

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Muscat, Oman 2025

List of documents for the Third ISC General Assembly (2025)

Updated 19 January 2025

For noting



**International
Science Council**

وزارة التعليم العالي
و البحث العلمي والابتكار
Ministry of Higher Education
Research & Innovation



2025 General Assembly Draft agenda

Updates since 18 December in red

Item	Aim/decision	Documentation	Doc. status
1. Opening and welcome	NA	NA	NA
2. Adoption of the agenda	Adoption	Doc. 0: List of documents Doc. 1: Draft agenda	Updated 17/01/25 Updated 17/01/25
3. Adoption of the report of previous General Assembly	Approval	Doc. 2: Draft report of the 2021 General Assembly	Available 29/11/24
4. Appointment of Resolutions Committee	Approval	NA	NA
5. Voting procedures	Noting	Doc. 3: Extracts from Statutes and Rules of Procedure	Available 17/12/24
6. Introductions to incoming, continuing and outgoing Governing Board members	Noting	Doc. 4: List of Governing Board members	Revised 10/01/25
7. Report, President and CEO	Noting	Doc. 5: Draft Three-Year Activity Report	Available 29/11/24
8. Report, Vice-President Science & Society	Discussion	Refer to Doc. 5 Doc. 6: Report of Consultative Group on Science Education	Available 17/12/24
9. Report, Vice-President Freedom & Responsibility in Science	Noting	Refer to Doc. 5	
10. Report, Vice-President Outreach & Engagement	Noting	Refer to Doc. 5	
11. Progress on resolutions of the 2021 GA 11.1. Scientific publishing 11.2. ISC and the multilateral system	Noting Discussion Discussion	Refer to Doc. 5 (Section 4.7) Refer to Doc. 5 (Section 6) Doc. 7: Discussion paper on Science Diplomacy for the ISC General Assembly	Available 17/12/24
12. Draft Strategic Plan	Discussion	Doc. 8: Draft Strategic Plan 2025–2028	Available 29/11/24

Item	Aim/decision	Documentation	Doc. status
13. ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure			
13.1. Implications of the 2024 revisions for advisory bodies	Noting	Doc. 9: Plan for staggering standing committee mandates	Available 29/11/24
13.2. Proposed modifications to the Statutes and RoP	Decision	Doc. 10: Proposed modifications of Statutes and Rules of Procedure	Revised 17/12/24
14. Membership matters			
14.1. Reports from membership fora	Noting	NA	NA
14.2. Discussion on ISC membership	Discussion	Doc. 11: Discussion note on ISC membership	Available 17/01/25
15. ISC regional presence	Discussion	Doc. 12a: Note on ISC regional structures	Available 29/11/24
		Doc. 12b: Report from Regional Focal Point for Latin America and the Caribbean	Available 29/11/24
		Doc. 12c: Report from Regional Focal Point for Asia and the Pacific	Available 29/11/24
		Doc. 12d: Report from Future Africa (replacing Progress Report of Feb 2024)	Available 17/01/25
		Doc. 12e: Report on activity in SIDS region	Available 29/11/24
16. Report, Vice-President for Finance, Compliance & Risk	Noting	Doc. 13a: Report of Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk 2022–2024	Available 29/11/24
		Doc. 13b: Note on the hosting of the ISC in France	Available 17/01/25
17. 2025–2026 budget	Approval	Doc. 14a: Provisional 2025–2026 budget and cover note	Available 29/11/24
		Doc. 14b: Membership dues scale 2025	Available 29/11/24
18. Adjustment of membership dues for inflation	Approval	Doc. 15: Proposal for annual adjustment of membership dues for inflation	Available 29/11/24
19. Appointment of auditor	Approval	Doc. 16: Proposal for auditor of ISC accounts from 2023 to 2028	Available 29/11/24

20. Revision of ISC membership dues structure	Discussion	Doc. 17: Proposed principles for revision of ISC membership dues structure	Available 17/01/25
21. Adoption of resolutions	Adoption	NA	NA
22. Date and place of next meetings		NA	NA
22.1. Membership Meeting 2026	Noting	NA	NA
22.2. General Assembly 2028	Noting	NA	NA
23. Any other business	NA	NA	NA
24. Presidential address	NA	NA	NA
25. Close of General Assembly	NA	NA	NA

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Muscat, Oman 2025

Draft agenda of the Third ISC General Assembly (2025)

Document 1

Updated 17 January 2025

For adoption



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Research & Innovation



2025 General Assembly Draft agenda

Day 1, Wednesday 29 January 2025

14:00–15:00 Opening and formalities

1. Opening and welcome NA

The President will open the General Assembly.

2. Adoption of the agenda *Doc. 0: List of documents* *Doc. 1: Draft agenda*

The General Assembly will be asked to adopt the agenda.

3. Adoption of the report of previous General Assembly *Doc. 2: Draft report of the 2021 General Assembly*

The General Assembly will be asked to adopt the report of the previous General Assembly (2021).

4. Appointment of Resolutions Committee NA

The General Assembly will be asked to approve the four proposed members of the Resolutions Committee.

5. Voting procedures *Doc. 3: Extracts from Statutes and Rules of Procedure*

The General Assembly will be invited to note the voting procedures.

6. Presentation of Governing Board members *Doc. 4: List of Governing Board members*

The outgoing, continuing and incoming Governing Board members will be introduced to the General Assembly.

Break (10 mins)

15:15–18:00 Reporting

7. Report, President and CEO [30m]

Doc. 5: Draft Three-Year Activity Report

The President and CEO will introduce the reporting for the previous three-year period.

8. Report, Science [20m]

*Refer to Doc. 5, Section 4
Doc. 6: Report of Consultative Group on
Science Education*

The Vice-President for Science Programmes will present and take questions on the science activities.

9. Report, Freedom & Responsibility in Science [20m]

Refer to Doc. 5, Section 5

The Vice-President for Freedom and Responsibility in Science will present and take questions on the 'FRS' activities.

Break (30mins)

10. Report, Outreach & Engagement [30m]

Refer to Doc. 5, Section 2

a. Membership outreach, engagement and communications [20m]

The Vice-President for Membership will present and take questions on the membership outreach and engagement activities.

b. ISC Fellowship [10m]

The President will give a short report and take questions on the ISC Fellowship.

11. Progress on resolutions of the 2021 GA [40m]

a. Scientific publishing [20m]

Refer to Doc. 5, Section 4.7

Governing Board member Geoffrey Boulton will present the highlights of ISC work in the area of science publishing since the last GA and the Secretariat will address future work.

b. ISC and the multilateral system [20m]

*Refer to Doc. 5, Section 6
Doc. 7: Discussion paper on science diplomacy*

Julia Marton-Lefevre, Chair of the Steering Group on ISC Strategy in the Intergovernmental System (2021), will present the highlights of ISC engagement with the multilateral system and the Secretariat will address future work.

18:30–19:30 Reception (location to be confirmed)

Day 2, Thursday 30 January 2025**09:00–12:30 Strategy and membership****12. Draft Strategic Plan 2025–2028***Doc. 8: Draft Strategic Plan 2025–2028*

[45m]

The President will present the draft Strategic Plan 2025–2028, for discussion.

13. ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure

[45m]

a. Implications of the 2024 revisions for advisory bodies*Doc. 9: Plan for staggering standing committee mandates*

[15m]

The President will present the timeline for introduction of staggering of standing committee membership, for noting.

b. Proposed further modifications to the Statutes and RoP*Doc. 10: Proposed modifications of Statutes and Rules of Procedure*

[30m]

The President will introduce a number of proposed modifications to the Statutes and Rules of Procedure, for discussion and decision by the members.

Break (30mins)**14. Membership matters**

[60m]

a. Reports from membership fora*NA*

[30m]

Rapporteurs from the meetings of Members by category will be invited to give a five-minute report.

b. Implications of 2024 revisions of Statutes and RoP for ISC membership*Doc. 11: Discussion paper*

[30m]

The Members will be invited to discuss continuing and emerging issues around membership categories.

15. ISC regional presence*Doc. 12a–e*

[45m]

Reports on the ISC's regional presence from the CEO and the Regional Focal Points in Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia Pacific, as well as from the ISC-Future Africa scoping project, and discussion.

12:45–14:00 Lunch

14:00–16:30 Financial matters (including break)**16. Report, Finance, Compliance & Risk**
[30m]

Doc. 13a: Report of Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk 2022–2024
Doc. 13b: Note on hosting of the ISC in France

- The Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk will present the financial report for the period since the last GA.
- The President will present the ISC Trust.
- The CEO will inform the General Assembly about the status of the ISC’s hosting in France.

17. 2025–2026 budget
[30m]

Doc. 14a: Provisional 2025–2026 budget and cover note
Doc. 14b: Membership dues scale 2025

The Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk will present the 2025–2026 budget.

18. Adjustment of membership dues for inflation
[10m]

Doc. 15: Proposal for annual adjustment of membership dues for inflation

The Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk will present a proposal to formalize the regular adjustment for inflation.

19. Appointment of auditor
[10m]

Doc. 16: Proposal for auditor of ISC account

The Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk will ask the membership to confirm the appointment of the external auditor of the ISC accounts.

Break (30 mins)**20. Revision of ISC membership dues structure**
[45m]

Doc. 17: Proposed principles for the revision of the ISC membership dues structure

The Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk and members of the Dues Revision Working Group will present a set of proposed principles to underpin the revision of the dues structure, for discussion with the membership.

16:30–17:30 Closing formalities

21. Adoption of resolutions

If any resolutions have been proposed, the Resolutions Committee will bring them forward for adoption by the membership.

22. Date and place of next meetings

a. 2026 Membership Meeting

The President will indicate the timeline for confirming the location of the 2026 membership meeting.

b. 2028 General Assembly

The President will indicate the timeline for selecting the location of the 2028 General Assembly.

23. Any other business

24. Presidential address

25. Close of General Assembly

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Muscat, Oman 2025

Report of the Second ISC General Assembly (2021)

Document 2

For approval



**International
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Ministry of Higher Education
Research & Innovation





REPORT

International Science Council 2nd General Assembly 11–15 October 2021 (online meeting)

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The International Science Council (ISC) is a non-governmental organization with a unique global membership that brings together 40 international scientific Unions and Associations and over 140 national and regional scientific organizations including Academies and Research Councils

Business Day 1 (12 October 2021)

1. Opening of the 2nd ISC General Assembly

ISC President Daya Reddy welcomed participants to the 2nd General Assembly of the ISC.

a. Adoption of the agenda

The Assembly adopted the agenda by acclamation without amendments.

- b. Adoption of the minutes of the 1st ISC General Assembly (2018)
- c. Adoption of the minutes of the Extraordinary ISC General Assembly (2021)

The membership was informed that the above documents had been reviewed by the Governing Board.

The minutes of the 1st ISC General Assembly (July 2018) and the Extraordinary ISC General Assembly (February 2021) were adopted by acclamation without amendments.

- d. Adoption of the recommendation of the Governing Board on the term of office of vice-presidents.

The Assembly adopted, by acclamation, the recommendation of the Governing Board not to change the term of office of vice-presidents.

e. Appointment of the Resolutions Committee

The following individuals were proposed to the Assembly to form the 2021 Resolutions Committee:

- Anna Mauranen (Council of Finnish Academies)
- Catherine Ngila (African Academy of Sciences)
- Tonya Blowers (Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World)
- Yukari Takamura (Science Council of Japan)

The Assembly approved the composition of the Resolutions Committee by acclamation.

f. Appointment of tellers

The following individuals were proposed to the Assembly as tellers:

- Mostafa Moonir Shawrav (Marie Curie Alumni Association – MCAA)
- Simon Hodson (Committee on Data of the International Council for Science – CODATA)
- Manuel de Leon (Ministry for Science and Innovation, Spain)

The Assembly approved the tellers by acclamation.

2. Activity and Achievement Report 2018–2021

The ISC President Daya Reddy and CEO Heide Hackmann presented a report of ISC activities and achievements during the first three years of operation of the Council. The President thanked the ISC members, the Governing Board members, the Secretariat, including the Regional Offices, and all Committees and Working Groups for their deep commitment.

During the general discussion, the following points were raised:

- There has been good progress working across social and natural sciences in ISC activities.
- The membership should be consulted before important statements or positions are released.
- The membership was encouraged to diffuse the Activity and Achievement report widely among their constituencies to showcase the work ISC is doing.
- Some ISC members are still marginalized; there is a need to ensure the engagement of all members.
- Some areas of science are not well covered by the ISC; the next Governing Board will work to improve the coverage of domains of science.

The Assembly noted the 2018–2021 Activity and Achievement Report.

3. Governing Board election procedures

ISC President Daya Reddy reminded the members about the procedure for Governing Board elections, stressing that voting guidelines had been sent by email to each member's voting delegate and that only that person had the right to vote. All members had been notified that the link for voting would be sent by email shortly before the election.

4. Adoption of 2022–2024 Action Plan

ISC CEO Heide Hackmann presented the ISC's three-year Action Plan 'Science and Society in transition'.

Various members congratulated the ISC on the development of the strategy and highlighted that the plan represented a relevant driver for change by 2024.

A few specific suggestions were proposed for consideration, including:

- Changing 'equal' to 'equitable' in 'support the continued and equal development of science systems in all parts of the world' in order to put more emphasis on justice and fairness;
- Strengthening the responsibility of members to promote evidence-based policies in their national/regional spheres of influence; helping members deal with the challenges they face in science–policy interfaces;
- Enhancing the attention given to developing and strengthening science capacities around the globe;
- Elaborating the issue of freedom in science with additional topics, e.g. ethics of doing science;
- Enhancing the representation of young scientists in ISC activities and planning;

- Exploring opportunities for skill and capacity transfer between ISC members.

The 2022–2024 Action Plan was adopted by acclamation.

5. Closing of day

Business Day 2 (14 October 2021)

6. Welcome to Business Day 2

The President welcomed the participants to the second business day of the General Assembly and briefly recapped the previous day's proceedings.

7. Election of Governing Board Officers

Voting delegates were requested to proceed to cast their votes for Governing Board Officers.

8. Report of the Ad Hoc Dues Committee

The Governing Board had been tasked with proposing a unified dues structure for the 2nd ISC GA. ISC Treasurer Renée van Kessel presented a report prepared by the Ad Hoc Dues Committee, with valued input from Andrew Cleland, former Chief Executive of ISC member the Royal Society Te Apārangi.

The Ad Hoc Dues Committee's study of the issues and consultation with the membership had led it to certain conclusions regarding how to advance towards a unified, fair dues structure. However, in view of the intention to expand ISC membership and the associated consequences for voting rights, the Committee recommended that a new dues structure be developed in tandem with the revision of the membership structure and voting rights.

The Assembly noted the report of the Ad Hoc Dues Committee.

9. Treasurer's report 2018-2021 and adoption of the 2022–2024 budget

ISC Treasurer Renée van Kessel presented her report.

The Assembly noted the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on income and spending in 2021. Spending on governance and science activities was low due to travel restrictions and planned in-person meetings being moved online.

The slight increase in membership dues in arrears was noted.

The Treasurer's Report was adopted by acclamation.
The Treasurer was discharged from any liability for the period of 2018-2021.

ISC President-elect Sir Peter Gluckman presented the indicative budget for the three-year period 2022–2024, with two scenarios with the same expenditure but different fundraising (no fundraising

for one scenario and a fundraising of 1.2m EUR for the other). Any drawdown on reserves would be used to finance new activities rather than core business of the ISC. Any successful fundraising would offset the drawdown on reserves. The actual budget is therefore expected to lie between the limits of the two scenarios presented.

The key risks in terms of finances were noted (reliance on continued support from the French government, over-reliance on membership dues). The President-elect thanked the French Government and the French Academy for their support.

It was noted that the externally funded research funding programmes (LIRA and T2S) were scheduled to end in 2022.

The draft 2022–2024 budget and the associated scale of annual dues to be paid by members for the relevant period were approved by electronic vote, which opened on Thursday, 14 October at 15:30 UTC and closed on Friday, 15 October at 05:00 am UTC. 194 votes were cast, with 81% voting in favour, 8% against, and 11% abstentions.

10. Announcement of elected Governing Board Officers

The President announced the results of the election of the Governing Board Officers.

101 members (both Category 1 and Category 2, representing 86% of 118 members in good standing) voted for Officers.

The following Officers were elected by the General Assembly:

- Motoko Kotani, President-elect
- Sawako Shirahase (legal last name: Ishida), Vice-President for Finance
- Anne Husebekk, Vice-President for Freedom and Responsibility in Science
- Salim Abdool Karim, Vice-President for Outreach and Engagement

11. Election of Ordinary Members of the Governing Board

Voting delegates were requested to proceed to cast their votes for Ordinary Members of the Governing Board.

12. Phase 2 of the Future of Scientific Publishing project

The President invited Geoffrey Boulton, ISC Governing Board Member and chair of the Steering Group project, to provide a short introduction to the project.

The Assembly noted the proposed next steps, which aim to create consensus with other key actors in science for reform of scientific publishing.

An online Mentimeter survey was incorporated in the session with the aim to explore the potential for engagement and contributions from ISC membership. The results of the survey will be taken into consideration in the further development of phase II.

Amongst the comments and questions from Members, it was highlighted that true open access cannot be achieved as long as for-profit publishers control scientific publishing. In addition, concerns were raised with regard to the open access models which affect the financial basis of scientific societies. In this regard it was emphasized that members of the US National Academy of Sciences are exploring alternative business models to address this issue.

