



International  
Science Council

# Towards a new dues structure

Renée van Kessel



# History

- Merger ISSC and ICSU in 2018
- Dues structures frozen for 3 years (except for inflation of 2%)
- Instruction by General Assembly (GA) to develop a new system
- GB appoints ad hoc Dues Committee

# Brief for Dues Committee

- A single dues structure should be achieved
- Issue of affordable fees for LMIC should be addressed
- At least a similar income from dues should be aimed for
- The (former) ICSU structure was taken as a starting point

# Status

**A proposal has been developed, based on the current membership base:**

- Full members
  - Category 1 Unions and Associations
  - Category 2 National bodies
- Affiliated members
  - Category 3 'Other' bodies

**Changes to the current system:**

- Category 1: addition of bands (from 4 to 5 or alternatively 13)
- Category 2: adjusting band 6 and 9, to get a more even distribution of the system.
- Category 2: multiple members per country share dues
- Category 3: no changes

**Adjustment in a Gradual shift in three years**

# Challenges along the route

- Implications of revising the Band systems for some of the members
- For Category 2: the (un)fairness of GDP as denominator for the calculations
- Voting rights in situations of multiple members per country
- Discussion in ISC to expand the membership base, to other categories

# Where we stand

## Category 1 Members

From a 4-band system

Band (Category 1 Members)	Category 1 Member (Union or Association) income (€)	Dues level 2012	Dues level 2021
A	>= 330,000	€ 18,000	€ 24,582
B	240,000 - 329,000	€ 9,000	€ 12,292
C	55,000 - 239,000	€ 3,000	€ 4,055
D	< 55,000	€ 1,000	€ 1,393

To a 5-band system

Present Dues level (2021)	(New) Band	Proposed Dues level (2022)	Income from Union's own membership dues (1000 €)
€ 24,582	A	€ 25,073	over 360
€ 12,292	B	€ 12,538	between 240 - 360
€ 4,055	C	€ 4,136	between 120 - 240
€ 4,055	D	€ 3,231	between 60 - 120
€ 1,393	E	€ 1,400	under 60

OR a 13-band system

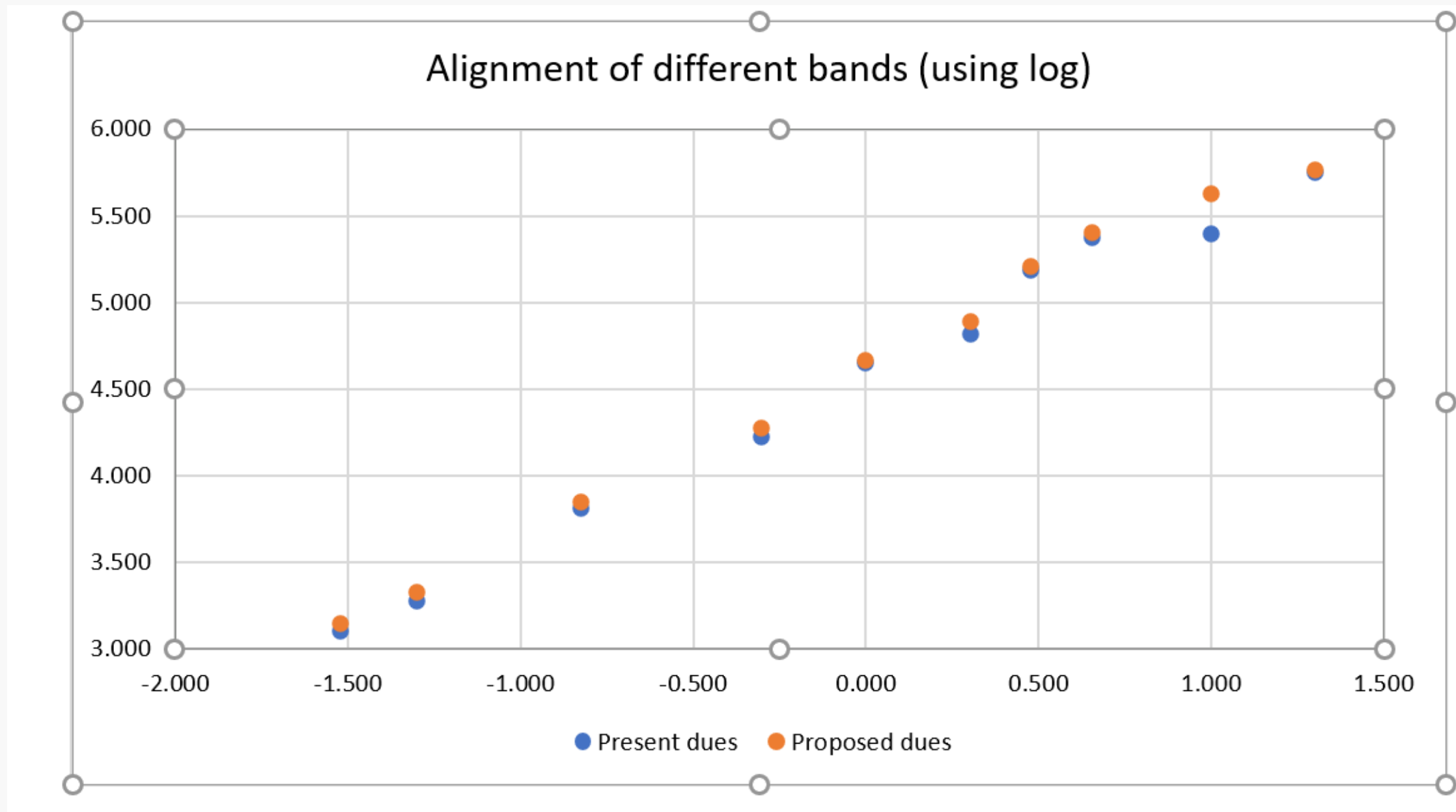
Band	Proposed Dues level (2024) €	Income from Union's own membership dues (1000 €)	Proposed ISC Dues as a % of Union's own membership dues
A	27,000	Over 600	4.5% or less
B	21,375	475 – 599.99	3.6 - 4.5%
C	16,875	375 – 474.99	3.6 - 4.5%
D	13,500	300 – 374.99	3.6 – 4.5%
E	11,250	250 – 299.99	3.8 – 4.5%
F	9000	200 – 249.99	3.6 – 4.5%
G	7200	160 – 199.99	3.6 – 4.5%
H	5850	130 – 159.99	3.7 – 4.5%
I	4500	100 – 129.99	3.5 – 4.5%
J	3600	80 – 99.99	3.6 – 4.5%
K	2700	60 – 79.99	3.4 – 4.5%
L	1800	40 – 59.99	3.0 – 4.5%
M	1,400	< 39.99	3.5% or more

