



Working Party on  
Green and Sustainable Chemistry

## 1st Meeting of the Working Party on Green and Sustainable Chemistry

Rome, INCA Offices, 28th February 2008



### Attendees:

Prof. Pietro Tundo (ITA, INCA Consortium, Chair)  
Dr. Frank King (UK, Johnson Matthey Technology Centre)  
Prof. Maria Teresa Galceán (ESP, Spanish Society of Analytical Chemistry)  
Prof. Claus Hviid Christensen (DK, Centre for Sustainable and Green Chemistry)  
Prof. Manfred Grasserbauer (AT, Institute of Chemical Technologies and Analytics)  
Prof. Marja Lajunen (FI, Association of Finnish Chemical Societies)  
Prof. Rita Földényi (HUN, Hungarian Chemical Society)  
Prof. Angelo Albini (ITA, Italian Chemical Society)  
Prof. Constantine Poulos (GR, Association of Greek Chemists)  
Dr. Tomaso Munari (ITA, National Council of Chemists)  
Prof. Isabelle Rico-Lattes (FRA, French Chemical Society)

### Excused:

Prof. Viktor Milata (SK)  
Dr. Sean Axon (UK)  
Dr. Åsa Håkansson (SWE)  
Prof. Udo Kragl (DE)  
Prof. Yoel Sasson (ISR)  
Dr Mehmet Mahramanlioglu (TUR)

The meeting started off with the welcome address by the Chair of the WP, followed by the presentation of their personal professional profile by the attendees. Prof. Földényi expressed the wish by the Hungarian Chemical Society to organize a conference on Green Chemistry in the near

future. Prof. Rico-Lattes informed the audience of the forthcoming conference on the “Valorisation of CO<sub>2</sub>” to be held in Toulouse, France, in December 2008.

The Chair outlined some immediate action to be taken by the WP, such as the definition of its internal organization, connection to be established with the national Chemical Societies, and the agenda of the next meetings. Prof. Tundo stressed the fact that with the inclusion of two more National Societies, the WP could move up to the status of Division within the EUChEMs. Dr. King will seek the participation of an Irish representative, Prof. Poulos that of a Cypriot and Prof. Tundo that of a Portuguese and a Slovenian.

There was then a long debate on the precise name to be assigned to the WP and the correct meaning and use of the terms “Green” and “Sustainable”. It was agreed that “Green” has a narrower agenda and is a subset of “Sustainable”. Prof. Tundo added that “Green” is more suitable to describe basic research endorsed by Academia than “Sustainable”, where other factors (not least the profit) are included. However since there is no consensus in the scientific community on the meaning of the terms, both shall be kept.

Prof. Grasserbauer proposed to define which topics are pertinent to the activities of the WP; the idea was endorsed by Prof. Albin, who also proposed to run a survey to collect all available information on the activities of the various National Societies on the abovementioned topics. Prof. Munari and Christensen suggested that the topics should not be considered as close boxes, in order to allow anybody interested in Sustainable Development to interact with the WP.

On the specific mission of the WP, Dr. Munari put forward the question whether this should be a political or scientific lobbying group. Prof. Christensen pointed out the fact that whoever is interested in changing chemistry to improve the life of future generations should be welcome to collaborate with the WP and this idea is very easy to sell politically. Dr. King confirmed that there should be clarity and simplicity in the terms of reference to get the message through. After that the activities of the WP will flow towards their natural objectives. Prof. Grasserbauer suggested the WP should be the academic correspondent of Suschem.

It was proposed to have, in the medium term, regular “outreaching” meetings of the WP always in the same location, most logically in Bruxelles. On top of this there should be a number of itinerant “internal meetings”. Dr. King indicated DECHEMA as an ideal partner to organise the outreaching meetings, giving their expertise and the favourable rates. In view of this (and to involve industrial stakeholders) Prof. Tundo proposed to invite DECHEMA at the next meeting of the WP. Dr King suggested also the participation of BASF, given their proven sensitivity to the environmental issues.

The 2nd Meeting of the WP will take place in Venice, starting on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of October 3PM and continuing on Sunday morning. Later in the day there will be the official kick off of the 10<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Summer School on Green Chemistry organised by the INCA Consortium.

The WP agreed for the time being on the following. In **brackets** the responsible persons:

1. to collect all available information for the National Chemical Societies on activities related to Green/Sustainable Chemistry. This should be done through a questionnaire to be prepared by the Chair and collected before the 15<sup>th</sup> of March (**INCA through the input of all representatives**);
2. to define the structure of the WP secretariat (**Dr. King will ask Dr. Axon to act as the Secretary; otherwise INCA may offer an in-kind contribution**);

3. to meet with the management of the EUChemS to define the priorities of the WP and to avoid overlapping with other groups (Such as the Division of Chemistry for the Environment) (**Chair**)
4. to create a website. This should be based on Google map and help to quickly identify people involved with the WP and related events;
5. following specific request from chairs/organisers and after careful evaluation, to endorse a number of events, such as the next EUChemS Meeting in Turin, the INCA Summer School, the 2nd IUPAC Conference on Green Chemistry (Moscow), the 3rd Panhellenic Symposium Green Chemistry and Sustainable Development (Thessaloniki), the International Meeting on "Valorisation of CO<sub>2</sub>" (Toulouse), the 1<sup>st</sup> International Congress on Environmental Photochemistry (Constantine- Algeria) (**Profs. Tundo, Rico-Lattes and Poulos**);
6. to be present with a structured event at the EUChemS Meeting in 2010, as well as be part of the organising committee;
7. to attend the EUChemS meeting in Turin and disseminate information on the WP (material to be prepared) (**Dr. Munari and Prof. Grasserbauer**)
8. to promote the involvement of industrial interlocutors in the WP (**all representatives**);
9. to establish contacts with the European institutions (get the right people to contact through CEFIC); the WP should try to get 3 simple messages through with the back up of the National Chemical Societies;
10. to join future European events, as long as they publish the proceedings (**all representatives**);
11. to seek industrial sponsorships to promote the involvement of young scientists with the WP (**all representatives**);
12. to promote the activities of the WP (Prof. Christensen will draft a document for revision, to be published on a number of journals) and ask Directors of journals to host a column dedicated to the activities of the WP (**Prof. Poulos**);
13. to publish a report of this meeting (including a picture) on the next issue EUChemS Newsletter (**INCA**)
14. to adopt the following logo for the WP



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