13. Announcement of new ISC Governing Board Members (Ordinary Members)

ISC President Daya Reddy announced the results of the election of Ordinary Members of the Governing Board.

103 members (both Category 1 and Category 2, representing 87% of 118 members in good standing) voted for Ordinary Members.

The following Ordinary members were elected by the General Assembly:

- Karina Batthyány
- Françoise Baylis
- Geoffrey Boulton
- Melody Burkins
- Mei-hung Chiu
- Pamela Matson
- Helena Nader
- Walter Oyawa
- Maria Paradiso
- Martin Visbeck

14. Incoming presidential address by Sir Peter Gluckman

Incoming President Sir Peter Gluckman thanked all those who were involved in creating the momentum that led to the merger between the two predecessor organizations, ICSU and the ISSC. He expressed gratitude to outgoing President Daya Reddy for his insightful leadership over the past three years, to the outgoing Governing Board, the Advisory Committees and Steering Groups for their critical contributions, and to the secretariat for their work and dedication.

He underlined the important steps that had been made towards achievement of ISC's mission to become an effective and truly representative global voice for science and acknowledged the perennial membership issues, including gaps in representation.

He stressed that for the ISC to become a stronger voice for science, more effort must be put into the relationship with the multilateral system, including the UN and its agencies, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the World Economic Forum and others. He praised the

work of the Steering Group led by Julia Marton-Lefevre on the development of an ISC strategy in the intergovernmental system.

He mentioned the need to strengthen relationships between science and policy-making, to embed science more deeply in society and to pay more attention to the relations between science and other types of knowledge. He highlighted the work of ISC affiliate INGSA in building understanding and capacities at these interfaces.

He recalled the ISC's broad range of engagements on sustainability challenges. He drew attention to the Global Forum of Funders and the recently launched report 'Unleashing science, delivering missions for sustainability'. He announced the establishment of a Commission chaired by Irina Bukova, former Director-General of UNESCO, and Ms Helen Clark, former Prime Minister of New Zealand and Administrator of the UN Development Programme. The Commission will be tasked with exploring how to implement and fund global science missions for sustainability. The final report is to be delivered at the Global Knowledge Dialogue that the ISC will host in Oman from 30 January to 3 February 2023.

He stressed the need to continue efforts to make science more inclusive and diverse and to raise funds to allow the ISC to fully address its mission.

Note: The video and full text of the address can be found at <https://council.science/current/news/conclusion-ga2021/>

Business Day 3 (15 October 2021)

15. Welcome

ISC President Daya Reddy welcomed the participants to the third business day of the General Assembly and briefly recapped the previous day's proceedings.

16. The Free and Responsible Conduct of Science in the 21st Century

ISC President Daya Reddy handed over the chair for this item to Saths Cooper, Vice-Chair of the ISC Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science (CFRS). Saths Cooper thanked the writing group and the CFRS members who had produced the position paper.

Robin Grimes, CFRS member and chair of the project expert writing group, summarized key messages from the position paper and reminded the Assembly that the goal of the paper was to inform the ISC's understanding and application of the principle of Freedom and Responsibility in Science (ISC Statute 7) and to guide ISC members.

In the discussion it was recognized that ISC's positions may have repercussions on its members, which in some cases may have difficulty with putting forward statements in their country or region.

It was suggested that an executive summary be added to highlight the key messages and recommendations of the paper.

17. ISC Strategy in the Intergovernmental System

ISC President Daya Reddy invited Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Chair of the Steering Group, to introduce the item. The brief of the Steering Group was to provide advice to the ISC on a strategy to work more closely with the intergovernmental system.

Julia Marton-Lefèvre highlighted the ambitious level of the recommendations and recognized that significant fundraising and management efforts would be needed to position the ISC as the key scientific partner for intergovernmental organizations.

It was recognized that the ISC has the reputation and gravitas to be the authority on science. There was support for the idea for ISC to become a registered body with all main UN agencies and to apply for the status of permanent observer to the United Nations.

ISC President-elect Sir Peter Gluckman saw the ISC's role as a broker between the multilateral system and the science system and underlined that the ISC cannot be expert in all domains.

Julia Marton-Lefèvre pointed to recommendation 13 as one of the most important, proposing that the ISC should raise recognition and profile of transdisciplinary science.

An online poll was put to the General Assembly to gauge the membership's support for the recommendations of the Steering Group.

The results of the poll indicated that a large majority of ISC Members were in favour of the ISC's ambition to position itself as the major mechanism for providing scientific advice to the intergovernmental system. 89% of Members voted 'Yes', 2% voted 'No', and 9% were not sure.

Peter Gluckman thanked the Steering Group for their enthusiastic, swift and decisive work in producing the draft report.

18. Adoption of resolutions

Chair of the Resolutions Committee Anna Mauranen presented the Resolutions Committee's report.

The Resolutions Committee proposed two resolutions for adoption by ISC Members:

8. Resolution 1, on actioning the recommendations of the 'Draft Report on the ISC Strategy in the Intergovernmental System': <https://council.science/resolution1>
9. Resolution 2, on endorsing the 'Eight principles for reform of scientific publishing' and working together to achieve reform: <https://council.science/resolution2>.

The voting members then had until 12.00 pm UTC on 18 October 2021 to vote on the proposed resolutions.

The General Assembly adopted both resolutions.

- Resolution 1: 103.5 votes were cast, with 100.5 (97%) in favour and 3 abstentions.
- Resolution 2: 102.5 votes were cast, with 93.8 (92%) in favour and 4 abstentions.

19. Any other business

No further matters were raised by the Assembly.

20. Outgoing Presidential address

Outgoing ISC President Daya Reddy began by emphasizing the fundamental nature of the Statutes in capturing the vision, mission and values of the Council, and the central place of the principle of freedom and responsibility in science. He noted the increased urgency to achieve the SDGs and to make progress towards 1.5-degree goal, as well as the threats to science posed by misinformation and scientific nationalism.

He highlighted the importance of working towards a more inclusive membership and the need for building capacity so that all can engage effectively.

He thanked the outgoing Governing Board for their contributions and engagement; the secretariat, including the Regional Offices, for their commitment and dedication; and the ISC members for their support, ideas and commitment to the ISC.

He warmly congratulated the members of the new Governing Board on their election and expressed his confidence in the incoming president's leadership and in the new Governing Board.

He concluded by thanking the ISC Members for the trust placed in him and stated that it had been a singular privilege to serve the ISC in its inaugural three-year period.

He wished the International Science Council ever greater success in speaking for science and in ensuring the central place of science in making the world a better place.

Note: The video and full text of the address can be found at <https://council.science/current/news/conclusion-ga2021/>

21. Closing of the 2nd ISC General Assembly

In his closing words, outgoing President Daya Reddy thanked the team at the secretariat and the conference organizers in South Africa (ConfSA) for the efficient and successful organization of the General Assembly. He thanked all for their contributions and their participation, in some cases at local times that were highly uncongenial.

The meeting was adjourned at 15:30 CEST.

First Name	Last Name	Country	Organization
Jörn	Achterberg	Germany	Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation)
Yun-Kang	Ahn	France	International Science Council
Suminori	Akiba	Japan	Science Council of Japan
Andrew	Allen	United Kingdom	Royal Society
Othman	Almashaqbeh	Jordan	
Orhan	Altan	Turkey	ISPRS
Suchith	Anand	United Kingdom	Committee on Data (CODATA)
Aurela	Anastasi	Albania	Academy of Sciences of Albania
Fredrikke	Andersen	Norway	Global Research Programme on Inequality (GRIP)
Christopher	Anderson	Australia	
Makoto	Ando	Japan	International Union of Radio Science (URSI)
Anna-Maria	Arabia	Australia	Australian Academy of Science
Salvatore	Aricò	France	International Science Council
Juan A.	Asenjo	Chile	Chilean Academy of Sciences
Sufyan	Aslam	Malaysia	Academy of Sciences Malaysia
Michael	Atchia	Mauritius	MAST
Canan	Atilgan	Turkey	Bilim Akademisi - Science Academy Turkey
Budeebazar	Avid	Mongolia	Mongolian academy of Sciences
Awang Bulgiba	Awang Mahmud	Malaysia	Academy of Sciences Malaysia
Giles	B. Sioen	Japan	Future Earth (FE)
Dominique	Babini	Argentina	Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO)
Neela	Badrie	Trinidad & Tobago	Caribbean Academy of Sciences
John	Baglin	United States	International Union of Materials Research Societies
Kathie	Bailey	United States	US National Academy of Sciences
Fernanda	Bajanca	France	Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA)
Aleksandra	Bajić	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Academy of Sciences and Arts of Republic of Srpska
Karina	Batthyany	Uruguay	CLACSO
Françoise	Baylis	Canada	Dalhousie University
David	Black	Australia	Australian Academy of Science
Tonya	Blowers	Italy	OWSD
Winfried E.h.	Blum	Austria	IUSS
Suzanne	Board	Canada	Soc Sci and Humanities Res Council of Canada
Gergely	Böhm	Hungary	Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Silvia	Borsacchi	Italy	CNR
Geoffrey	Boulton	United Kingdom	
Ernie	Boyko	Canada	Committee on Data (CODATA)
Ekanem	Braide	Nigeria	Nigerian Academy of Science
Tudor	Braniste	Moldova (Republic of)	Academy of Sciences of Moldova
Christopher	Brett	Portugal	International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry
Wendy	Broadgate	Sweden	
Kristaps	Broks	Latvia	
Michelle	Bruce	Australia	AASSREC
Melody	Burkins	United States	
Burke	Burnett	United States	Pacific Science Association
Angela	Camacho	Colombia	Academia Colombiana de ciencias exactas, físicas y naturales

Bonnie C	Carroll	United States	World Data System (WDS)
David	Castle	Canada	World Data System (WDS)
Richard	Catlow	United Kingdom	The Royal Society
Marie-lise	Chanin	France	Academie des Sciences France
Brotati	Chattopadhyay	India	Indian National Science Academy, India
Yue-Gau	Chen	Blank	Academia Sinica
Mei-hung	Chiu	China: Taipei	IUPAC
Han Yu	Chiu	Blank	Future Earth
Steven	Chown	Australia	Australian Academy of Science
Andrew	Cleland	New Zealand	ISC
Miodrag	Čolić	Serbia	Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts
Ilona	Concha Grabinger	Chile	International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Ruth	Cooper	United Kingdom	The Royal Society
Saths	Cooper	South Africa	
Nicolas	CORNU THENARD	France	International Association of Legal Science
Irasema	Coronado	United States	International Political Science Association
Edoardo	Costantini	Italy	IUSS
Lourdes J	Cruz	Philippines	National Research Council of the PhilippinesPhilippines
Christophe	Cudennec	France	IAHS (IUGG)
Marcos	Cueto	Brazil	Division of History of Science and Technology (DHST)
Zenonas	Dabkevičius	Lithuania	Lithuanian Academy of Sciences
Najwa	Daghestani	Jordan	Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS)
Felix	Dakora	South Africa	
Anna	Davies	Ireland	
Manuel	De León	Spain	Spain
Arno	De Marchi	France	International Science Council
Chamika	De Silva	Sri Lanka	National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka
Mathieu	Denis	France	International Science Council
Wiparat	De-ong	Thailand	National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT)
Rabindra Prasad	Dhakal	Nepal	Nepal Academy of Science and Technology
Suresh Kumar	Dhungel	Nepal	Nepal Academy of Science and Technology
Maria Laura	Di Lorenzo	Italy	CNR
Mürsel	Doğrul	Turkey	TÜBA
Patricia	Doherty	United States	Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics (SCOSTEP)
Virginia	Dominguez	United States	World Anthropological Union
Changyong	Dou	China	International Society for Digital Earth
Victorien Tamègnon	Dougnon	Benin	Global Young Academy
Luke	Drury	Ireland	Royal Irish Academy
Pearl	Dykstra	Netherlands	
Shymaa	Enany	Egypt	
Jüri	Engelbrecht	Estonia	Estonian Academy of Sciences
Anna	Erdei	Hungary	Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Maria J.	Esteban	France	International Council for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (ICIAM)
Xavier	Estico	Seychelles	
Bapon	Fakhruddin	New Zealand	Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR)
Marta	Farsang	Canada	National Research Council of Canada

Alberto	Fernandez	Spain	Secretaría General de Investigación - Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación - Spain
Walter	Fernández	Costa Rica	National Academy of Sciences of Costa Rica
Sirimali	Fernando	Sri Lanka	
Masresha	Fetene	United States	African Academy of Sciences
Ruth	Fincher	Australia	
Norman	Fleck	United Kingdom	IUTAM
Katalin	Fodor	Hungary	Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Nathalie	Fomproix	France	IUBS
Enrique	Forero	Colombia	Academia Colombiana de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales
Terrence	Forrester	Jamaica	Terrence Forrester
Edgar	Franco	Guatemala	Academy of Medical, Physical and Natural Sciences
Gerlis	Fugmann	Iceland	International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)
Alberto	Gago	Peru	Academia Nacional de Ciencias, Perú
Franz	Gatzweiler	China	Urban Health & Well-being (UHWB)
Mayette	Geronimo	France	International Science Council
Mohsen	Ghafory-ashtiany	Iran	IRDR
Domenico	Giardini	Switzerland	ICSU
Irvy	Gledhill	South Africa	IUPAP
Peter	Gluckman	New Zealand	ISC
Jaqueline	Godoy Mesquita	Brazil	Brazilian Academy of Sciences
James	Goh	Singapore	IUPESM
Barbaros	Gönençgil	Turkey	International Geographical Union
Kevin	Govender	South Africa	International Astronomical Union
Johanna	Grabow	United Kingdom	Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)
Anna-Maria	Gramatté	Germany	Global Young Academy
Priscilla C	Grew	United States	International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics
Eoghan	Griffin	United Kingdom	Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)
Robin	Grimes	United Kingdom	Royal Society
Yanfeng	Gu	China	China Association for Science and Technology
Alexandra	Guenneç	France	International Science Council
Huadong	Guo	China	International Research Center of Big Data for Sustainable Development Goals
Angela M	Guzman H	Colombia	Colombian Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences (ACCEFYN)
Sepo	Hachigonta	South Africa	National Research Foundation, South Africa
Heide	Hackmann	France	International Science Council
Lena	Halounova	Czech Republic	ISPRS
Mark	Hamilton	United States	
Qunli	Han	China	Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR)
Sari	Hanafi	Lebanon	International Sociological Association
Jie	Hao	China	China Association for Science and Technology
David	Harel	Israel	Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities
Shigeko	Haruyama	Japan	Science Council of Japan
Azhan	Hasan	Qatar	Future Earth
Takehiko	Hashimoto	Japan	IUHPST / DHST
Ines	Hassan	United Kingdom	International Science Council
Brent	Herbert-Copley	Canada	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Dudi	Hidayat	Indonesia	National Research and Innovation Agency, Indonesia
John G.	Hildebrand	United States	US National Academy of Sciences
Yukio	Himiyama	Japan	IGU
Simon	Hodson	France	Committee on Data (CODATA)
Helge	Holden	Norway	The International Mathematical Union
Arlene	Hopkins	United States	Future Earth
John	Howell	Israel	International Commission for Optics
Ren	Huang	Blank	Academy of Sciences located in Taipei
Roula	Inglesi-lotz	South Africa	Global Young Academy
Atsushi	Iriki	Japan	International Council for Laboratory Animal Science
Alik	Ismail-Zadeh	Germany	
Shuichi	Iwata	Japan	Committee on Data (CODATA)
Raymond	Jagessar	Guyana	Caribbean Academy of Sciences
Catherine	Jami	France	International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology
Aaron	Janofsky	France	
Saroj	Jayasinghe	Sri Lanka	National Science Foundation
Gensuo	Jia	China	Regional Committee for Asia and the Pacific
Sergio de Jesús	Jorge Pastrana	Barbados	Academia de Ciencias de Cuba
Gabriel	Kabanda	Zimbabwe	Professor Gabriel Kabanda
Ivars	Kalvins	Latvia	Ivars kalvins
David	Kaplan	France	ISC
Fumiko	KASUGA	Japan	Future Earth
Bugwesa	Katale	Tanzania, United Republic of	
Roslyn	Kemp	New Zealand	International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS)
Yeadong	Kim	South Korea	Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)
Yoon Soo	Kim	South Korea	National Academy of Sciences, Rep. of Korea (South)
Yoon	Kim	South Korea	National Academy of Sciences, Rep. of Korea (South)
Donghyun	Kim	South Korea	
Angus	Kirkland	United Kingdom	International Federation of Societies for Microscopy
Hiroshi	Kitazato	Japan	IUGS
Kseniya	Kizilova	Austria	World Association for Public Opinion Research
Michael	Kleine	Austria	IUFRO
Raina	Klüppelberg	Germany	ISC
Junji	Koizumi	Japan	WAO
Chihaya	Koriyama	Japan	Science Council of Japan
Polina	Koroleva	Russian Federation	UNEP
Takashi	Kosaki	Japan	International Union of Soil Sciences
Motoko	Kotani	Japan	SCJ
Emma	Kowal	Australia	Society for Social Studies of Science
Melle	Kromhout	Netherlands	KNAW
Renata	Kuskowska	Poland	Polish Academy of Sciences
Rattan	Lal	United States	IUSS
Geoffroy	Lambrecht	Canada	National Research Council of Canada
Sam	Lanfranco	Canada	Society for the Advancement of Science in Africa (SASA)
Lang	Lang	China	Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR)