# Category 1 - for deliberation

- 4-band system: ranges from ~0,5% to 10%
- 5-band system: range will be 1,7 to ~7%
- 13-band system: range changes to 3,5 to 4,5%

*...of income of the members*

# Category 2 Members – need for alignment





# Category 2 Implications

Band	Percentage of global GDP	Present Dues level (2021)	Proposed Ratio Band x / Band 10	Proposed Dues level (2022)
10	20%<	€ 568,564	1	€ 579,935
9	10%-20%	€ 247,631	0.75	€ 421,846
8	4.5%-10%	€ 237,819	0.45	€ 253,108
7	3%-4.5%	€ 155,099	0.29	€ 161,708
6	2%-3%	€ 64,624	0.14	€ 77,338
5	1%-2%	€ 45,237	0.083	€ 46,872
4	0.5%-1%	€ 16,853	0.033	€ 18,747
3	0.15%-0,5%	€ 6,462	0.013	€ 7,031
2	0.05%-0,15%	€ 1,901	0.0034	€ 2,109
1	0%-0,05%	€ 1,268	0.0017	€ 1,400

# Category 2 - considerations

- Calculation based on GDP over three previous years. Alternatives have negative downsides
- Cap in dues in (highest) Band 10 at € 600.000, (lowest) Band 1 is fixed at € 1400
- Regional social science councils to be placed in Band 1

# Summary – interim conclusions

- Achieving fairness in Category 1 would require a 13-band system
- Moving to a 5-band system would reduce inconsistency between Category 1 members from 20:1 to 4:1, so may be an interim step
- GDP of a country is a reasonable proxy for science intensity of a country
- In Category 2 bands 6 and 9 are too low, they need to be higher or wider changes need to be made
- The issue of the surcharge of 10% of countries with three or more members still on the table
- Multiple members per country: which procedures in case of disputes

# Proposal

Postpone the introduction, because...

- Sensitivities and challenges for some of the members
- The connection between voting rights as laid down in the Statutes and dues, not yet clear for 'multiple members per country'
- The discussion on revision of the membership base of ISC has implications for the dues system

Status report handed over to the next Governing Board for further action.

This also implies an extension of the current dues structure

# Connect with us



**Website:** [council.science](https://council.science)



## Social media

Twitter: @ISC

Facebook: International Science Council

LinkedIn: International Science Council

Instagram: @council.science

Youtube: @InternationalScienceCouncil



**Newsletter:** [council.science/newsletter](https://council.science/newsletter)