and discussion

a. Executive Committee

- [i. President's report](#)
- [ii. Secretary General's report](#)
- [iii. Treasurer's report](#)
- [iv. Central Office introduction](#)

The Council is provided with information about the change of PCO and managerial help to IUIS. In 2014 IUIS ExCo had signed an agreement with K.I.T. Group, located in Berlin for it to become an official new PCO for IUIS. Thereby the office of IUIS has moved to new address:

Kurfürstendamm 71, 10709 Berlin, Germany.

b. Committees

An overall new strategy for IUIS planned by K.I.T and the IUIS ExCo is presented to Council:
[IUIS Draft Strategy 2014](#)

As part of this strategy of IUIS the Council members would become more involved in the activities of IUIS, and the committees more active. The ExCo had arranged precouncil meetings with representatives of the Committees to discuss the report of activities, future planning and new committee structures. These precouncil committee meetings are likely to continue.

The aims in the strategy include empowering the committees with a wider range of activities and support according to goals and achievements. To help budgeting a template budget structure will be developed with each committee.

i. Nairobi Committee meeting updates

1. EDU

ML presents the discussion between ExCo and EDU. In line with the proposal of ExCo (point ii3 below) she suggested that Council members should be in the Committees. New members in EDU are Dieter Kabelitz and Bo Huang. ML speaks about her possible plans to step down from being the chairperson in the EDU committee. The Council, however, thinks that ML had been doing extremely valuable work in EDU and she will be hard to replace.

The goals of EDU for the next 2 years include

- setting up evaluation of immunology courses, perhaps with the help of Frontiers publisher
- collaboration with CIC to build a structure to have courses in clinical immunology in Africa
- providing educational material ([Your amazing immune system-book](#))
- organising on-line immunology courses (Immunopaedia-course arranged by Clive Gray as an example) – this could be hosted by IUIS

2. CIC

The Chairperson Reinhold Schmidt introduces activities of the Clinical Immunology Committee. In line with plans to rotate committee members CIC suggested to have prof. Clive Gray from South Africa as the new Vice-Chair for the Committee.

Suggestions for the future include IUIS-approved courses and more position papers should be produced by the IUIS (refer to the position paper noted in Fontiers, point 3.e.ii).

3. VIC

VIC has contributed to the organisation of the International Veterinary Immunology Symposia (IVIS) as satellites to the triannual ICI meetings. The Committee is inviting new members, especially those from Africa and China are needed. A meeting in Keystone, 2015 has been planned. The veterinary immunology field has many special questions and needs. For example, more reagents for veterinary immunology are needed. This problem is being addressed by a VIC “Toolkit” subcommittee.

4. [QAS](#)

No representatives of the Quality Assessment and Standardization Committee attended. A report was submitted by Rudolf Valenta, the Committee Chairman.

5. ITH

Immunotherapy Committee is a new IUIS Committee that is just being founded. Prof. Chris Rudd has been invited to chair the Committee. The aim is to address new therapeutics for cancer and autoimmune diseases, possibilities, opportunities and problems related to their use. The focus will be on the use of such therapeutics in less resourced areas. The Committee will form itself, and plan writing e.g. policy statements related to the use of immunotherapeutics.

6. [PID](#), [GEC](#), [NOM](#) & [VAC](#) - overviews

No representatives of the [PID](#), [GEC](#) and [NOM](#) committees attended the Council meeting.

The Vaccination Committee (VAC) is a new one that will be assembled early 2015 after a Chairperson has been chosen. Gender Equality and Career Development (GEC) organised a “Ladies night” in connection with the FAIS meeting. The PID has developed a comprehensive [informational package](#) that the other committees are encouraged to mimic.

ii. Structural reform

The following changes are submitted to Council:

1. Each committee is to have a Vice-Chair
2. Committee chairs are to be elected
3. Members terms are to be staggered on a triennial basis
4. Council members should be members of at least one committee
5. Guidelines to develop strategies, business plans and implementation process will come from the ExCo and the IUIS Central Office

c. Regional Federations

i. Reports

Each regional federation ([ALAI](#), [EFIS](#), [FAIS](#), [FIMSA](#)) sent their reports. The financial parts of these reports are discussed at point 4 (budget).

ii. Conference calendar harmonization

IUIS wishes to arrange its Council meetings in connection with regional Federation meetings. The federation meetings need better coordination for optimal attendance.

iii. IUIS increased presence at regional conferences

To broaden its activities IUIS has decided to further increase its presence in regional meetings. This can take a form of joint symposia on global issues. The first joint symposium will be held at the next EFIS meeting with a vaccine-related topic.

In a more general discussion:

- JK expresses his wish that some of the regional Federations could show more activity.
- LSA mentions that in Latin America some national societies are strong but some others are in need of reinforcement. Efforts are ongoing to improve the situation.

- RS points out that EFIS is strong. The ECI could be a model for other federation meetings.
- WH mentions the restriction of funds faced by FAIS, which is why the meeting is the focus of its resources. The other 39 countries in Africa should be supported to found societies.
- MP emphasizes the importance of knowledge transfer – the EFIS approach to career development as an example.

iv. North America

AAI is a strong national organisation, equalling the size of a federation. IUIS and AAI were thought to have many joint interests, and a closer collaboration would benefit each other.

v. GCC

Countries in the Persian Gulf region have expressed their interest in joining IUIS as a “Gulf Society”. They have been provided the statutes of the Scandinavian Society for Immunology, which is also a single member with 5 individual national societies. Discussions are ongoing.

d. Affiliates

WHO: IUIS is in formal relationship with WHO as an NGO. A report of activities in 2012-2014 has been submitted to WHO and the collaboration plan between IUIS and WHO for 2015-2017 has been prepared and approved.