MARIO R.	LANZA SANTAMARIA	Honduras	NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF HONDURAS
Ari	Laptev	Sweden	Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (KVA)
Dan	Larhammar	Sweden	Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
Kirsi	Latola	Finland	University of Arctic
Doo Sung	Lee	South Korea	The Korean Academy of Science and Technology (KAST)
Jisoon	Lee	South Korea	National Academy of Sciences, Republic of Korea
Byeong Gi	Lee	South Korea	National Academy of Science, Republic of Korea
Thomas	LeGrand	Canada	Thomas LeGrand
Lai Peng	Leong	Singapore	Singapore National Academy of Science
Jinghai	Li	China	
Fang	Lian	China	Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR)
James C.	Liao	Blank	
Sven	Lidin	Sweden	IUCr
Denise	Lievesley	United Kingdom	International Statistical Institute
Tit Meng	Lim	Singapore	Singapore National Academy of Science
Ying-hsuan	Lin	China: Taipei	Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR)
Yi-Chun	Lin	China: Taipei	Academic Sinica
Zhen	Liu	China	International Society for Digital Earth
Susana	Lizano	Mexico	Mexican Academy of Sciences
Rubén Camilo	Lois-González	Spain	IGU/UGI
Marta	Losada	United Arab Emirates	Academia Colombia de Ciencias Físicas y Naturales
Benedikt	Löwe	United Kingdom	IUHPST
Yonglong	Lu	China	Pacific Science Association
Yisha	Lu	China	China Association for Science and Technology
John	Ludden	United Kingdom	International Union of Geological Sciences
Mahesh Prasad	Madhukar	India	Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)
Zdenka	Mansfeldova	Czech Republic	Czech Academy of Sciences
Pam	Maras	United Kingdom	International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS)
Miklós	Maróth	Hungary	Eötvös Loránd Research Network
Belen	Martin Miguez	Switzerland	Global Climate Observing System (GCOS)
Ban	Masadeh	Jordan	Royal Scientific Society - Jordan
Pamela	Matson	United States	
Phethiwe	Matutu	South Africa	National Research Foundation, SA
Anna	Mauranen	Finland	The Council of Finnish Academies (CoFA)
Michael	Meadows	South Africa	International Geographical Union
Narinder	Mehra	India	Indian National Science Academy
Alison	Meston	France	International Science Council
Fabienne	Meyers	United States	IUPAC
Catherine	Michaut	France	CNFCG
Humberto	Michinel	Spain	International Commission for Optics
Arto	Miettinen	Finland	Council of Finnish Academies
Belén Martín	Míguez		Global Climate Observing System (GCOS)
Laurel	Milliken	United States	Future Earth
Grant	Mills	New Zealand	International Network for Government Science Advice (INGSA)
Patricia	Miloslavich	United States	Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR)
Mamurdzhon	Mirvaisov	Tajikistan	National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan

Hamid	Mobasheri	Iran	University of Tehran
Reabetsoe	Molotsi	South Africa	National Research Foundation
Sarah	Moore	France	International Science Council
Christina	Moorhouse	United Kingdom	The British Academy
Mónica	Moraes R.	Bolivia, Plurinational State of	Academia Nacional de Ciencias
Elina	Moustaira	Greece	International Association of Legal Science
Nadeesha	Muhandiram	Sri Lanka	National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka
Raphael	Munavu	Kenya	Kenya National Academy of Sciences
Helena	Nader	Brazil	Brazilian Academy of Sciences
Mahesha	Nadugala	Sri Lanka	National Science Foundation
Padonou	Nazaire	Benin	Académie nationale des Sciences, Arts et Lettres du Bénin
Ababacar Sadikh	Ndoye	Senegal	ANSTS
Mona	Nemer	Canada	Government of Canada
Alexandra	Newton	United States	IUBMB
Duong	Nga	Viet Nam	Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Associations
Prof Catherine	Ngila	Kenya	The African Academy of Sciences
Joseph	Niemela	Italy	ICO
Nikolay	Nifantiev	Russian Federation	Russian Academy of Sciences
Doyin	Odubanjo	Nigeria	
Simon	Olsen	Japan	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies
Walter	Oyawa	Kenya	National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, Kenya
Augusta Maria	Paci	Italy	Augusta Maria Paci
Zuzana	Panczova	Slovakia	Slovak Academy of Sciences
maria	Paradiso	Italy	International Geographical Union
Katsia	Paulavets	France	International Science Council
Jürg	Pfister	Switzerland	Swiss Academy of Sciences (SCNAT)
Roger	Pfister	Switzerland	Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences
Mariusz	Piskula	Poland	International Union of Food Science and Technology
Jennifer	Plaul	Germany	Global Young Academy
Bernhard	Plunger	Austria	Austrian Academy of Sciences
Ulrich	Pohl	Germany	IUPS
Silvina	Ponce Dawson	Argentina	IUPAP
Zivko	Popov	Macedonia	Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts
Anda	Popovici	France	International Science Council
Lourdes	Portus	Philippines	Philippine Social Science Council
Cheryl	Praeger	Australia	
Vish	Prakash	India	IUNS
Nancy	Pritchard	Australia	Australian Academy of Science
Jiuyi	Qin	China	China Association for Science and Technology
Shannon	Quinn	Canada	National Research Council of Canada
Jomar	Rabajante	Philippines	National Research Council of the Philippines
Yashwant	Ramma	Mauritius	Yashwant
Roberta	Ramponi	Italy	International Commission for Optics
Ülle	Raud	Estonia	
Daya	Reddy	South Africa	
Elisa	Reis	Brazil	

Anet	Režek Jambrak	Croatia	Global Young Academy
Roger	Ridley	New Zealand	Royal Society of New Zealand
Clarissa	Rios Rojas	United Kingdom	Global Young Academy
Chris	Rizos	Australia	IUGG
Kanruethai	Rod-iw	Thailand	National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT)
Jose Miguel	Rodriguez Espinosa	Spain	IAU
Alexis	Roig	Spain	SciTech DiploHub
Gabriela	Romanciuc	Moldova (Republic of)	Academy of Sciences of Moldova
Terrie	Romano	Canada	National Research Council of Canada
Alexander	Rudloff	Germany	IUGG International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics
Urs	Rüegg	Switzerland	Urs Rüegg
Motomitsu	Sadayasu	Japan	Science Council of Japan
Elaine	Sadler	Australia	Australian Academy of Science
maria	samayoa	Guatemala	Academy of medical physical and natural science of Guatemala
Suriyanarayanan	Sarvajayakesavalu	India	SCOPE
Thomas	Sauer	United States	International Union of Soil Sciences
Ariya	Sawada	Japan	Science Council of Japan
Lizzie	Sayer	France	International Science Council
Marcos	Scheuenstuhl	Brazil	Brazilian Academy of Sciences
Samuel	SEFA-DEDEH	Ghana	Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences
Palesa	Sekhejane	South Africa	Human Sciences Research Council
Mojalefa	Sello	Lesotho	
Frances	Separovic	Australia	Australian Academy of Science
Seteney	Shami	Lebanon	Seteney Shami
Mostafa Moonir	Shawrav	Austria	Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA)
Xuehua	Shi	China	Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
Yoko	Shimpuku	Japan	Science Council of Japan
Sawako	Shirahase	Japan	Science Council of Japan
Wesley	Shrum	United States	Ethnografilm
Marie-Alexandrine	Sicre	France	Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR)
Leickness	Simbayi	South Africa	HSRC
Anjana	Singh	Nepal	Nepal Academy of Science and Technology
Giles	Sioen	Japan	Future Earth
J. G. Shantha	Siri	Sri Lanka	National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka
Craig	Skerritt	Ireland	
Violeta	Skirgailienė	Lithuania	Lithuanian Academy of Sciences
Roman	Słowiński	Poland	Polish Academy of Sciences
Alan	Smeaton	Ireland	Royal Irish Academy
Oumar	Sock	Senegal	National Academy of Sciences and Techniques of Senegal
Tarmo	Soomere	Estonia	Estonian Academy of Sciences
Vitor	Souza	Brazil	Brazilian Academy of Sciences
Michel	Spiro	France	IUPAP
monthip	Sriratana	Thailand	monthip sriratana
Vivi	Stavrou	Belgium	International Science Council
Anne-Sophie	Stevance	France	International Science Council

Teresa	Stoepler	United States	
Aldo	Stroebel	South Africa	National Research Foundation
Megha	Sud	France	International Science Council
Gyula	Súmeghy	Hungary	Eötvös Loránd Research Network
Yue	Sun	China	China Association for Science and Technology
Adrienn	Szendrey	Hungary	Eötvös Loránd Research Network Secretariat
Krisztina	Szepesvári	Hungary	Eötvös Loránd Research Network
Kajita	Takaaki	Japan	Science Council of Japan
Joshua	Takalimane	Lesotho	Department of Science and Technology
Yukari	Takamura	Japan	Science Council of Japan
Hiroyuki	Takeda	Japan	Science Council of Japan
Sarah	Talon Sampieri	Italy	International Science Council
Xu	Tang	China	Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR)
Nerma	Tanović	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Academy of Sciences and Arts of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Natalia	Tarasova	Russian Federation	
Liliane	Teixeira	Brazil	
Ayako	Terauchi	Japan	Science Council of Japan
Najeh	Thabet Mliki	Tunisia	University of Tunis El Manar
Anne	Thieme	France	International Science Council
Hans	Thybo	Denmark	Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters
Ion	Tiginyanu	Moldova (the Republic of)	Academy of Sciences of Moldova
Vincent Pk	Titanji	Cameroon	Cameroon Academy of Sciences
Timothy	Trainor	United States	International Cartographic Association
Ilze	Trapenciere	Latvia	Latvian Academy of Sciences
Zhenya	Tsoy	France	International Science Council
Hiroko	Tsuboi-friedman	Japan	Science Council of Japan
Collin	Tukuitonga	New Zealand	
Graham	Twaddle	United Kingdom	International Science Council
Mitsuo	Uematsu	Japan	SCJ
Maria	Ulvesæter		
Judit	Ungvari	United States	Future Earth
Liana	Vaccari	United States	The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
Narelle	Van Der Wel		World Climate Research Programme (WCRP)
Sjef	Van Erp	Netherlands	International Association of Legal Science
Albert	Van Jaarsveld	Austria	IIASA
Renee	Van Kessel-Hagesteijn	Netherlands	
Thijs	Van Kolfschoten	Netherlands	INQUA
Ada	Van Krimpen	Netherlands	International Statistical Institute
Frances	Vaughan	New Zealand	International Science Council
Gabriella	Verbovszky	Hungary	Eötvös Loránd Research Network
Gabriella	Viero	Italy	IUPAB
Pattranit	Vijitchairach	Thailand	National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT)
Wilson	Villones	Philippines	Philippine Social Science Council
Martin	Visbeck	Germany	
Pablo	Vommaro	Argentina	CLACSO

Gert	von Bally	Germany	International Commission for Optics
James	Waddell	France	International Science Council
Changlin	Wang	China	International Society for Digital Earth
Linying	Wang	China	Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
Qinglin	Wang	China	China Association for Science and Technology
Kwansiri	Wanwiwake	Thailand	The National Research Council of Thailand
Charah	Watson	Jamaica	Scientific Research Council
Anthony	Watts	United Kingdom	IUPAB
Ann D.	Watts	South Africa	International Union of Psychological Science
Kathy	Whaler	United Kingdom	International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics
Carol	Woodward	United States	International Council for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (ICIAM)
Diana	Worrall	United Kingdom	IAU
Anyi	Xu	Singapore	Singapore National Academy of Science
Dongmei	Yan	China	International Society for Digital Earth
Guiying	Yan	China	ICIAM
Lin	Yin	China	China Association for Science and Technology
Miia	Ylostalo-Joubert	France	International Science Council
Sinjae	Yoo	South Korea	Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR)
A. Nuri	Yurdusev	Turkey	Turkish Academy of Sciences
Gözde	Yurttagül	Turkey	THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF TURKEY
Michele	Zema	United Kingdom	International Union of Crystallography
Mykhailo	Zgurovsky	Ukraine	National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
Yuanyuan	Zhang	China	China Association for Science and Technology
Yongguan	Zhu	China	Yongguan Zhu
Ismayil	Zulfugarov	Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences
Hector F.	Zuluaga	Colombia	



Resolution One:

Actioning the recommendations of the “Draft Report on the ISC Strategy in the Intergovernmental System”

ISC/GA-2/DOC.18.1

[For adoption]

RESOLUTION

The General Assembly recognizes the urgent need for science to have greater influence and impact on policy making and programming at all levels of governance.

We welcome the recommendations of the Council’s international Steering Group on the role of the ISC in the intergovernmental system. We also welcome the United Nations Secretary General’s intention to re-establish the Secretary General’s Scientific Advisory Board¹ and strongly endorse the ISC’s intention to engage actively in supporting its development and effective operation in order to fully integrate scientific evidence into international policy making.

The General Assembly requests the new Governing Board to respond to the Steering Group’s recommendations through the development of an action-oriented strategy that fully mobilizes the scientific and policy expertise of ISC members, partners and broader international networks.

¹ See Our Common Agenda – Recommendation under Commitment 8 “Upgrade the United Nations:
https://www.un.org/en/content/common-agenda-report/assets/pdf/Common_Agenda_Report_English.pdf



Resolution Two:

Endorsing the “Eight principles for reform of scientific publishing” and working together to achieve reform.

ISC/GA-2/DOC.18.2

[For adoption]

PREAMBLE

The International Science Council’s vision of science as a global public good envisages the scientific enterprise as globally inclusive and sensitive to diverse perspectives. Ideas, evidence and data must be disseminated widely, and be openly available for sceptical scrutiny, revision and use, through efficient and accessible publication systems. Widespread concern about systemic shortcomings in these priorities stimulated an ISC community debate that led to articulation of the principles set out in the ISC report “Opening the record of science: making scholarly publishing work for science in the digital era”¹.

RESOLUTION

This 2nd General Assembly of the International Science Council resolves to:

1. Endorse the principles below as a guiding framework for necessary reform of scientific publishing.
2. Work together to achieve reform.

¹ <https://council.science/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020-02-19-Opening-the-record-of-science.pdf>

PRINCIPLES OF SCIENTIFIC PUBLISHING

1. There should be universal open access to the record of science, both for authors and readers, with no barriers to participation, in particular those based on ability to pay, institutional privilege, language or geography.
2. Scientific publications should carry open licences that permit reuse and text and data mining.
3. Rigorous, timely and ongoing peer review must continue to play a key role in creating and maintaining the public record of science.
4. The data and observations on which a published truth claim is based should be concurrently accessible to scrutiny and supported by necessary metadata
5. The record of science should be maintained in such a way as to ensure open access by future generations.
6. Publication traditions and the bibliodiversity of different disciplines and regions should be respected, whilst recognizing the need for communication and interoperability in the shared enterprise of knowledge.
7. Publication systems should be so designed to continually adapt to new opportunities for beneficial change rather than embedding inflexible systems that inhibit change.
8. Governance of the processes of dissemination of scientific knowledge should be accountable to the scientific community.

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Muscat, Oman 2025

Extracts from Statutes and Rules of Procedure

Document 3

Highlighting the relevant Statutes and Rules of Procedure relating to the voting processes in the framework of the Third ISC General Assembly, pertaining to voting on financial and all other matters.

For noting



**International
Science Council**

وزارة التعليم العالي
و البحث العلمي والابتكار
Ministry of Higher Education
Research & Innovation



Extracts from the Statutes and Rules of Procedure

Statutes

General Assembly

Statute 17.

The General Assembly will vote with a different system for two different types of issues:

- i. Voting on financial matters is weighted according to Members' positions in the scale of annual membership dues, which is approved by the General Assembly on the advice of the Governing Board (see Statute 12.v).
- ii. Voting on all other matters is as follows:
 - a) Category 1 Members collectively have 40 percent of the overall vote; Category 2 Members collectively have 40 percent of the overall vote; Category 3 Members collectively have 20 percent of the overall vote.
 - b) Within Category 1 and Category 3, each Member has an equal vote.
 - c) Each Category 2 Member has an equal vote, except in cases where there is more than one Category 2 Member representing the same country, territory or region, in which case the Members from that country, territory or region must agree on a common voting position resulting in a single vote. Should they not find agreement, they shall have a proportion of that vote agreed between them, otherwise the vote will be divided proportionately to dues paid.

Modification of the Statutes

Statute 61.

Any change to the Statutes shall require a majority of two thirds of Members casting an eligible vote.

Rules of Procedure

Quorum

Rule of Procedure 1.1

In votes of the General Assembly, a quorum shall consist of 50 percent of Members eligible to vote, in any category of membership.

Voting procedures

Rule of Procedure 2.1

If voting is necessary and a decision of the General Assembly cannot be reached by acclamation, a decision will be reached in accordance with Statute 17 and by a simple majority of the eligible votes cast. A two-thirds' majority is only necessary when explicitly stated in the Statutes or Rules of Procedure.

Rule of Procedure 2.2

All majorities shall be calculated on the basis of the total number of valid affirmative and negative votes actually cast.

Rule of Procedure 2.8

Decisions of the Council's key decision-making bodies may be arrived at entirely or in part by electronic means, as appropriate, provided that a quorum is attained, except in the case of approval of the audited annual accounts, where a quorum is not required.

