

IUPAC
Activity Report - Year 2018
Mario Malinconico

Introduction

The members of the Italian National Committee for IUPAC also participated in the activities carried out by Mario Malinconico during 2018. Dr. Malinconico completed his functions as NAO Representative in IUPAC in December 2018, having been appointed by the CNR to represent the NAO at the International Science Council (ISC).

2. Significant activities for Italy and for the CNR carried out in 2018 by the Body of which you are a representative

From 12 to 13 May 2018 the Annual Meeting of IUPAC Division VI - Chemistry and the Environment took place in Rome. The Meeting was organized by Prof. Roberto Terzano (University of Bari) and Dr. Mario Malinconico and was held at the headquarters of the Italian Association of Environmental Technicians- International Solid Waste Association (ATIA-ISWA) in Via del Poggio Laurentino, Rome. During the event, the participation of the VI Division in the IUPAC Centenary celebrations was also discussed.

3. Activities carried out as a Representative in 2018 within the Body and indications about the effects on the national scientific community

Dr. Malinconico participated as a Fellow in the activities of the Polymer Division (IV). - Project 2018-033-1-400 "Additives to promote the degradation of polyolefin-based thermoplastic materials: terminology and testing (ADDIPLAST)". The project is coordinated by Dr. Mario Malinconico. The project was approved and financed with €4000 in December 2018 among the projects of the Polymer Division IV, Subcommittee on Standard Polymer Terminology. Experts from various countries of the world (Greece, Malaysia, Poland, France, England) participate in the project and see the participation of Novamont. The Task Force met in Paris during the IUPAC World Conference in 2019. The project has strong repercussions on the national scientific community, as it is a subject of enormous national scientific interest.

Dr. Malinconico has also actively followed the IUPAC elections by promoting the appointment in the CNR personnel divisions and committees, for the period 2020-2021.

4. Evaluation of participation in the Union in relation to the benefits and costs of membership

The Italian CNR membership has as its main implication the visibility of the Italian scientific community and that of the CNR in particular at an international level. It is also important to underline that for the first time in the history of IUPAC an Italian representative was elected to the Bureau, and this entails the concrete possibility of increasing IUPAC funding for activities taking place in Italy.

5. Evaluations on Italian participation with proposals to improve interest and involvement

In the course of 2019 the anniversary of the 100 years of Foundation of the IUPAC and of the 150 years of the Periodic Table of the elements will fall. Italian participation in these events is being organized, with the involvement of the Universities, the CNR and the Italian Academies.

6. Italian experts with senior roles appointed within the Body or in Commissions and related Programs (of which we are aware)

- Prof. Piero Tundo, Venice, member of the Bureau.
- Prof. Francesco Nicotra, Milan, President of the Division III Organic Chemistry.
- Prof. Roberto Terzani, Bari, Secretary of the Division VI – Chemistry and the Environment.

7. Short summary of the 2018 activities of the CNR-IUPAC Commission

Following the suspension of the recognition of the mission treatment for the members of the Commissions, the Italian Committee worked in 2018 mainly remotely. The Italian IUPAC Committee 2015-2018 ended its four-year term on December 31, 2018. A new composition of the CNR-IUPAC Commission was appointed for the period 2019-2022 and was appointed as IUPAC Representative Dr. Lidia Armelao, who replaced Dr. Malinconico Mario, appointed by the CNR as Representative at the International Science Council.

In 2018 the CNR-IUPAC Commission worked on the following programs:

- "Basic Terminology of Crystal Engineering" project (project No. : 2012-044-1-100, Division 100, Basic Terminology)
- Project "Categorizing Chalcogen, Pnictogen, and Tetrel Bonds, and Other Interactions Involving Groups 14-16 Elements" (Project No. : 2016-001-2-300, Division 300, Categorizing Chalcogen)

Furthermore:

- Prof. Nicotra spoke at the IUPAC General Assembly held in São Paulo, and was invited to participate in the Meeting Bureau as an "incoming President" of Division III. Prof. Pietro Tundo, an elected member of Italy, was also present at the Bureau Meeting.
- Prof. Nicotra and Tundo participated in, and chaired, the Election Committee to identify the new TM, AM and NR of Division III and Division VI respectively, for the two-year period 2018-19.
- Prof. Nicotra participated in the IUPAC project in 2018 entitled "Bridging Ethnic Food Cultures through Chemistry".
- Communication was sent to the entire Commission of a Summer School entitled "Advanced Topics on Cell Model Systems" (4-8 June, 2018, Rome) organized by the CNR on topics of possible interest to IUPAC for dissemination to researchers under 35 interested in participating (January 2018).
- Information was sent to the entire Commission on the publication of a special issue of the magazine "Pure and Applied Chemistry" dedicated to Chemistry and Cultural Heritage (March 2018).
- Meeting of the CNR-IUPAC Commission in Rome on November 14, 2018 (November 2018).

8. Conclusions

The ongoing activities by Representative Mario Malinconico and members of the IUPAC Italian Committee have decidedly improved Italy's participation in IUPAC and increased IUPAC events in Italy and the ability to attract resources. It is important that the CNR continues to support the work of the CNR-IUPAC Commission financially and that it verifies the possibility of allocating a budget to promote the participation of young researchers in international and national events organized by IUPAC.

Mario Malinconico

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