ICSU: Nick King attended the recent ICSU meeting (31st General Assembly) in Auckland, New Zealand and described it as an “overwhelming experience”. Gilbert Faure has been the contact person (liaison) at IUIS for ICSU.

e. Activities

i. ICI 2016

The next ICI meeting has been planned to be held in Melbourne, Australia, in 2016. Prof José Villadangos acts as the main organiser of the Congress. He did not attend the Council meeting, but the Council member Alan Baxter (former ASI president) acted as the ICI 2016 spokesperson.

The preliminary program is noted as needing greater international representation. IUIS is to submit members for participation on the various organizing committees.

The ICI2016 Congress the following issues need to be settled:

- 1) signing the final agreement between IUIS and the ASI
- 2) better balance in the Scientific Programme Committee and speakers list
- 3) the IUIS Council needs to be involved in the congress and program planning.
- 4) collaboration between the local PCO (Arinex) and IUIS PCO (K.I.T.). The terms for this collaboration will be defined in the IUIS-ASI agreement.

JK requests that the problems should be solved within 3 months (by the end of February, 2015).

ST informs that a centralized IUIS databases should be a priority.

After signing the agreement with ICI2016 organisers a similar process will be initiated with organisers of the ICI2019 meeting (Beijing, China).

ii. Frontiers in immunology

Kendall Smith, The Editor-in-Chief was on his way to Nairobi but was unfortunately held at the NY airport because of an engine breakdown and a snow storm. ST presented a brief update on [Frontiers in Immunology. A position paper on Ebola](#) was published in the name of IUIS and CIC (Gray CM, Addo M, Schmidt RE. Front Immunol. 2014 Oct 27;5:562). The paper had been downloaded 3261 times by the end of November, 2014, i.e. within a month. The paper had been processed within 10 days in the journal.

iii. ICI 2019 update

Also, the representative of the ICI2019, professor Zhigang Tian was unable to attend the Council meeting because his plane was stranded in Guangzhou, in China. An update is expected for the next Council meeting in 2015.

iv. ICI 2022 preparation

Bids for the ICI2022 will be discussed at the ICI2016 Council and GA meetings. The deadline for the bidding is expected to be at the end of year 2015. An updated bidding procedure will then be followed.

v. Other meetings

The Council discussed opportunities to organise new types of meetings in between the triannual ICI meetings. The ExCo had considered a possibility to offer the bidders of ICI meetings an opportunity to organise smaller, theme-oriented meetings, e.g. on autoimmunity, immunological memory, reproductive immunity, vaccines or emerging diseases. LAS suggested that meetings for 3-400 people, similar to Keystone meetings would fit the purpose.

The point was raised that IUIS should support travel to meetings. ML informed that it is not a policy of IUIS to support travel to other than IUIS meetings. AM suggested that a joint application to the Gates Foundation could be submitted to support travel to the ICI meeting.

f. Membership

IUIS has received a membership application from Montenegro. Previous application still pending and subject to voting in the GA is from the Malian Society for Immunology. Voting will be arranged as soon as a new web platform for voting is available. If this does not happen, voting by e-mail will be arranged.

i. ExCo statement on calculating dues

The ExCo had submitted a letter to Council prior to the Council meeting about the membership dues and how to calculate them. A clarified explanation of dues based on the Council conversation is to be released soon.

ii. Dues increase proposal

The ExCo has suggested that the membership dues in the two categories would be increased from 7.50 USD to 9 USD in the high income category, and from 2.75 USD to 3 USD in the low to middle income category. The GA will be

iii. Constitution and Bylaws amendment on voting procedure

The ExCo had prepared a small amendment to the IUIS Constitution and Bylaws concerning the

voting procedure for the General Assembly. It was suggested that in addition to voting by e-mail and Fax also voting via **a secure web-based voting system (virtual)** would be possible. The Council+ExCo unanimously (12 votes in favor, 0 against) approves the suggestion. The proposal will subsequently go to the next General Assembly meeting (in Melbourne) for ratification.

g. Communications

ST from K.I.T. presents a ppt describing the proposed new imagery for IUIS, it and a basic communications pack are distributed to the Council on IUIS branded memory sticks.

Photos and images are needed to release the presentation online! Contact [Sumiko Tanaka](#).

4. Financial report for 2014 and Budget for 2015

The treasurer Nicholas King had sent a financial report for the year 2014 and a budget proposal for 2015.

Issues with 2013 are brought up regarding the EDU funding and ICI 2013 balance (these have been resolved and the [2013 Audit](#) is posted)

The Federation finance report that IUIS had received from FIMSA is not found to be satisfactory. No details of spending were described. Therefore IUIS will furnish its funds recipients with a general template and guidelines for more accurate reporting of the financial spending. The IUIS ExCo will pay more attention to the reporting in the future. No assets will be released unless the reporting is found satisfactory. The 2015 budget will be presented to Council soon.

5. 2016-2019 Executive and Council election preparation

A new Council and new officers for IUIS will be elected in Melbourne 2016 in the General Assembly meeting. The ExCo and K.I.T. will prepare the voting procedure. Suggestions for Nominees for the different IUIS positions from the Member Societies, Council and General Assembly members are expected prior to the end of year 2015. The nomination and election procedures and eligibilities are described in the [IUIS Constitution](#).

6. Other matters

No other matters were raised.

7. Closing

The President closed the meeting at 18.15.

Helsinki 18.1.2015

Seppo Meri
Secretary General of IUIS