Rule of Procedure 2.9

Where a General Assembly is held in person, the vote of each Member shall normally be cast at the meeting by the representative of that Member or by a proxy nominated by that Member. This nomination must be submitted in writing to the President before the session at which the proxy is to operate. If a Member is unable to designate a proxy to vote at the meeting, votes on those issues already on the agenda (and not arising from the floor) may be submitted in writing to the President before the meeting.

General Assembly**Rule of Procedure 3.3**

The Resolutions Committee shall consist of four members appointed by the General Assembly at the suggestion of the Governing Board. It shall collate, edit and present any eligible resolutions proposed for adoption by the General Assembly. Resolutions proposed at a General Assembly must be related to an item on the agenda and must have been discussed at the current Assembly in order to be considered. Only those matters which clearly require stronger endorsement by the full Council membership than a decision of the General Assembly would confer, or which are a statement of intent or opinion on the part of Council, should be the subject of resolutions. Any proposed resolution which does not fulfil these criteria will be ruled out of order by the Resolutions Committee. The Governing Board will ensure that all necessary action on a resolution is taken.

Rule of Procedure 3.4

The current edition of 'Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised' shall be used to govern the conduct of all meetings of the General Assembly

Modification of the Rules of Procedure**Rule of Procedure 13.1**

No change may be made to the Rules of Procedure except with the approval of the General Assembly, by the majority of the votes cast by the Members taking part in the vote. Changes to the Rules of Procedure are effective at the end of the General Assembly adopting them, unless otherwise specified by a resolution of the General Assembly.

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Muscat, Oman 2025

List of Governing Board members

Document 4

Revised 10 January 2025

For noting



**International
Science Council**

وزارة التعليم العالي
و البحث العلمي والابتكار
Ministry of Higher Education
Research & Innovation



ISC Governing Board members at of 30 January 2025

Officers

1. **Peter Gluckman**, President (University Distinguished Professor and Director, Koi Tū: The Centre for Informed Futures, University of Auckland, New Zealand)
2. **Robbert Dijkgraaf**, President-elect (Distinguished University Professor, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands)*
3. **Marcia Barbosa**, Vice-President Freedom and Responsibility in Science (Professor, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil)*
4. **Motoko Kotani**, Vice-President Science Programmes (Executive Vice President, Tohoku University, Japan)
5. **Sawako Shirahase**, Vice-President Finance, Compliance and Risk (Director of the University of Tokyo Center for Contemporary Japanese Studies, Japan)
6. **Zhu Yongguan**, Vice-President Membership (Director-General, Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China)*

Ordinary members

7. **Karina Batthyany** (Executive Secretary, CLACSO-Latin American Council of Social Sciences, and Professor, University of the Republic, Uruguay)
8. **Francoise Baylis** (Distinguished Research Professor at Dalhousie University and President-elect of the Royal Society, Canada)
9. **Geoffrey Boulton** (Regius Professor of Geology Emeritus, University of Edinburgh, UK)
10. **Frances Colón** (Senior director, American Progress, USA)*
11. **Catherine Jami** (Director of Research, National Centre for Scientific Research, France)*
12. **Maria Esteli Jarquin Solis** (International Relations Coordinator, UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, UK)*
13. **Nalini Joshi** (Payne-Scott Professor, University of Sydney Australia)*
14. **Mobolaji Oladoyin Odubanjo** (Chief Executive, Nigerian Academy of Science, Nigeria)*
15. **Walter Oyawa** (Director General of the National Commission for Science, Technology & Innovation (NACOSTI), Kenya)
16. **Maria Paradiso** (University of Naples Federico II, Italy)

*incoming Board member

Outgoing Governing Board members

1. **Salim Abdool Karim**, Vice-President for Membership (Director, Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA), South Africa)
2. **Anne Husebekk**, Vice-President for Freedom and Responsibility in Science (UiT - The Arctic University of Norway)
3. **Melody B. Burkins** (Director of the Institute of Arctic Studies, Dartmouth University, USA)
4. **Mei-Hung Chiu** (Distinguished Professor at the Graduate Institute of Science Education, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei)
5. **Pamela Matson** (Dean emerita of Stanford University's School of Earth, Energy and Environmental Sciences, USA)
6. **Helena B. Nader** (Head of the Institute of Pharmacology and Molecular Biology at the Federal University of São Paulo (UNIFESP), Brazil)
7. **Martin Visbeck** (Head of research unit Physical Oceanography at GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel and professor at Kiel University, Germany).

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Muscat, Oman 2025

Science Education and the ISC: Report of the Consultative Group on Science Education

Document 6

For discussion



**International
Science Council**

وزارة التعليم العالي
و البحث العلمي والابتكار
Ministry of Higher Education
Research & Innovation



Science Education and the ISC
Report of the Consultative Group on Science Education
to the ISC Governing Board

4 December 2024

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1. Introduction

This report was developed by the Consultative Group on Science Education (hereinafter ‘the Consultative Group’ or ‘the Group’), which was established by the ISC Governing Board in July 2023 in response to requests from ISC Members for the ISC to address issues around science education and science literacy. The aim of the Group was to explore a possible role for the ISC in the area of science education.

The Group was co-chaired by Vice-President for Science and Society Motoko Kotani and ISC Board member Mei-Hung Chiu. The Group was composed of one further member of the ISC Governing Board and ten external experts, including representatives of major international actors in science education (see Annex I). Collectively, the group represented a broad range of disciplines, areas of practice and parts of the world.

The Group aimed to gain a broad understanding of the main issues in science education around the world by surveying what had recently been achieved, what was currently being done by major actors or was in planning, and where the gaps and needs were. The key questions that guided its work included:

- What is needed to improve scientific literacy among young people and the general population across the world, in an inclusive way?
- What is needed to equip scientists, including future leaders, with the tools and skills to address the challenges of today and tomorrow?

The Group met six times, virtually. Each meeting featured 3–4 panellists who presented the state of knowledge, challenges and opportunities in their respective areas of expertise and practice to inform discussion of potential action for the ISC. Issues covered included: enhancing science literacy, inclusive education, transdisciplinary research approaches, resource compilation and dissemination, engaging youth and early career researchers, support for displaced scholars, and communicating with society¹. The issues and possible responses in each area of concern are presented in more detail in Annex II. Below are summarized the challenges and the recommendations of the Group for possible actions, whether by the ISC or other actors. These recommendations are offered for the consideration of the ISC Governing Board and ISC Members.

2. Global challenges in science education

There are a number of globally recognized challenges in science education at the science-policy-society interface:

- **Enhancing science literacy:** The ISC promotes science literacy across all age groups, highlighting the importance of scientific knowledge in addressing global challenges and developing skills for future careers. By collaborating with leading international organizations and national academies, the ISC should bridge the gap between scientific understanding and practical application, ensuring that learners are equipped to tackle real-world problems.
- **Inclusive education:** The ISC vision and mission are fully aligned with efforts to develop inclusive educational strategies for collaborating with communities that cater to diverse audiences, including underrepresented communities. The ISC and community should support initiatives that aim to democratize science education, making it accessible and relevant to all segments of society. This includes creating ambassador programmes and leadership initiatives that empower educators and learners globally.
- **Transdisciplinary approaches:** The ISC advocates for transdisciplinary methods in science education, integrating various scientific disciplines to address broader societal challenges. This approach involves combining scientific knowledge with insights from the humanities and social

¹ See the Bibliography (Annex III) for an overview of the range of topics considered.

science, emphasizing societal relevance. The scientific community should foster a comprehensive understanding of complex phenomena by promoting collaborative problem-based learning.

- Resource compilation and dissemination: The ISC, together with the community of organizations active in science education, should be committed to gathering and disseminating valuable educational resources and best practices from leading institutions. This effort includes compiling reports, frameworks, and educational tools that can be utilized by educators worldwide to enhance the quality of science education.
- Engaging youth and early career researchers: Recognizing the crucial role of youth and early career researchers, the ISC and the community of organizations active in science education should actively involve them in discussions and decision-making processes. By providing platforms for young scientists to contribute their perspectives, the community of organizations active in science education should ensure the future relevance of science education and foster the next generation of scientific leaders.
- Support for displaced scholars: The ISC should acknowledge the urgent need to support displaced scholars through initiatives like the GYA's At-risk Scholar Initiative. By offering mentorship, professional development, and financial assistance, the ISC and community should help reintegrate these scholars into the academic community, preserving their contributions to science and society.
- Communicating with society: Effective communication of scientific research, both to the general public and to practitioners across disciplines, is and should continue to be a key focus for the ISC to achieve engagement with society by developing a trusted relationship based on dialogue between science and society. Using tools such as newsletters, podcasts, and science reporting, the ISC and the community of organizations active in science education must bridge the gap between science and society and promote transparency and trust in scientific endeavours.
- Commitment to collaboration: The positioning of the ISC should emphasize collaboration with international and national organizations to promote high-quality science education worldwide by establishing a set of high-level common principles that can be applied to the unique systems of each nation. By fostering partnerships and leveraging collective expertise, the ISC and the community of organizations active in science education need to create a scientifically literate and informed global society capable of addressing the challenges of the future.

3. Recommendations for action in science education

The Consultative Group concluded that the following actions are needed in the domain of science education. The ISC could play a leading or important role in recommendations 1–7, while other national and international actors would be better placed and resourced to take up recommendations 8–11.

1. ***Develop 'Global Science Education Principles'***: Create and agree on a set of high-level principles that can be applied worldwide to science education within national systems to ensure that all young people experience a foundation in science that fosters greater knowledge and deeper understanding, provides the technical skills required for the future and empowers all citizens to engage with science in a knowledgeable, informed and critical way.

<p>The ISC is not currently active in this area, but could lead or co-lead a multistakeholder effort. Resources needed would primarily be staff time over 12–18 months.</p>

2. Foster transdisciplinary research approaches

- 2.1. Collaborate with the university sector to implement transdisciplinary research course requirements across all programmes. Develop and provide a toolkit for designing experiential and research-led courses that equip students with the skills to address complex societal issues. Monitor and evaluate the implementation of these courses to ensure effectiveness.
- 2.2. Address global challenges with transdisciplinary approaches. Organize collaborative projects and workshops to develop comprehensive solutions, guidelines for action, and science-informed practices. Mobilize funding for transdisciplinary research initiatives and establish a platform for sharing findings and best practices.

This is a key area of action for the ISC. The ISC systematically promotes transdisciplinary approaches (where appropriate), notably in the domain of social and environmental sustainability challenges. In the coming two to three years it will spearhead a new programme of 'mission science' which will be strongly transdisciplinary and which will mobilize funding from diverse sources.

The ISC has experience in promoting transdisciplinary research training initiatives and is ready to support and collaborate with its Members and potential partners, to build capacity for transdisciplinary research.

3. Facilitate mentorship and career development

- 3.1. Establish mentorship and career development programmes for young scientists, including practical science diplomacy training, opportunities for direct engagement with policymakers and networking opportunities. Develop an online mentoring platform to connect young scientists with experienced mentors.
- 3.2. Engage youth and early career researchers: Establish ISC-GYA joint programmes that involve young scientists in discussions and decision-making processes. Create a youth advisory council to provide input on ISC initiatives. Organize networking events and leadership development workshops to foster the next generation of scientific leaders.

The ISC has an active programme for Early- and Mid-Career researchers built on the principle of providing a shared space for established and young organizations. This is realized through welcoming organizations of young scientists into the ISC family; financially and morally supporting their participation in ISC initiatives, including through the Early- and Mid-Career Researcher Forum established in 2023; involving them in governance and project steering groups; developing training programmes targeted at early- and mid-term researchers, e.g. training in science advice and science diplomacy expected in 2025–2026.

4. **Mobilize and provide support to displaced scholars:** Provide mentorship, professional development and financial support to reintegrate displaced scholars into the academic community in collaboration with a wide range of international science communities. Establish a fellowship programme that offers temporary academic positions and funding for research projects. Develop partnerships with universities and research institutions to facilitate the reintegration of displaced scholars.

Guided by the ISC Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science, the ISC is very active in this area. The ISC is collaborating with the International Institute of Education/Scholar Rescue Fund to develop a mentorship programme that will match its Members with displaced scholars. The programme should be launched in 2025, subject to final approval and financing.

5. **Enhance communication with society:** Improve science communication by building trust, promoting inclusivity and engaging marginalized groups. Promote effective communication with government and

industry and use innovative methods of public engagement to ensure high-quality science education and combat misinformation.

The ISC has put significant efforts into communicating with non-academic publics in recent years and will continue to promote initiatives to enhance communication between science and policy and improve trust in science.

- 6. *Develop a science education webpage on the ISC website:*** Establish a dedicated section on the ISC website focused on science education. This page would feature educational resources, reports, frameworks and tools developed by ISC and its partners, along with news updates, national science policy initiatives, and event announcements.

This recommendation could be acted on in the near term.

- 7. *Create a Global Science Education Platform:*** Develop and launch an online platform that facilitates the exchange of information, best practices and resources related to science education. This platform will include forums, resource libraries, and collaboration tools for ISC members and a wide range of educators, researchers, and policymakers.

This recommendation could be an extension of Recommendation 9, but is probably better carried out by other international actors already active in the field, with input from the ISC.

Recommendations for other actors

- 8. *Organize international workshops and conferences:*** Plan and host annual international workshops and conferences on science education. These events will bring together experts, educators and young scientists to share knowledge, foster collaboration, and address current challenges in science education.
- 9. *Promote problem-based learning (PBL):*** Create a comprehensive programme to promote PBL, including developing guidelines and resources for its implementation. Offer training sessions and workshops for scientists as educators to help them integrate PBL into their curricula. Provide ongoing support through a dedicated PBL helpdesk and resource centre.
- 10. *Support digital technologies in education:*** Launch a programme to enhance the use of digital tools in science education. This programme will include training for scientists as teachers on integrating technologies such as simulations, remote labs, and augmented reality into their teaching. Provide grants for schools to access the necessary infrastructure and tools. Support for teachers in facilitating personalized learning that digital technologies will allow and that all young people progress their scientific learning at a pace that suits their ability and level of development/ maturation.
- 11. *Promote inclusive science education:*** Develop and support ISC's science education strategies that cater to diverse audiences, including underrepresented communities. Launch ambassador programmes and leadership initiatives to empower educators and learners globally. Provide funding and resources for community-based science education projects.

Annex I. Composition of the Consultative Group on Science Education

A) Composition of the Consultative Group

Group members

1. Motoko Kotani, Tohoku University, Japan (Co-Chair)
2. Mei-Hung Chiu, National Taiwan Normal University, China-Taipei (Co-Chair)
3. Irasema Alcántara-Ayala, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)
4. Yuri Belfali, OECD
5. Karina Batthyány, CLACSO, University of the Republic, Uruguay
6. Jacquie Bay, University of Auckland, New Zealand
7. Mark Ferguson, European Innovation Council
8. Peter Finegold, Royal Society UK
9. Kevin Govender, IAU Office of Astronomy for Development
10. Hiromichi Katayama, UNESCO
11. Joseph Krajcik, Michigan State University, USA
12. Chee-Kit Looi, The Education University of Hong Kong
13. Magdalena Skipper, *Nature*
14. Jane Yau, DIPF Leibniz Institute for Research and Information in Education

Akiyoshi Yonezawa, Tohoku University, Japan (facilitator)

Invited speakers

1. Saja Alzoubi, Saint Mary's University, Canada
2. Mark Balendres, De La Salle University, Philippines
3. Encieh Erfani, University of Mainz, Germany
4. Alma Hernanadez Mondragon, CINVESTAV (Center for Research and Advanced Studies of the IPN)
5. Marie McEntee, University of Auckland, New Zealand
6. Thomas Tagoe, University of Ghana, Ghana

Annex II. Considerations and proposed actions related to critical dimensions of science education

A) Transdisciplinary approaches in science and the role of international scientific communities

The ISC is at the forefront of promoting transdisciplinary approaches in science to address global challenges by fostering integration across disciplines, thus enabling comprehensive and effective solutions to complex societal issues.

Transdisciplinary transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries, integrating scientific and societal insights. This approach emphasizes collaborative problem-based learning, combining scientific knowledge with humanities to include ethics, philosophy, and societal relevance, advocating to foster transdisciplinary competencies through diverse methodologies.

- Integrate knowledge systems: Science education needs to integrate different knowledge systems, including scientific, indigenous, traditional and community knowledge. This integration aims to broaden the scope of science education beyond mere problem-solving, fostering critically engaged citizenship and transformative learning. A commitment to transdisciplinary approaches at all levels of education should be promoted, ensuring that learners understand the relationship between science and society.
- Responding to common global challenges: The increasing threat of global disasters highlights the limitations of existing approaches. Comprehensive strategies that combine academic research with practical application and align disaster risk reduction with broader development goals are needed.
- Collaboration for Big Science themes: The big science themes, such as astronomy, exemplify transdisciplinary by integrating multiple disciplines to explore. International science communities play a role in uniting different sciences and their scientific communities in efforts to extend their reach in education, development, and outreach. Collective interdisciplinary efforts to address global challenges need to be encouraged.
- Challenges and strategies for collaboration: Interdisciplinary collaboration faces challenges, such as different terminologies and methodologies. Strategies for fostering collaboration include starting projects with social gatherings to bridge gaps and building common goals while respecting the objectives of different partners. The need for facilitators who understand multiple fields should be highlighted.
- Encouraging young researchers: Encouraging young researchers to engage in transdisciplinary research is a key concern. The value of transdisciplinary work for career development should be emphasized and funding mechanisms to support such research should be discussed. Promoting transdisciplinary practices and connecting with communities outside science needs to be underscored.

