

Item 25: Reports from Round Table Discussions

This year the Bureau has inaugurated a new feature of the General Assembly, Round Table discussions for Council Delegates. This will allow small groups of Council delegates to discuss subjects of mutual interest in a setting conducive to the easy exchange of ideas.

Each Round Table was limited to no more than 40 participants. When registering for the Council, delegates interested in participating in a discussion were asked to prioritize their interest in the discussion topics. Assignments to the various round tables were based as much as possible on these priority interests.

In each case, two members of the Bureau chaired and mediated the discussion. The following topics were chosen for this inaugural set of Round Table Discussions:

Topic A

How can we attract more students to chemistry? Do we need to modify the curriculum? Can IUPAC play a role?

Chair: Maria C.E. van Dam-Mieras (Netherlands)

Moderator: David StC. Black (Australia)

Topic B

How can we help regions and small countries to have a more effective voice within IUPAC?

Chair: Christoph F. Buxtorf (Switzerland)

Moderator: Stanislaw Penczek (Poland)

Topic C

How can we interact more effectively with governments and other decision makers? How can we improve our interactions with industry, other unions, ICSU, UNESCO, etc.?

Chair: Bryan R. Henry (Canada)

Moderator: Nicole J. Moreau (France)

Topic D

How can we increase the global visibility of chemistry, enhance public understanding of chemistry, and improve its public image? How can we improve the visibility and image of IUPAC?

Chair: Peter G. Mahaffy (Canada)

Moderator: Leiv K. Sydnes (Norway)

Short reports on the outcome of these discussions will be presented to Council on Sunday morning, 12 August.

David Black