

Minutes of the Jan Meeting of the Steering Committee of the IChO

January 19, 2013, Moscow

Steering Committee Members and Attendees

Elected Members: Peter Wothers, Chair (United Kingdom), I-Jy Chang (Chinese Taipei), Carlos Castro-Acuna (Mexico), Alexander Gladilin (Russia), Gabor Magyarfalvi (Hungary), Duckwan Lee (Korea)

Organizers:

Bryan Balazs and Cecilia Hernandez (USA), Nguyen Van Noi (Vietnam), Vadim Eremin (Russia)

Coopted Members:

Savita Ladage (India), Martin Putala (Slovakia)

Apologies from Manfred Kerschbaumer (Austria),

From 45th IChO

Anna Berkovich (Secretary), Andrey Gladilin (head of technical support)

1. Report from the 44th IChO (Cecilia and Bryan)

A report of the 44th IChO was received. The estimated final budget to date was approximately \$2.2M.

Income received: \$2.5M from DOW, \$91,000 participation fees, \$165,000 guests and observers, \$25,000 BMS, \$10,000 Merck. Total income \$2.8M

2. Report from 45th IChO (Vadim)

Accommodation for both mentors (in Moscow and Vladimir) and students (Planerhoe hotel, 5km from Moscow) have been inspected and approved by the SC. Estimated guest fee \$3000. Observer fee \$1500. Registration fees will be payable in USD only. Locations for opening and closing ceremonies were inspected (New Library of MSU and Ceremony Hall

MSU). Experimental exam to be held in Chem Dept. MSU. Reunion dinner will be a boat trip. Early arrivals and late departures organised by *Intourist* company.

Prep problems have been prepared (27 theoretical and 8 practical).

Website www.icho2013.chem.msu.ru (starts January 25)

Secretariat info@icho2013.chem.msu.ru

Main Funding from Government, supplemented by sponsorship

3. Report from 46th IChO in Vietnam (Noi)

Dates 20-29th July, Hanoi

Funding approved by the Ministry of Education and Training

Prof. Nguyen Vinh Hien, Vice Minister of MOET is the Chairman

Some of the same venues will be used as used for International Physics Olympiad (2008)

National Convention Center for Theoretical Exam, Opening and Closing Ceremonies

Practical exam Hanoi National University of Education (all students in one sitting)

Translation etc at The International Convention Center (mentors will be taken by bus from their hotel; will explore possibility of holding translation and jury meetings in hotel)

Tentative Steering Committee Meeting (Jan 9th-12th)

4. A letter has been received from Azerbaijan offering to host the 47th IChO. Funding has been secured from the Government. The SC recommends to the International Jury to hold the 47th IChO in Azerbaijan. This must be voted on in July.

5. Observing countries

- Oman – the completed questionnaire was received and found to be satisfactory. The hosts of the 45th and 46th were happy for them to be invited as observers.
- El Salvador invited to compete in the 45th IChO
- Uzbekistan invited to compete in the 45th IChO
- Georgia will be observing for the second time in the 45th IChO
- Montenegro will be observing for the second time in the 45th IChO
- South Africa – have not applied to observe in Moscow. First possibility South Africa could observe now would be Vietnam if they fill in the questionnaire and reapply to observe.
- Macedonia. No correspondence has been received from Macedonia. The requirements as stipulated in the July steering committee minutes have therefore not been fulfilled. Consequently the SC recommends that the host country should not invite Macedonia to compete in the 45th IChO. Macedonia will now have to restart the process of applying to be observers.

6. Allocation of IUPAC funding

\$12,000 of the IUPAC grant and donation from Japan was allocated as follows (specific country data removed).

Participating Fee	Flights	SUB-TOTAL
1000		1000
400	1500	1900
1900		1900
1500	1700	3200
2000		2000
2000		2000

7. Election of Chairman of the Steering Committee Chairman

It was agreed that the procedure for how the steering committee elects its chairman should be formalised. There should be two votes: in the first a paper with all the names of the *elected* members of the steering committee should be circulated to each member and the member signs against his or her own name if he or she is willing to be considered as chair. For the second vote, only the names of those wishing to stand for election are circulated to all members of the committee. Each member of the committee then privately selects the name of the candidate he or she wishes to be the chair. The election should be run by the representative of the previous IChO (who will not be on the next steering committee).

8. A discussion of whether it is possible to review the practical results using anonymous data *before* delivering individual results to the mentors. The committee recommends the International Jury to view statistics BEFORE individual results are handed to mentors.
9. It was decided that the IUPAC prizes should be awarded to their winners as those students are called out in their natural rank order, rather than be given out at end of the prize ceremony.
10. A request from Jan Apotheker was received asking to bring attention to the Olympiad of the work of the National Authority for the Chemical Weapons Convention. It was decided to allow an article to be submitted to Catalyzer, promoting the work of this organization.
11. Gabor reported that the safety section of the regulations was out of date and needed to be revised. He would circulate new proposals.
12. After a preliminary look at the prep problems, the authors invited comments before they were finalized and circulated to the countries participating in the 2013 IChO.