Actions required:

The ISC should foster transdisciplinary research and education, ensuring a holistic approach to addressing global challenges and promoting sustainable development. Proposed next steps include organizing workshops and exploring funding mechanisms for transdisciplinary projects, especially those involving community engagement.

B) Programmes, opportunities and incentives in developing a capacity building for transdisciplinary approaches

Various programmes, opportunities, and incentives can motivate and foster individuals capable of adopting transdisciplinary approaches to tackle complex global challenges. These programmes enhance skills in collaboration, critical thinking, and problem-solving across multiple disciplines, actors, and stakeholders.

- Problem-Based Learning (PBL): The importance of PBL in preparing students for transdisciplinary scientific endeavours should be emphasized. PBL fosters deep understanding and application of scientific ideas and practices, emphasizing essential 21st century skills such as collaboration and innovation. These have always been an essential part of science, but have become more prominent. By integrating core disciplinary ideas, scientific practices, and cross-cutting concepts, students can comprehensively address complex phenomena. The approach engages students through real-world problems and phenomena relevant to their lives, encouraging active exploration and inquiry. Evidence shows significant improvements in student understanding and achievement, highlighting the need for well-designed educational resources and ongoing teacher development.
- The transformative role of digital technologies: Digital technologies shift the focus from rote memorization to developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills, enhancing students' ability to apply scientific concepts in real-world scenarios. Integrating standards like the Next Generation Science Standards and PISA frameworks emphasizes scientific practices and inquiry. Technologies such as simulations, remote labs, and augmented reality enrich science education by facilitating hands-on experiments, data analysis, and collaborative learning. However, effective use of digital technology requires teachers to acquire new skills through models like TPACK, which blend content, pedagogy, and technology. Adopting these technologies also faces challenges, including the need for robust infrastructure, equitable access, and updated assessment methods.
- Integrating transdisciplinary learning: Much of the potential for innovation lies at the intersection of traditional (scientific and other) disciplines. Universities have introduced a transdisciplinary course requirement in all undergraduate programmes that emphasizes the integration of diverse knowledge systems, including Indigenous perspectives. Through extensive cross-faculty collaboration, transdisciplinarity is defined as the interweaving of different knowledge systems to address societal challenges. These experiential and research-led courses are designed to equip students with the skills to address complex societal issues from the start of their university education. The collaborative development process involves significant team building and the use of digital tools to ensure student-centred courses that foster a transdisciplinary mindset.
- Secondary and tertiary education should be linked through transdisciplinary approaches, emphasizing the need for early exposure to these methods in undergraduate education. Participants recognized the challenges of integrating digital and interdisciplinary approaches into the curriculum and the evolving role of teachers in a digitally enhanced learning environment. The gathering of more data on the effectiveness of these methods and ensuring their uptake by students and educators should be encouraged. It should be refined and implement transdisciplinary approaches in science education to develop a talented pool capable of addressing global challenges innovatively and collaboratively.

Actions required:

- Supporting Digital Technologies in Education: Enhancing science education through the use of digital tools such as simulations, remote labs and augmented reality, while addressing the challenges of infrastructure, access and the nature of teachers' professionalism and skills and considering the potential of technology to support individual differences in students.

- Integrating transdisciplinary learning in universities: Implementing transdisciplinary course requirements across all undergraduate programs to prepare students to address complex societal issues.

C) Communicating with society in science: Accountability, Trust, and Engagement

To enhance the direct impact of science in society, it is essential to cultivate trust in science through science education and communication. This will enable individuals to develop scientific literacy and scientific thinking skills, thereby strengthening the foundation for scientific progress.

- Responsibility in Science Education: Science education is crucial for fostering critical thinking, problem-solving, and informed decision-making. It must evolve beyond facts and theory to inspire curiosity and instill responsibility toward societal and environmental impacts. Education should prepare students to be active participants in scientific dialogue, emphasizing ethical dimensions, societal implications, and critical evaluation of scientific information to combat misinformation.
- Engagement and Inclusivity: Addressing the knowledge gap, fostering critical thinking and ethical reasoning, combating misinformation, promoting engagement among marginalized groups, and integrating interdisciplinary perspectives require a concerted effort from educators, policymakers, and communities. Science education must be accessible and relevant to all, breaking down barriers and democratizing knowledge to empower underrepresented groups, creating a diverse scientific community. The ISC embraces the need for global standards in science education, promoting responsibility and engagement and related international collaboration to ensure high-quality science education worldwide.
- Communicating with government and industry: Effective communication with government and industry in science education requires building trust and demonstrating competence. Emphasizing generic science skills, such as understanding the scientific method and evaluating evidence, should take precedence over specific subjects in the curriculum, while encouraging self-learning and the use of technologies such as AI. Engaging the general public can be achieved through innovative methods such as science competitions and stealth programmes that subtly introduce scientific concepts. Industry has a crucial role to play in supporting science education through work placements, internships and targeted donations, and centralized services can link companies with schools, especially in rural areas. Broadening outreach efforts by attracting disinterested individuals through emotionally engaging content and leveraging their existing interests can increase the impact of science education initiatives.
- The role of publishers in science communication and assessment: Publishers play a critical role in promoting both disciplinary and mission-driven science. It is essential to emphasize the importance of communicating research to the general public and practitioners across disciplines through tools such as science news coverage, newsletters and podcasts. Publishers support diverse research agendas through multidisciplinary and thematic journals but face challenges in evaluating interdisciplinary research due to traditional discipline-specific training and peer review systems. There is a need for a more comprehensive approach to evaluation that includes teaching, peer review, mentoring and contributions to open science. As interest in research with real-life impact grows, better metrics are needed to measure contributions to policy change and practical applications. The scientific community, including academic leaders, funders and learned societies, should work together to drive a culture change in research evaluation.

Actions required:

- Promoting inclusive and engaging science education: Ensuring science education is attractive, maintains high standards, and is accessible to all, with a focus on knowledge sharing and resource provision.

- **Towards a Holistic Evaluation Framework:** There is a need for a more comprehensive approach to evaluation that includes teaching, peer review, mentoring contributions to open science, and real-life impact.

D) Voice of Next Generation Scientists on Training and Careers for Scientists

The focus of the discussions was on training and mentorship programmes to promote science education and literacy through interdisciplinary dialogue and mentorship in forging the next generation of scientists' inclusive leadership, science communication skills, and engagement in international projects to address global challenges.

- **Community engagement:** The role of young scientists in ensuring links between societal needs and science, such as food security through plant pathology, is highlighted. The need for community engagement and ISC support in the form of training, funding, access to information, and mentorship is advocated.
- **Promoting scientific literacy:** Young scientists are responsible for driving change and promoting scientific literacy. The ISC is being called on to provide more support in terms of mentoring, funding, tailored training programmes, and advocacy for the professionalization of roles such as science advisors.
- **Support for displaced scholars:** There is an urgent need to support displaced scholars, highlighting the GYA's At-risk Scholar Initiative. Academic communities are called upon to provide mentorship, professional development, and financial support to help reintegrate displaced scholars.
- **Role of National Young Academies:** The role of National Young Academies (NYA's) in promoting science education and the challenges they face should be well recognized. Inter-academic partnerships, innovative approaches to science communication, and better involvement of young scientists in academic assessment are needed.
- **Enhancing science education:** It is important to make science education attractive and to maintain high standards in scientific publishing. There is a need for knowledge sharing and resource provision by the ISC and other stakeholders.

There is a need to develop broader mentoring and training schemes. The importance of hands-on science diplomacy training and direct engagement with policymakers is highlighted. Dialogue and collaboration to support the career development of young scientists should be facilitated.

Actions required

- **Mentorship and career development:** Developing mentorship and training programmes to support young scientists, including practical science diplomacy training and engagement with policymakers.
- **Support for displaced scholars:** Providing mentorship, professional development, and financial support to reintegrate displaced scholars into the academic community.

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THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Muscat, Oman 2025

Discussion paper: The International Science Council's role and unique value proposition in science diplomacy

Document 7

For discussion



**International
Science Council**

وزارة التعليم العالي
و البحث العلمي والابتكار
Ministry of Higher Education
Research & Innovation



The International Science Council's role and unique value proposition in science diplomacy

A discussion paper for ISC Members' feedback

12 December 2024

ISC advisory group on science diplomacy: Maria Esteli Jarquin (co-chair), Jean-Christophe Mauduit (co-chair), Anna-Maria Arabia, Chagun Basha, Irina Bokova, Franklin Carrero-Martinez, Daan du Toit.

This discussion paper aims to foster dialogue among the ISC Members on the evolving role and practice of science diplomacy and the role of the ISC and its Members in advancing the use of science diplomacy to address global issues and support global collective action. Based on the ISC's statutes, this paper highlights the importance of leveraging science diplomacy to address shared challenges, strengthen international collaboration and promote the role of science in global governance and articulates the unique contribution that the ISC could bring in a fast-changing landscape.

1. The changing nature of science diplomacy

Science has long played a prominent role in international relations, facilitating bilateral and multilateral technical cooperation across borders and allowing for the peaceful study of ungoverned spaces (such as the Arctic and outer space), but also serving economic and political expansion goals (including colonialism), the development of weapons and more. Science and diplomacy are increasingly entangled with global challenges, including the growth of emerging and disruptive technologies.

Over the last 10 years, the landscapes of science and diplomacy have changed significantly due to rapid technological developments, the securitization of STI policies, an increasingly multipolar world, and a multitude of actors in global governance. Science and technology are increasingly recognized as drivers of economic growth and tools of soft power, with their role in diplomacy and national security becoming more prominent. Inequality within and between nations is also partly driven by the capacity to engage and derive benefits from science. Growing populism, nationalism and misinformation, combined with numerous ongoing conflicts, have led to greater tension within and between nations and has had repercussions for both scientific collaboration and multilateralism.

There is a growing diversity of voices in diplomacy including more non-state and subnational actors, such as cities, regional governments and corporations. More scientists are entering diplomatic roles and some ministries of foreign affairs are starting to appoint science advisers. Diplomatic roles are evolving, with the roles and profiles of science attachés and advisers in diplomacy expanding to reflect new global priorities. The role of scientific diaspora is increasingly being acknowledged as pivotal in fostering connections and economic development for nations.

2. The ISC's unique role and value added in science diplomacy

The ISC has a long and rich history of engagement in science diplomacy including through its predecessor organizations, in promoting international collaboration, exchange and mobility; defending academic

freedom and the responsible conduct of science; advocating for science to inform diplomatic negotiations and decision-making and delivering scientific advice in diplomatic fora; enhancing the protection and good governance of global commons (e.g. ocean, atmosphere, biodiversity, outer space, polar regions); and anticipating and building the scientific base on issues that have global development and security implications.

The ISC's strength lies in its ability to act as a non-partisan global platform, leveraging scientific expertise from its diverse membership, to facilitate international dialogue across different disciplines, sectors, geographical and geostrategic borders on global issues.

The ISC's work in science diplomacy should focus on the following key aspects:

a. Fostering equitable dialogue on issues of global concern

The ISC can play a major role in promoting inclusive and equitable conversations on global issues to foster knowledge sharing, support shared understanding of the issues requiring global collective action and helping to reduce knowledge asymmetries that can hamper the ability of countries to participate in and influence global governance. This is particularly acute around new and emerging issues (e.g. disruptive technologies and the rapid changes and new risks related to the global commons).

By leveraging its relationships with multilateral organizations, fostering relationships with the diplomatic community (foreign ministries, permanent missions), and drawing on the full breadth of expertise of its Members, the ISC can proactively foster open and inclusive dialogue on global issues.

b. Fostering international scientific collaboration and equity in science

The ISC can play a pivotal role in promoting openness, inclusivity and equity in science given unequal scientific capacities and opportunities between countries, and given that competing geostrategic interests or tensions translate into heightened concerns over research security, undermining international scientific collaboration and science as a global public good. The ISC can advocate for equitable access to scientific collaboration and data sharing while working to minimize misuse or politicization of research in a way that prioritizes equity, transparency, and fairness.

The ISC can also facilitate international dialogue and support for at-risk, displaced and refugee scientists and for science systems, institutions and infrastructure in times of crisis (conflicts, natural, technological and other disasters and humanitarian emergencies). It can facilitate the engagement of displaced scientists and scientific diasporas in international science enhancing the resilience of science systems.

c. Encouraging responsible governance of disruptive technologies and the protection of the global commons

The ISC can promote the ethical governance of emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence, synthetic biology, and geoengineering. By leveraging its global reach and expertise, the ISC can facilitate multilateral dialogues to address gaps in governance and support the development of regulatory frameworks to ensure that developments in science and technology support equitable sustainable development and minimize risks of misuse or unintended negative consequences.

Additionally, the ISC plays a crucial role in safeguarding the global commons, such as the atmosphere, oceans and polar regions, by stimulating research and scientific cooperation and promoting peace,

security, equitable access and responsible use.

By mobilizing the breadth and depth of its members' expertise, it can play a major role by anticipating and building the scientific base on issues of global concern.

d. Strengthening science-policy interfaces and providing science advice to inform decision-making

The ISC can serve as a trusted scientific advisor to multilateral organizations and coalition of actors by providing multidisciplinary scientific inputs into international discussions and negotiations ensuring that diverse perspectives are represented in developing shared understanding and shaping solutions to critical global issues. The ISC also contributes to the creation and implementation of mechanisms of scientific advice given its experience in organizing scientific advice at the international level.

In this regard, the ISC can draw on its multiple partnerships with multilateral organizations and enhance the capacity of its members to navigate science-policy interfaces and engagement in science diplomacy.

3. Conclusion

In summary, the ISC's unique value proposition in science diplomacy lies in its ability to provide non-partisan, inclusive and reliable leadership. It can remain flexible and responsive to emerging issues, ensuring that its approach to diplomacy aligns with the changing needs of the global scientific community while maintaining impartiality and inclusivity. By fostering collaboration, mobilizing resources, and advocating for science-based solutions, the ISC can pave the way for a future where science diplomacy plays a central role in addressing global challenges and building a sustainable world. The ISC bridges disciplines, regions, and knowledge systems, positioning itself as a hub for inclusive, global science diplomacy.

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Muscat, Oman 2025

Draft ISC Strategic Plan 2025–2028

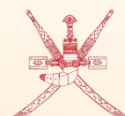
Document 8

For discussion



**International
Science Council**

وزارة التعليم العالي
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Ministry of Higher Education
Research & Innovation



Draft ISC Strategic Plan 2025–2028

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I. Introduction: Working towards the vision of science as a global public good

The world in 2024 is confronted by major societal challenges, including multiple environmental crises, deepening social inequalities and polarization, international armed conflict, disruptive technologies, and precarious health and wellbeing. These challenges intersect and interact with each other in complex and unpredictable ways. They also influence and reflect challenges in science systems across the world, including inequalities in science, pressures on scientific freedom, responsibility and integrity, tensions between different value and knowledge systems, politicization of science, and declining trust in science as an institution—all of which make it difficult for science to make its best and necessary contribution to society.

The vision of the International Science Council (ISC) is of science as a global public good, meaning that scientific knowledge and practice should universally be considered a shared resource from which everyone should be able to benefit regardless of their location, gender, economic status, cultural background or other characteristics. To realize its vision, the mission of the Council is to provide a powerful, effective and credible global voice for science.

This Strategic Plan sets out the priorities that will orient its activities over the period 2025–2028, recognizing that we live in a very fluid and changing context for science. The Governing Board will regularly assess and review priorities, considering: (1) available resources; (2) the principles underpinning ISC action; (3) the capacities and strengths of the ISC Secretariat and membership; and (4) the unique and distinctive contribution the ISC can make, either on its own or in partnership.

II. The unique ISC role

As a non-governmental organization with an international mandate and a pluralistic membership of over 250 national and international scientific bodies, the ISC federates and represents the scientific community across national and disciplinary borders. Being independent of specific geostrategic interests, and with partnerships across the research ecosystem and the multilateral system, the ISC serves as an impartial platform to set and advance international scientific agendas and to support the governance of science and technology for the benefit of society at regional and global levels.

The ISC, through its predecessor organizations, ICSU and the ISSC, has a long history of impact in science coordination, science advice and science diplomacy, facilitating international collaboration in areas like environmental change, space research, and data standards and sharing. In recent years, mandated by its Members as reflected in its Statutes (2024), the ISC has strengthened its capacity at the science-policy-society interface with proactive engagement in the multilateral system. This strategy has resulted in the forging of action-oriented partnerships with key multilateral organizations. The recently established Centre for Science Futures provides an exploratory space for membership to engage with new ideas in science, its coordination and potential evolution.

III. Principles of action

ISC actions are underpinned by the following principles. They should:

- a. Address complex issues of global significance which are of concern to a significant number of our Members, which require international, interdisciplinary and/or transdisciplinary collaboration, and which have the potential for impact on science, practice and policy.
- b. Seek to redress global knowledge divides.
- c. Respect the ISC core values as laid out in the Statutes.
- d. Prioritize areas where it is uniquely placed to have impact, partnering with other organizations where appropriate.

IV. The strategic priorities

The revised Statutes and Rules of Procedure (2024) inform the strategic priorities. They define the general areas for action, reflecting the strengths and capacities of the ISC and building on the membership base and partners in the science and policy arenas.

