

# COMITÉ NATIONAL DE LA CHIMIE

28, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE, 75007 PARIS (FRANCE);  
TÉLÉPHONE: (1) 47.05.10.73 - TELEX: 200351 CHIMIE PARIS

Paris, 17 March 2001

**Dr John Jost**  
**Executive Director**  
**IUPAC secretariat**  
**Triangle Park**  
**USA**

Dear John

Please find enclosed a request for a change of statute 9.2 presented by the French National Adhering Organization.

We do realize that our request will reach the IUPAC secretariat after the fixed dead line.

However, before sending this proposal, we waited for the visit of Alan Hayes in France on February 20th and the discussion about this matter. Then some administrative delay were imposed on us before writing down the proposal.

We do hope that it will be possible to accept our request of presenting this change at the next Brisbane General Assembly despite this late arrival.

With all my best wishes.

*[Handwritten signature and date]*  
17/03/01

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The French National Adhering Organization

To Council Members

For a modification of statute dealing with dues

Statute 9.2 is written as :

**... Partial payment of the subscription shall be regarded as non-payment, unless the Union exceptionnally waives the outstanding subscription ...**

This statute also describes the way a NAO in arrears of payment ceases to be a member of the Union.

The name of the Union, i.e. International of Pure and Applied Chemistry suggests that the chemical industry is concerned with the Union.

This view is supported by the fact that the Union has actually been founded by the President of the British Industrial Chemistry Society and by the President of the French Industrial Chemistry Society. Indeed needs for the chemical industry requiring international agreements were clearly identified at the time of the foundation.

Today such needs, though not the same, still exist, particularly in the field of analytical chemistry, or in the field of macromolecular chemistry, or in the field of environmental chemistry. This list is of course not exhaustive.

The increase of international exchanges, not only scientific, but also and above all economical and commercial, has maintained those needs.

Unfortunately, the industry does not seem highly concerned by internationally agreed procedures and/or rules set up by itself. Consequently its support to the Union remains a constant worry for our Union.

Moreover, the restructuring of the industry which is presently going on all around the world, with concentration of companies into gigantic supranational companies has introduced a disequilibrium into

the payment of dues in case National Companies which were formally bringing their support to their home nations, disappeared with restructuring. A supranational company does not feel very much concerned in paying two or more contributions to two or more different countries.

As France is concerned, another burden has arisen which might show up in other countries in the future. The word "applied" is understood as "the industry must contribute to the level of 50% of the dues, instead of having the total amount of dues paid by the State."

It may also be underlined that dues are based in our Union on the turnover of the chemical industry. This is another argument put forward by those who believe that the chemical industry must strongly participate to the payment of dues. However how to get the money from an industry which does not want to.

As a consequence, the payment of dues may become quite difficult. This would create a difficulty for the Union itself since the application of statute would push a Country out of the Union with its chemists who would not really be responsible of that situation.

Next to that, it may be pointed out that nearly all other scientific Unions do not use a "all or nothing" scale for the payment of dues, but allow each country to "choose" the level of its support to the Union by introducing categories of dues. As a example, ICSU has such a system and our Union has chosen level 14, by the way the highest level level chosen by a scientific Union.

### **Proposal**

It is recognized that the level of dues is still given by the present sliding rule based upon the chemical Turnover. This provides a maximum level of dues.

It is suggested that this level is to be split into several sublevels in a number equal to the number of votes granted for the Council meeting.

Thus a country having two votes would have the possibility to choose either the payment of dues computed with the sliding rule with two votes granted, or a 50% payment of dues with one vote granted. A country having four votes would have four sublevels at its disposal. A total subscription with four votes, a 75% subscription with 3 votes, a 50% subscription with 2 votes, a 25% subscription with one vote.

It is understood that this system would not provide the expected budget for the Union since the requested amount of dues might be amended by NAOs. However one may note that the dues count

roughly for 50% of the budget, the other 50% being provided by revenues of publications and of assets.

New statute might be written as :

**The subscription is fixed by the Council during the General Assembly using the accepted sliding rule. However a Country keeps the possibility to pay a lower contribution at a sublevel corresponding to a proportional decrease of the number of votes at the General Assembly.**