

Item 11.5: Report of the Project Committee to Council

Since its establishment in April 1999, the Project Committee (PC) has been involved in two kinds of activities:

1. Review of projects and decisions on funding as defined in the terms of reference of the committee.
2. Taking part in the discussion on the development and the implementation of the project review process for the new project driven scientific performance of the Union.

Review and funding decisions

The PC in a first round tries to come to a funding decision within three weeks after submission to the PC.

A second round of assessment may be necessary when:

- during the first round the opinions of the PC-members do not point in the same direction; another three weeks are then needed;
- the PC wants to ask the project submitters technical and/or scientific questions to obtain clarification or to achieve improvement of the quality of the proposal.

In the addendum, some quantitative information is given on this part of the work by the PC.

Project Review Process

The PC has contributed to the development of a number of documents concerned with the project submission and with the regulation of the project review process.

Special attention has been given to:

- the proper functioning of the external refereeing process;
- a smooth interaction between the PC and the Division Presidents and the Chairmen of the Standing Committees; the expert opinion of these bodies is essential for the final judgment by the PC;
- achieving an IUPAC attitude towards the funding of conferences and workshops, resulting in the decision not to give financial contributions to conferences, but expressing willingness to consider the funding of workshops.

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Addendum

In 1999, the PC reviewed 4 proposals, and granted 3 for a total amount of USD 16 000. In 2000, the PC reviewed and granted 5 proposals, for a total of USD 72 500. So far, in 2001, the PC has granted 1 proposal (USD 5000), while 5 others are under review (as of 19 April 2001).

The projects that received financial support by the PC since January 1999 are listed below (total amount granted = USD 93 500):

- Preparation and harmonisation of the internationally harmonised guidelines for in-house method validation
- Environmental analytical chemistry - Workshop on problems related to mining in africa
- Regulatory limits for pesticide residues in waters
- International conference "Chemical Education and Sustainable Development"
- Molecular basis of biodiversity, conservation and sustained innovative utilization
- Glossary of terms relating to polymeric gels and networks, hybrid inorganic polymeric materials and the processing thereof
- IUPAC stability constants database - completion of data collection up to 2000
- IUPAC Chemical identifier (ICHI) project
- Standardization of methods for the characterization of inorganic membranes