They are:

- Freedom, responsibility and inclusivity in science
- International science agenda-setting
- The evolution of science
- Evidence-based policy making
- Science diplomacy

Priority area 1: Freedom, responsibility and inclusivity in science

Pursuing the vision of science as a global public good means ensuring that the scientific process is trustworthy, that the practice of science is free, responsible, equitable and inclusive, and that scientists contribute their knowledge in the public space. The principles of freedom and responsibility in science are enshrined in Statute 8 of the Council's Statutes and Rules of Procedure (2024).

These principles are more important than ever in the context of growing scepticism, misinformation and distrust in institutions, which is threatening the credibility of science, and political and economic pressures that restrict scientific freedom and the independence of scientific inquiry. Responsibility in science is vital in the light of scientific and technological advances that offer great advantages but also significant risks, such as artificial intelligence (AI) and synthetic biology. Science itself is undergoing change. AI will significantly change the production and reporting of knowledge. The private sector is a far greater producer of both discoveries and applied science. Stakeholder engagement is needed for science to become actionable. Structural and systemic inequalities as well as short- and long-term crises are hampering access to the production and use of scientific knowledge in ways which are detrimental to science and society.

Areas of action

1. Freedom and Responsibility watchdog function

The Council's Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science (CFRS) monitors individual and general cases of scientists whose freedoms and rights are restricted as a result of carrying out their scientific research, or while acting as scientists, and provides assistance in such cases where its intervention can leverage relief and support activities of other relevant actors. The CFRS responses and actions include public announcements or statements, commentaries, and letters to the heads of relevant authorities. This work is often not visible, in order to protect privacy or the safety of individuals.

2. The right to science

The Council and its partners will improve understanding of and advocacy for the right to participate in and benefit from science, irrespective of gender, race, ability, socioeconomic status and community, through elaboration of normative concepts in, and guidelines for, the right to science, and related awareness campaigns.

3. Scientific integrity in an era of emerging technologies

There are new challenges in defining scientific integrity as fundamental changes in the way science is performed and reported keep pace with emerging technologies. Increasingly, such research may involve relationships and interactions between the public and the private sector.

The changed nature of science has implications for the responsible conduct of science and sustaining or enhancing the trustworthiness of science. Through broad engagement, the Council will shape and promote an updated concept of scientific integrity.

4. Science in times of crisis

Through Members and partnerships, the ISC will mobilize support and resources for displaced scientists and to ensure science systems can recover when the crisis subsides.

5. Gender equality in science

The ISC will work with its partners to establish, monitor, share, and promote the use of, evidence on gender policies and programmes in scientific organizations.

Priority area 2: International science agenda-setting

Global challenges such as biodiversity loss, food security, climate change, inequalities and public health are complex and interconnected. A solution in one area has the potential to create unintended consequences in another area. Planetary stewardship moreover extends beyond national borders. The atmosphere, ocean, polar regions and space are shared, and without a shared scientific agenda and advocacy in the policy space, they are extremely vulnerable.

The nature of the challenges facing us demands cross-disciplinary, cross-border and cross-sectoral responses, including non-academic forms of knowledge, and coordinated science agendas on issues of global concern.

Areas of action

1. Identifying and acting on emerging issues of global concern

The ISC will establish a systematic horizon-scanning process with Members, Affiliated Bodies and partners to identify emerging issues for the science agenda.

As an outcome, the ISC will convene the Membership to act on such emerging issues, for example through landscape mapping, reports, fundraising, or raising such issues within policy forums.

2. Sustainability

The Council will implement a critical mass of science missions for sustainability in support of the Sustainable Development Goals at multiple scales, documenting and sharing the learnings from these missions.

The Council will jointly convene the International Polar Year in 2032, with long-term planning already underway. As with previous polar years, this provides the opportunity for scientific coordination and agenda setting, including the involvement of natural and social sciences, science diplomacy, protection and governance of the global commons.

The Council, its members and partners, will participate in the 2025 UN Ocean Conference, advocating for issues raised by members, and promoting sustained opportunities for cross-disciplinary collaboration aligned with the UN Ocean Decade.

The ISC, together with key strategic partners, will coordinate science and science-policy-society interfaces on challenges relating to the environmental commons, including plastic pollution, food security and climate change.

3. Human and societal development

The Council will convene the breadth of its community on approaches to inequality, societal polarization, well-being, and lack of trust in institutions (including scientific institutions). These issues intersect with sustainability challenges and emerging technologies. Outcomes are likely to include interventions in multilateral policy forums and increased advocacy for funding of social sciences.

4. Fundamental science as a gateway to development

The crucial role of fundamental science in underpinning the broader sustainable development agenda will be highlighted by the Council within policy and funding forums, and through support of member-led activities.

Priority area 3: The evolution of science

The world of science is changing. Global centres of scientific production are shifting, with increasing contributions from the Global South, and so is the balance of knowledge production between the public and private sector. Technology is changing the way science is conducted and reported. Misaligned incentives and uncoordinated stakeholder interests are hindering science's ability to meet societal needs. The ISC monitors and informs on changes in science practices and science systems, to better influence their evolution.

Driving change for the public good will require the participation of the full spectrum of the scientific community as well as multiple other stakeholders: funders, publishers, policy-makers, technology firms, academic and research institutions, research infrastructure providers, networks and research platforms.

Areas of action

1. Monitoring trends in science systems

The Centre for Science Futures' key role is to take a longer-term view of how science and science systems will evolve, both integrating the expertise of Members and advising on the opportunities and challenges ahead.

The ISC will, in conjunction with partners, assess the impacts of emerging technologies on the production and the reporting of science and contribute to global discussions and social and ethical issues arising from the use of these technologies.

2. Science education

The ISC has reviewed where it might focus its particular capacities and has identified the need to provide guidelines and principles on the broader education of scientists beyond their disciplinary skills.

3. Transdisciplinary science

Building on the ISC's work on the value and challenges of undertaking transdisciplinary research, the Council will continue to build capacity of Members and partners to produce actionable knowledge through high quality transdisciplinary research. It will assist the research funding community, including private research funders, to mainstream transdisciplinary science into their efforts and work to identify appropriate means of assessment for such research.

4. Research assessment

The ISC can act as a global and regional forum for relevant stakeholders (the scientific community, funders, publishers, consortia of universities, the private sector) to define the needs for changes in scientific publishing and research assessment, and to support and align different existing initiatives.

5. Open science, science publishing

The ISC will facilitate dialogues between relevant parties in the reform of scientific publishing. The ISC is committed to the goal of advancing equitable access to publishing and to the results of scientific research through open science and addressing the many challenges to it.

Priority area 4: Evidence-based policymaking

While science is recognized as an important part of the solutions to many global issues, the gap between available knowledge and policy action is widening, and trends of mis-information and dis-information, inequalities and conflict threaten cooperation at a time when it is most needed. New forms of public engagement and approaches to accessing and using information demand more agile and contextualized approaches at the science-policy-society interfaces. The scientific community needs to strengthen its collective capabilities in synthesizing and translating scientific information, and in communicating the limitations and implications of science.

Areas of action

1. Delivering science advice to the multilateral system

The Council will contribute to evidence-based decision- and policy-making by mobilizing relevant expertise from within the ISC membership in the brokerage between science and policy at multiple scales, from national to multilateral, on diverse issues and at diverse fora.

The ISC will work with key components of the multilateral system including members states and the UN Secretary General's office to assist with ensuring that expert and pluralistic brokerage is available.

2. Enhancing Members' science advice capabilities

In order to enhance the capacity of Members to provide science advice to governments and understand the science-policy brokerage function, the ISC will provide tailored training, designed and delivered with Affiliated Bodies and Members.

3. Shaping the science-policy interface

The ISC will advise on and assist with the development of new and/or enhanced interface mechanisms in the multilateral system to better mobilize scientific knowledge for evidence-based policy-making to support transformative change within and across different contexts and levels.

Priority area 5: Science diplomacy

From global pandemics requiring scientific collaboration and exchange, to pressures to explore and exploit space or the deep sea, global risks and the protection of global commons necessitate a stronger engagement of science in international policy and diplomatic debates. The knowledge, capacity and resource divides between countries undermine the ability of nations to contribute individually and collectively to solutions; they also undermine trust in institutional ability to deliver fair and global outcomes. Conversely, growing and persistent diplomatic tensions between countries are also affecting science, including what science is prioritized, how science is produced and shared, and what collaborations are encouraged or discouraged. The goal is to harness the role of science in facilitating peaceful dialogues.

Science diplomacy as a field is evolving and is receiving increasing attention as an important function for science in the current geopolitical situation. The ISC will use its unique position as the world's largest non-governmental organization representing the active science community to undertake relevant activities as opportunities arise.

Areas of action

1. Multi-lateral science diplomacy

The Council will further develop partnerships with the key and most relevant parts of the multilateral system, in particular with the UN system and organizations in New York and Geneva, to ensure better communication between the global voice for science and the global policy community.

The Council will facilitate debates and fora with multilateral agencies on scientific issues that present major political, economic and security implications.

2. Regional and country-level science diplomacy

The ISC network of Members will work together to strengthen scientific inputs into foreign ministries and diplomatic missions.

The Council will leverage its capacities and ability to bridge beyond geostrategic divides to support efforts at reducing tensions and promoting cooperation.

V. The ISC community

The ISC is first and foremost a membership organization. The achievement of its vision and strategic priorities depends on having an empowered and cohesive membership, a close network of Affiliated Bodies, an engaged Fellowship and productive partnerships. The ISC will do the following to engage and support its Members and the extended 'family'.

1. Increasing membership engagement and interaction

The ISC Secretariat will continue to work closely with Members to maximize opportunities to engage with each other and with the ISC in the delivery of the strategic priorities. The Secretariat will continue its regular, tailored communication with Members and stakeholder mailing lists and other platforms to keep them apprised of opportunities and news at the ISC and among the ISC family.

The premier occasion for the Members to meet each other in person and take strategic decisions is the ordinary session of the General Assembly, the next one being in January 2025 followed by late 2028. In response to demand from Members a midterm meeting without voting business is inscribed in the Statutes and Rules of Procedure. The next one will fall in late 2026.

The Secretariat will endeavour to facilitate initiatives of the Members to organize and undertake activities among subgroups, e.g. among union members or topical interest groups.

2. Ensuring representativity and inclusiveness in the membership

For the ISC to be maximally effective, it is vital that the ISC membership reflect the full spectrum of sciences as well as possible, including natural, social, mathematical, medical and engineering sciences and science-related humanities. Efforts will continue to add to its membership base in scientific domains not well represented and to engage early- and mid-career scientists and researchers (EMCR) even more systematically in its membership, bodies and activities. The membership of the ISC should also be globally representative of the scientific community. It is a priority to extend the membership into countries where the ISC does not currently have a national Member and to consolidate the ISC's presence, networks and relevance in all regions, particularly in Asia, the Middle East and Africa.

3. Capacity development for ISC Members

The ISC will continue to help its Members help each other to build capacity through knowledge exchange, collaboration, skill building and mentorship in critical areas such as digital transformation, science communication and science-policy engagement.

4. Increasing the ISC's reach through the ISC Fellowship and ISC Patron(s)

By 2028 the Fellowship will have reached its intended capacity of 600–700 Fellows and will be a rich resource for the ISC and the Members to draw on for expertise, counsel and influence. Fellows will be mobilized to help identify opportunities for the ISC, deliver the Council's programmes of work and promote that work among key communities.

5. Developing partnerships

The ISC will cultivate partnerships and promote coordination with key actors in the global science and policy ecosystem, including at regional and global level. The new Category 4 membership category allows for actors in the broader science ecosystem to become observer Members of the ISC.

6. A fairer and more sustainable Membership dues structure

A Working Group has been established to revise the ISC dues structure, with the aim of presenting a

proposal for the approval of the membership before the end of 2025 and application as of 2026. The aim of the revision of the dues structure will be to unify the parallel dues systems of former ICSU and ISSC Members and to develop a fairer, more acceptable and more sustainable dues structure, in the context of increasing pressures on our Members' own finances.

VI. Resources and infrastructure

1. Establishing a curated database of experts

To have capacity to respond rapidly to opportunities to contribute to international science-policy-society interfaces, and to diversify the pool of experts that it can call on to drive its activities, the ISC will develop its curated database of experts drawn from Member and self-nominations, ISC Fellows and partners.

2. Diversifying income streams

To maintain the current high level of activity and achievement going forward, income will have to increase. As income from membership dues is, however, not expected to rise substantially in the coming years, new sources of income will be required to sustain the ISC's increased ambitions.

The key avenue to increasing the Secretariat's financial capacity is to develop philanthropic giving and additional support from donor nations. The ISC Foundation UK, a charitable trust based in the UK, is operational and able to receive funds. The ISC needs to develop and sustain relationships with philanthropic organizations and donors whose interests and practices align with the vision and values of the ISC, which will require investment in fundraising and marketing. When external funders support discrete projects, they must cover the real costs.

3. Increasing secretariat capacities

The Council intends to increase its operational capacity in various ways:

- A secondment scheme, whereby ISC Members can 'donate' expertise to the ISC in the form of a staff member who works at the ISC for 12–18 months in the framework of an 'Expertise-based Philanthropy Agreement'.
- Establishing new regional structures, notably in central Asia, Africa and the Middle East regions.
- Engaging and facilitating Members in the leadership and delivery of projects.
- Adopting and leveraging new tools, including digital tools, to work more efficiently, effectively and inclusively and to build the capacity of its Members.

A priority for the Secretariat is to maintain and enhance the Council's communications and outreach capability, ensuring that it is able to provide a responsive resource for Members, as well as an effective source of information for wider publics.

4. Improving inclusivity and sustainability

The Council will work to ensure that inclusivity and sustainability are prioritized in its ways of working, through rigorous respect of its values and application of its policies.

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Muscat, Oman 2025

Process for renewal and staggering of statutory Standing Committee membership

Document 9

For noting



**International
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وزارة التعليم العالي
و البحث العلمي والابتكار
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Process for renewal and staggering of statutory Standing Committee membership

30 October 2024

In line with the revised ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure adopted on 8 March following a special vote of the General Assembly, there will be two standing advisory committees (Statute 36):

- the Committee for Finance, Compliance and Risk
- the Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science

and their mandates will be four years and staggered (Rule of Procedure 11.1).

Committees for science, membership and outreach matters will not be defined in the statutes, but can be established by the Governing Board as appropriate.

The Governing Board agreed at its meeting on 11 March 2024 to confirm the mandate of the Committee for Outreach and the Engagement and the Committee for Science Planning, which are no longer statutory committees under the revised statutes, until the time of the General Assembly in January 2025. Thereafter the Governing Board and relevant Vice-Presidents will consider the needs of the organization in terms of advisory bodies in these areas.

Regarding the Committee for Finance, Compliance and the Risk Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science, the original term of office of the current members was mid-2022 to mid-2025.

The following timeline is proposed to introduce the staggering.

- For the Committee for Finance, Compliance and Risk:
 - In May 2025:
 - Given the small size of the committee (only three external members), all members (or as many as wish to) stay on with their terms extended to May 2027. Additional new members are appointed with two-year terms running from May 2025 to ca. May 2027.
 - In May 2027:
 - Half the members (decided internally by the CFCR) stay on with their terms extended until May 2029.
 - Half the members rotate off and are replaced by newly appointed members, whose term of office runs from May 2027 to ca. May 2031.
- For the Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science:
 - In May 2025:
 - Half the members (decided internally by CFRS) stay on with their terms extended until April 2027.
 - Half the members rotate off and are replaced by newly appointed members, whose term of office runs from May 2025 to ca. May 2029.

For both the Committee for Finance, Compliance and Risk and the Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science, this implies a call for nominations in early February 2025, in order to have new members selected in April and operational in May 2025.

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Muscat, Oman 2025

Proposed modifications to the ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure

Document 10

Revised 16 December 2024

For decision



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Proposed modifications to the ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure

Revised 16 December 2024

The following are possible modifications to the [Statutes and Rules of Procedure](#) put forward or transmitted by the Governing Board.

1. Process for approving reports of the General Assembly meetings

At the prompting of a Member, the Governing Board proposes to make the process for approving General Assembly reports explicit in the Statutes with the following addition to the Statutes and Rules of Procedure, between current RoP 3.3 and 3.4:

- *The minutes of any session of the General Assembly shall be circulated for comment of the participants of the session within six months, and finalized by the Governing Board and circulated to the membership within one year of the session.*

2. ISC core values

The Governing Board proposes to amend Statute 7 on the core values that guide the Council's work so as to disaggregate the core value (iii) 'Integrity, transparency and respect' into two more distinct values, as follows:

Current:

- i. excellence;
- ii. inclusivity and diversity;
- iii. integrity, transparency and respect;
- iv. collaborativeness;
- v. sustainability.

Proposed:

- i. excellence;
- ii. inclusivity and diversity;
- iii. integrity and transparency;
- iv. respect;
- v. collaborativeness;
- vi. sustainability.

3. Proposal from the French Academy of Sciences

The French Academy of Sciences proposes that the chair of the future ISC–Host Country (France) Liaison Committee be a full voting member of the Governing Board.

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Muscat, Oman 2025

Discussion note on ISC membership

Document 11

For discussion



**International
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Discussion note on ISC membership

v. 15 January 2025

The ISC was formed in 2018 from the merger of the ISSC and ICSU, both long standing organizations. The current membership is primarily shaped by that which existed at the time of the merger, which in turn represents decisions made over many years in different contexts and which as a result has accumulated some degree of confusion. But over the nearly 100 years since ICSU was formed and the 70 years since ISSC was formed, the organization of science and its disciplines, nationally, regionally and internationally, has evolved substantially, as have the roles and expectations of various types of scientific organizations. The ISC was established with a vision to be the global voice for science, and its goals were confirmed in the 2023–2024 revision of the statutes.

During the revision of the ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure over the course of 2023–2024 the issues of vision and goals were points of focus, but it was felt premature to have a comprehensive and rigorous discussion on membership issues until there was a consensus on the former and what being the global voice for science meant in both strategic and operational terms.

Some changes were introduced in the revised Statutes and Rules of Procedure. These were the introduction of voting rights for Category 3 Members and the creation of a new Category 4 for observers and Affiliated Bodies. Concerns around the fragmentation of scientific communities (national and disciplinary) were allayed by according greater input to existing Members in the approval process for new Members. See an overview of the current membership categories in Appendix.¹

However, the ISC Secretariat and Governing Board regularly struggle with the technical eligibility of aspiring Members, which is an indication that the deeper questions have not been resolved. These deeper issues relate to the relationship between the purpose of the organization and its membership structure and eligibility. The current structure means that many relevant disciplines, including those of current and growing relevance in the life, digital, engineering and economic science are not well represented by an organization which claims to be the global voice for science; the organization's legitimacy, relevance and impact can therefore be challenged. The Governing Board proposes that a discussion on membership be launched at the ISC General Assembly in Muscat.

At its heart is the question of what the ISC needs in order to be a most effective global voice for science in the evolving global context. Does the ISC prefer to remain a rather constrained organization, with a membership gathering representatives of scientific organizations reflecting the historical constituency of the ISC predecessors; or does it wish to represent and engage directly with a wider and more diverse global community of actors in the science system, including the members of our Members? This could mean a significant expansion and more heterogeneity in the membership and possibly more overlap in membership among the ISC Members. It could raise existential questions for an organization that is fundamentally membership-based. All of these possibilities have both positive and negative implications which need to be discussed and debated.

The Members are invited to participate in a discussion about the purpose and ambition of the ISC and what that means for the shape of its membership.

¹ The full definitions of the membership categories are contained in Statute 9 and the procedure for admission of new Members are outlined in Rule of Procedure 8. See the [ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure](#).

The guiding question that the Members are asked to reflect on for the discussion at the General Assembly and beyond is:

- *What does an ideal ISC membership look like, in light of its mission to be the ‘global voice for science’ and in the evolving global context?*

It is intended that, following the opening exchange at the General Assembly, the incoming Vice-President for Membership will coordinate the strategic reflection with Members over the next year.

Appendix 1

At the time of the merger of ICSU and the ISSC in 2018, all Members of the merging organizations were carried over into the membership of the International Science Council in one of three categories. The revision of the [Statutes and Rules of Procedure](#) in 2024 introduced a fourth category. A summary of the four membership categories and their characteristics is found below:

	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4
Characteristics	<u>International scientific unions and associations in a specific discipline or area of science</u>	Scientific bodies representing a <u>broad spectrum of scientific fields or disciplines in a country, region or territory</u>	Diverse organizations representing <u>active scientists; young scientist organizations</u>	ISC Affiliated Bodies and observers
Members in good standing	42	121	50	16
Voting rights	Collectively 40%	Collectively 40%	Collectively 20%	None
Dues*	Based on membership dues income	Based on GDP (with some exceptions)	Flat rate of ca. 570 EUR (in 2025)	None

*The question of an integrated approach to dues, which is a residual matter from the merger of ICSU and the ISSC, is the focus of a separate note to Members.

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Muscat, Oman 2025

Note on ISC regional structures

Document 12a

For discussion



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Note on ISC regional structures

19 November 2024

Introduction

The ISC regional presence is motivated by an aspiration to deepen the Council's engagement with its Members and with individual scientists across the world.

The Council currently has two established regional focal points, has reached an advanced level of scoping for a third regional focal point, and has received expressions of interest from other regions.

Established Regional Focal Points

Regional Focal Point for Latin America and the Caribbean

The focal point is hosted by the [Academia Colombiana de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales](#) and launched in 2021. A one-year extension, until the end of 2025, was approved by the ISC Governing Board subsequent to a report from the RFP to the Governing Board in May 2024.

The ISC makes an annual contribution of 75k EUR to the operation of the focal point.

After the passing of Prof. Enrique Forero, Chair of the RFP LAC Liaison Committee since its establishment, Prof. Helena Groot took up the role of Director of the RFP. She is supported by an eleven-member Liaison Committee. The activities are managed by a single science officer, with the support of the Academy.

The RFP has a clearly articulated vision and mission, with regional scientific priorities that align with the ISC Action Plan 2022–2024.

Highlights include supporting the delivery of a successful Global Knowledge Dialogue in Latin America and the Caribbean in April 2024, the establishment of young academies in the region, interfacing with the ISC and the local science community through calls for experts, mobilizing the community to respond to regional inputs in the science and science-to-policy for spaces, and representing the ISC at a host of regional forums and scientific events.

Challenges include limited human and financial resources given the RFP's ambitions, as well as navigating a period of uncertainty after the sad passing of Prof. Forero.

Regional Focal Point for Asia and the Pacific

The focal point is hosted by the [Australian Academy of Science](#) and was launched in 2023. It is supported by the Department of Industry, Science and Technology through a grant totalling 10 million Australian dollars over 5 years. The ISC makes an annual contribution of 75k EUR to the operation of the focal point.

The secretariat comprises a director and four staff members and operates under the advice and guidance of a nine-member Advisory Council. The Advisory Council is co-chaired by a delegate from the Executive Committee of the Australian Academy of Science (AAS) and a delegate from the Board of the ISC.

Since its establishment, the RFP Asia Pacific has developed a strategic plan, co-hosted (with Malaysia) the Global Knowledge Dialogue in Asia and the Pacific in 2023, worked to establish the Pacific Academy of Sciences as part of their Oceania flagship programme, and launched a flagship programme that aligns with the concept of the ISC Science Missions for Sustainability.

Challenges lie in defining the notion of a regional focal point for members, and how this overlaps with ISC membership in general.

Scoping for a regional focal point in Africa

Starting in late 2022, the Council partnered with Future Africa, a pan-African organization based in South Africa, to explore possibilities and make recommendations to the Council about a regional presence in Africa. The scoping exercise has included a comprehensive stakeholder mapping of the science ecosystem in Africa, open consultations through both survey instruments and workshops, and targeted interviews of key experts and leaders on the continent. Preliminary results from the survey conducted in 2024 are already available and a final report will be delivered by the end of 2024.

Other regions

The Council is in discussions with Oman on a possible ISC presence in the Middle East and North Africa region.

Conclusion and discussion

The regional focal points offer an alternate and complementary means of engaging with Members and have boosted the footprint of the ISC over the three-year period.

In the future, the regional focal points may lead science or science-to-policy projects across the entire membership, effectively strengthening the reach and capacity of the ISC as a whole.

Seed funding for any new regional focal points will need to be raised externally.

References (all available as 2025 General Assembly documents)

- ISC Activity and Achievement Report 2021–2024
- Report of the RFP Asia Pacific to the ISC GB, October 2024
- Report of the RFP-LAC to the ISC GB, April 2024, with Three-year highlights added in October 2024
- Report of the Africa scoping exercise to the ISC GB, February 2024, with Preliminary results from the Future Africa survey of ISC Members, October 2024

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Muscat, Oman 2025

Report of the Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk, 2022–2024

Document 13a

For noting



**International
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Report of the Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk to the General Assembly for the period 2022–2024

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1. Introduction

In accordance with the ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure, the Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk (so-named since the adoption of revised ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure in 2024) oversees ISC finances, financial policies and matters of compliance and risk (see Appendix 1).

The Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk works closely with the ISC CEO and Operations Director and is supported by a Standing Committee for Finance, Compliance and Risk (CFCR). As with all Standing Committees, CFCR members are nominated by ISC Members and appointed by the Governing Board. The current members (see Appendix 2) were appointed in mid-2022 for a three-year period. The CFCR has met on average four times a year, virtually.

The CFCR studies the annual budgets, accounts and audit reports, considers requests for dues relief, and makes recommendations to the Governing Board. With the support of the Secretariat, the Committee has finalized several new policies and procedures to bring the organization into line with good practice internationally.

This report covers the second three-year planning cycle of the International Science Council (ISC), the fiscal years 2022, 2023 and 2024, but includes data from 2019, the first full financial year in the existence of the ISC, to help show the longer-term evolution of ISC finances and the impact of recent global or regional shocks. **Data presented for 2024 are based on estimations made in mid-November 2024.**

2. Financial matters

a. Budgeting and audit

The ISC operates on the basis of a multiannual budget proposed by the Governing Board and approved by the membership, while the Governing Board develops annual budgets within the framework of the multiannual budget.

The ISC annual accounts are audited by an external, independent auditor appointed by the General Assembly¹. The auditor's reports are examined by the CFCR and the Governing Board and approved by ISC members by means of an electronic General Assembly held each year.

The ISC's annual accounts for 2021, 2022 and 2023 received a clean audit and were approved by the General Assembly. The audit of the 2024 accounts will be conducted in the first quarter of 2025 and submitted for the Members' approval in May 2025.

b. The 2021–2024 budget and overall results

The 2022–2024 budget was developed in mid-2021 in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, which had dramatically reduced expenditure on activities for two consecutive years and led to a steep increase in general reserves². The ISC auditor had advised the ISC, as a non-profit association, to reduce its accumulated funds. The 2022–2024 Action Plan and budget reflected this advice, presenting an ambitious set of priorities and associated spending plan which would draw on up to 1.7m EUR of reserves (depending on the success of fundraising), bringing accumulated reserves down to ca.175k EUR by the end of 2024.

¹ The auditing and accounting firm Sadec Akelys (<https://www.sadec-akelys.fr/>) was reappointed by the ICSU membership in 2017 to audit the accounts for a further six years (2018-2023).

² General reserves are accumulated funds resulting from an excess of annual income over expenditure. They are distinct from the mandatory reserves of 1.5m EUR that the ISC maintains in case of insolvency.

Table 1 below shows that the final result at the end of 2024 is expected to be very much as budgeted in 2021. Overall income exceeded what was budgeted, as did expenditure. As was planned in the 2022–2024 budget, expenditure over the period significantly exceeded income.

Table 1: Summary of budgeted and actual total income, expenditure and result for the period

2022–2024	Budgeted	Estimated actuals
Dues	€ 9,072,023	€ 8,632,252
External	€ 3,128,000	€ 5,239,259
Other	€ 355,000	€ 1,710,610
Income	€ 12,555,023	€ 15,582,121
Expenditure	€ 14,279,526	€ 17,357,361
Result	-€ 1,724,502	-€ 1,775,240

Notes:

1. Note that the 2022–2024 budget (see Appendix 4) presented the in-kind contribution of the rent for the Paris secretariat's building as real income and expenditure, whereas this is not shown in the accounts presented here or in the annual reports.

Table 2: Summary of ISC accounts, 2019–2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Dues	€ 3,069,916	€ 3,056,488	€ 2,953,450	€ 2,754,936	€ 2,903,752	€ 2,973,564
Other	€ 195,124	€ 114,672	€ 166,137	€ 796,247	€ 654,363	€ 160,000
External	€ 3,509,954	€ 3,125,250	€ 2,711,906	€ 2,573,270	€ 2,755,796	€ 2,950,948
Income	€ 6,774,994	€ 6,296,410	€ 5,831,493	€ 6,124,453	€ 6,313,911	€ 6,084,512
Governance	€ 216,708	€ 154,162	€ 110,468	€ 234,084	€ 334,470	€ 217,794
Regional structures	€ 227,249	€ 177,152	€ 50,000	€ 87,067	€ 234,243	€ 227,172
Activities	€ 2,526,004	€ 962,148	€ 1,099,160	€ 1,170,569	€ 1,622,070	€ 1,113,280
Communications	€ 132,713	€ 47,750	€ 66,402	€ 182,182	€ 280,747	€ 135,278
Personnel	€ 2,475,096	€ 2,500,525	€ 2,306,668	€ 2,281,949	€ 3,035,919	€ 3,185,820
Operations	€ 494,499	€ 391,561	€ 345,567	€ 845,439	€ 466,711	€ 342,000
Dedicated funds	€ 856,112	€ 2,030,632	€ 1,801,020	€ 1,422,445	€ 1,518,310	€ 1,360,567
Expenditure	€ 6,928,382	€ 6,263,920	€ 5,779,285	€ 6,223,735	€ 7,492,469	€ 6,581,911
Result	-€ 153,388	€ 32,490	€ 52,208	-€ 99,282	-€ 1,178,558	-€ 497,399

Notes:

1. More detail on annual accounts can be found in the annual reports (see Appendix 3). However, note that this and all tables and figures in this report are based on revision of the accounts that reassign certain expenses to different categories for the sake of comparability across time.
2. Income and expenditure are not cumulative in this table, as income and expenditure for any given year include external funding carried over from or to the next year.

Table 1 shows that the pattern of spending over the period was not even (see Appendix 4 for the 2021–2024 budget). Overspending in 2022 was less than budgeted, as in-person meetings began again slowly after the COVID-pandemic. Overspending in 2023, by contrast, was particularly high, for two main reasons – the organization of the Midterm Meeting of Members in May 2023 (in response to demand from Members) and the delay in the arrival of the NSF sustainability grant, from 2021 to 2023. Spending in 2024 has been contained in order to stay within the limits of the 2021–2024 budget approved by the Members and to retain a prudent level of general reserves. The budget for 2025–2026 shows even more restraint. Budgets in the future should aim to produce neither a significant surplus nor deficit.

In general, the figures below point to three facts:

- The cost of operating in France is rising faster than the increase in core income from membership dues. The 2% increase in membership dues which has been applied since the establishment of the ISC (except in 2022) does not match the rate of increase in operating costs (cost of living and operating in France, global inflation in the cost of services procured from providers all over the world, and the steep increase in costs related to travel). Salaries of the staff at the Secretariat were not adjusted for inflation in 2024 (inflation in France was 3.9% in 2023).
- Membership dues should be increasing faster than they are, according to the number of new and re-engaged Members, but many Members cannot pay dues (see Section 2d below).
- The ISC has a high dependency on external grant-based income. Grant-based income offsets the operational costs of the ISC and allows the ISC to pursue activities in line with its mission and priorities, but is short-term, insecure, highly variable in volume, and administratively burdensome.

These issues are discussed further in the introduction to the 2025–2026 budget. Below we present some detail of the income and expenditure over the reporting period.

c. Income

The summary of the ISC accounts for the period 2019–2024 presented in Table 2 and illustrated in Figure 1 shows the evolution of ISC income and expenditure over the period. After a decline in income from 2019 to 2021, due to the end of two major grants from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), a delay of two years in the start of the NSF grant (from 2021 to 2023) and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, income recovered in 2022 but is flat at best.

Figure 1: Income and expenditure 2019–2024

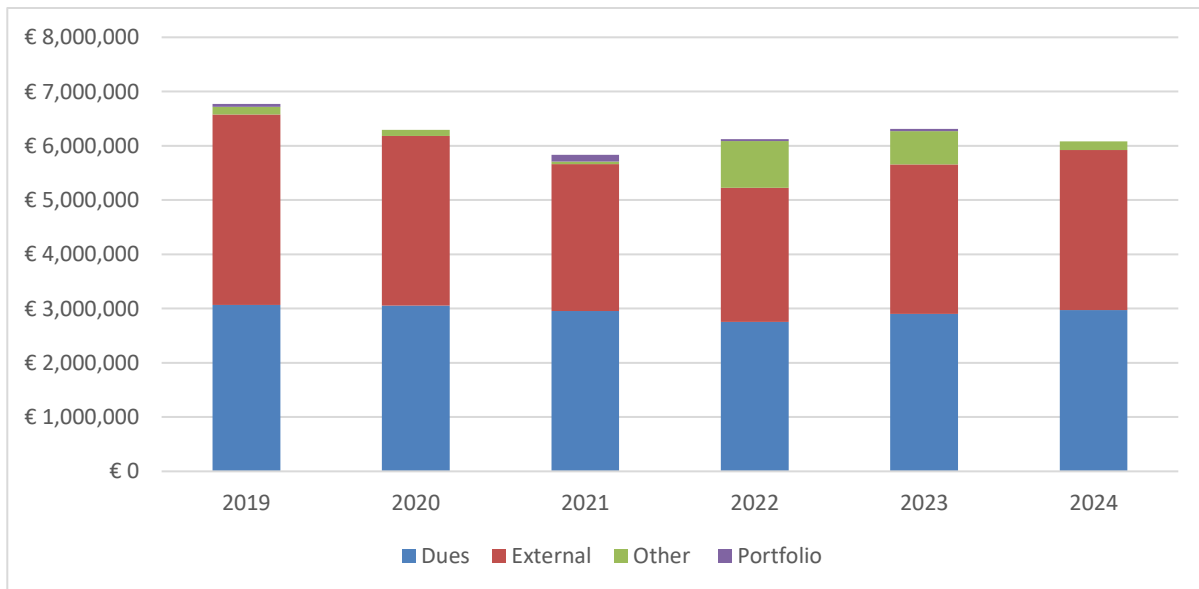


d. Membership dues

Over the course of 2022 to 2024 total income from membership dues was somewhat lower than had been foreseen, with a pronounced dip in 2022 for two major reasons: the habitual 2% increase in dues to offset inflation was not applied; and dues from Members in Russia and Ukraine were not collected. In addition, many new and re-engaged Members have requested waivers or reductions of dues since the dues payment policy was introduced in 2021.

A regular task for the Committee for Finance, Compliance and Risk in 2022–2024 was to receive and consider requests from ISC Members for dues relief, either reductions or waivers. The ISC Dues Payment Policy was put in place in 2021, to help Members which were having short-term financial difficulties related to the COVID-19 pandemic. As time went on, it has become clear that many Members are having difficulties paying dues beyond the short-term crisis caused by the pandemic. Many of those Members are ‘old’ Members which had disengaged from the ISC, often for financial reasons, but which had been re-engaged thanks to the efforts of the ISC Membership Liaison team. Some were new Members, who could not have become Members if they had had to pay dues. Over the course of 2022–2024, some 30 dues relief requests were received, with nearly all being granted. The result is that income from dues is not increasing, even with an increasing number of Members. The challenges caused by a growth in membership without a corresponding growth in income is one of the questions on the agenda of the Dues Revision Working Group in 2025 (see also below).

Figure 2: Breakdown of income types 2019–2024



e. Host-country support

The ISC is grateful for the support of the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research which allowed the Council to remain in its building in Paris rent-free (estimated at more than €300k per annum) until the end of 2024. In addition, the French Government has provided the Council with a subsidy of €100k per year since its establishment (a continuation of an existing agreement with ICSU). The Governing Board and the CEO are working to secure a long-term hosting agreement with the French state which would secure its premises and cash subsidy into the future.

Central to this effort is the establishment of an ISC-host country Liaison Committee in 2025, as foreseen by the revised Statutes and Rules of Procedure.

f. Investment portfolio

The ISC has a sustainable investment portfolio with a modest risk profile at BNP Paribas, which has generated the following results.

Table 3: Performance of ISC investment portfolio

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Gain	€ 30,568	€ 30,324	€ 122,423	€ 33,713	€ 42,884	-
Loss and charges	-€ 26,539	- € 33,528	€ 11,276	€ 93,970	€ 45,640	-
Result	€ 57,107	- € 3,204	€ 111,147	- € 60,257	- € 2,756	-

g. External income

Grant-based income was higher than forecast over the 2022–2024 period (by some 2.1m EUR), with several grants being extended or newly secured. However, the start date of the US National Science Foundation grant for ISC sustainability activities (1.9M USD over five years) shifted by two years, from 2021-2025 to 2023-2027, which had a significant negative effect on income over the period.

Nearly all external grants contribute to operating costs in the form of staff costs and sometimes also indirect costs. About 14% of salary costs were covered by external grants in 2021 and 2022, and about 18% in 2023 and 2024.

The most notable sources of external income over the period were:

- 1.9m EUR from the US National Science Foundation, to support ISC work on sustainability over five years (2023–2028).
- 450k EUR from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada for [a three-year project](#) exploring the impacts of artificial intelligence (AI) and other emergent technologies on science systems in the Global South (2024–2027).
- 1m EUR from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada of for a three-year programme (2017-2020) aimed at creating INGSA fellowships and workshops in the Global South; this was extended until 2023 with a top-up of 61k EUR.
- 420k EUR from the International Institute of Education for a three-year joint project offering a mentoring programme for refugee scientists (2025–2027).
- The IRDR International Centre of Excellence in Taipei, which funds a jointly agreed programme of international work on disaster risk reduction (2022–2026). The ISC receives an annual overhead of 30k EUR and can draw on funds from the ICoE for relevant activities.
- 950k EUR from the Frontiers Foundation, for the ISC to promote Global South participation in the [Frontiers Planet Prize](#) (2022–2026).
- 300k EUR from the ISC Member the China Association of Science and Technology (CAST) to support the participation of early- and mid-career researchers in ISC activities (2024–2026).
- 60k EUR from the Geneva Science-Policy Interface for [a joint ISC–UNODA project](#) to support the Biological Weapons Convention (2024-2025)
- Ca. 335k EUR from the New Zealand Government to support the Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science for five years (2019 to 2024).
- 5k EUR from the University of Bergen for the prize fund for the Stein Rokkan Prize, awarded annually (2009 to date).
- 145k EUR from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for the ISC’s contribution to a joint research effort on [foresight](#) (2023–2024).
- 10k EUR from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for the project ‘Rethinking Human Development’ (2022–2023).

- Approximately €14m from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), which supported the [transdisciplinary work](#), notably the [Transformations to Sustainability \(T2S\)](#) and [LIRA 2023](#) programmes from 2014 to 2022, with a budget-neutral extension to 2023.

Furthermore, several governments, organizations and foundations contribute to the ISC's activities either with in-kind contributions or with direct financial support to ISC members or partners, including:

- The Australian Government, with 10m AUD to [support the ISC regional presence in Asia and the Pacific](#) from 2022 to 2027.
- The Colombian Academy of Sciences, to [host the ISC regional presence in Latin America and the Caribbean](#) from 2021 to 2024.
- The Sasakawa Peace Foundation, to support efforts to establish an [academy of sciences in the Pacific Islands region](#).
- Co-sponsors of [ISC Affiliated Bodies](#), which provide a range of services and resources to the bodies, in kind and in cash.

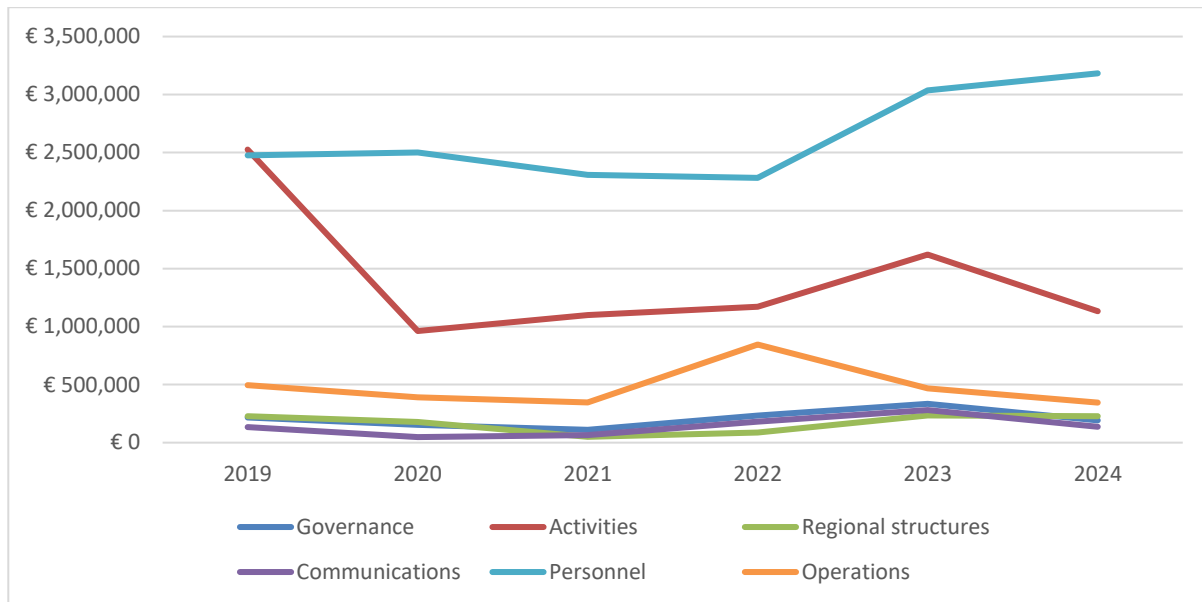
h. Expenditure

A considerable drop in expenditure on activities can be seen between 2019 and 2020. This is not only due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but also to the closing out of two Sida-funded research funding programmes (Transformations to Sustainability and LIRA2030). Expenditure began to pick up gently in 2022 as the COVID-19 pandemic receded, with the return of in-person meetings. The first of the series of Global Knowledge Dialogues was held in South Africa in December 2022.

In 2023, with the world again open for business, the ISC underwent significant strategic and operational changes. Key developments included establishing a UN presence in New York, creating a Unit for Global Science Policy and launching the Centre for Science Futures. The Secretariat re-established its staff capacity in line with the programmatic goals of the organization, appointed a new CEO and Operations Director in January 2023 (after CEO Heide Hackmann's departure in February 2022 and Operations Director Charles Erkelen's departure in mid-2021), and a new Science Director in November, taking over from Mathieu Denis, who was heading the Centre for Science Futures. Additional administrative staff were recruited and a number of promotions were made. The Regional Focal Point in Asia-Pacific was inaugurated, joining the Regional Focal Point in Latin America and the Caribbean which had been inaugurated in 2022, and a scoping project for an ISC presence in Africa was launched. An intense programme of science and policy work in 2023 allowed the Secretariat to utilize a substantial portion of the accumulated reserves. A Midterm Meeting of Members – the first in-person meeting of all the Members since the establishment of the ISC in July 2018 and which had not been budgeted for – was organized in May 2023. The ISC supported nearly 60 bursaries for ISC Members' participation in the Midterm meeting, and another 35 for the Global Knowledge Dialogue in Asia and the Pacific in October 2023.

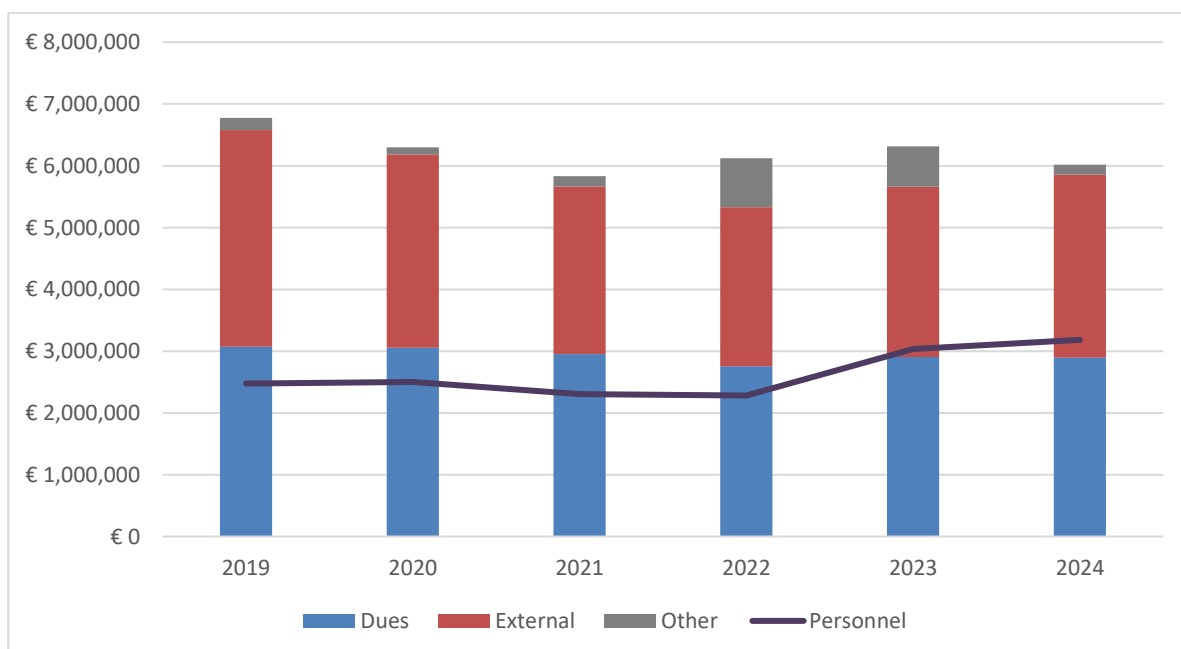
In 2024, the ISC maintained a busy programme of work but with a view to ending the period with the accumulated reserves of no less than ca. 250k EUR. The Standing Committees and other advisory bodies conducted their work virtually and travel and meetings were contained. The major event of the calendar was the Global Knowledge Dialogue in Latin American and the Caribbean, for which nearly 50 bursaries were supported. In total, 155 bursaries received by low-income ISC Members to participate in ISC meetings.

Figure 3a: Evolution of categories of expenditure 2019–2024



It can be seen from Figure 4 below that personnel costs account for about half of total income in 2024, a proportion which has risen since 2019. This is due to an increase in staff at the secretariat from 22 at the time of establishment in 2018 (and a low of 20 during the COVID-19 pandemic) to a high of 26 in 2024, as well as an increase in the cost of living in France which outstrips the 2% annual inflation-related adjustment to membership dues. Traditionally, salaries have been adjusted for inflation, but exceptionally in 2024, no adjustment was made, in order to contain costs. The number of staff at the secretariat should stabilize at 24 in 2025.

Figure 4: Personnel as a proportion of income



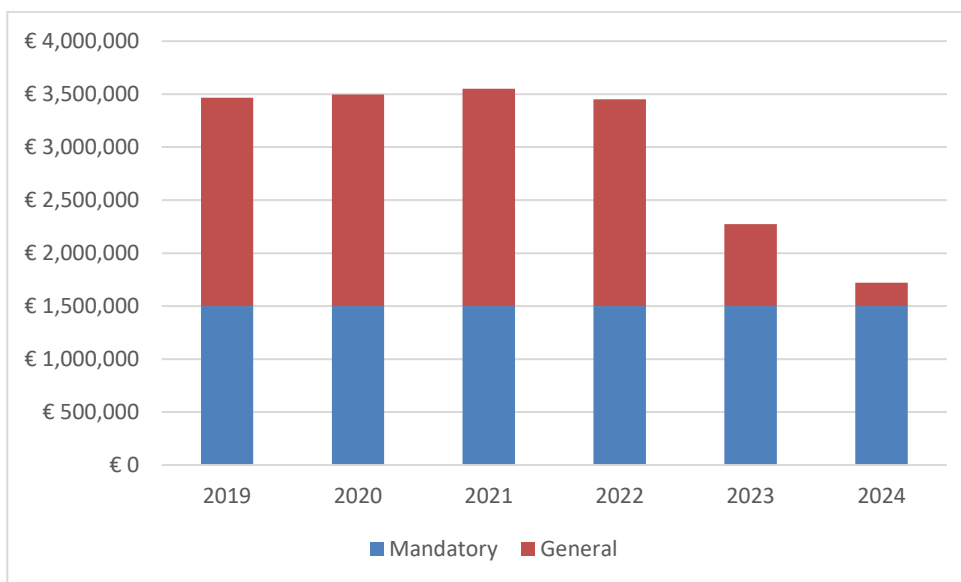
i. Reserves

The ISC maintains a mandatory minimum reserve at the level of €1,500,000. Over and above that the Council had accumulated reserves of over €2,050,230 at the end of 2021. This amount will have been brought down to ca.280k EUR by the end of 2024, in line with the auditor’s recommendations.

Table 4: Evolution of ISC reserves

Reserves (at end of year)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
General	€ 1,965,531	€ 1,998,022	€ 2,050,230	€ 1,950,948	€ 772,389	€ 274,990
Mandatory	€ 1,500,000	€ 1,500,000	€ 1,500,000	€ 1,500,000	€ 1,500,000	€ 1,500,000

Figure 6: Reserves at the end of year



3. The ISC dues structure and its revision

At the 2017 joint meeting of the ISSC and ICSU in Taipei in preparation for the merger of the two organizations in 2018, it was decided (1) that the dues of founding ISC Members would remain the same until a new dues structure was adopted, and (2) that a new, unified dues structure should be developed under the leadership of the first ISC Governing Board, for adoption in 2021. In separate meetings, the ISSC and ICSU membership had agreed to an annual indexation for inflation of up to 2%.

An ad hoc Dues Committee was tasked in 2019 with developing a proposal for a unified dues structure for the ISC. The committee produced a report containing sound analysis and viable options but concluded that a new dues structure should not be developed in isolation from strategic considerations around membership matters. The General Assembly in 2021 therefore approved a 2022–2024 budget outline which was based on the existing membership dues structure, including a 2% annual increase for inflation (which was not applied in 2022).

With the adoption of revised ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure in March 2024, which dealt with some of the outstanding membership issues, the dues structure will now be tackled. The Governing Board has established a Dues Revision Working Group under the aegis of the Committee for Finance, Compliance and Risk with the mandate of developing a new dues structure and other dues-related policies.

4. Policies, processes, systems

The ISC had several [policies and processes](#) in place by 2021 that continued to serve well, including the Conflict of Interest policy for Governing Board and Committee members, the Anti-Corruption and Anti-Money-Laundering policy and an informal 'Language policy'.

In the 2022–2024 period, the Committee oversaw the development or updating of the following documents or policies:

- Sponsorship and Endorsement policy and process (2023), for organizations requesting ISC sponsorship or endorsement of their activities.
- ISC Sustainability principles (updated 2023), covering sustainable procurement.
- ISC Travel policy (updated 2023), specifying when business-class travel is allowed and clarifying the basis of reimbursement claims.
- Due Diligence policy (2024), setting out the basis on which the ISC will engage with or receive money from private-sector or philanthropic bodies.
- Privacy policy (updated 2024), setting out the ISC's practices regarding the collection and protection of personal data in the era of Artificial Intelligence.
- Code of conduct (2024), detailing the expectations of behaviour of representatives of the ISC and the process for reporting suspected violations of the code.

Beyond periodic updates of the policies and processes, the Committee for Finance, Compliance and Risk should consider tasking the Secretariat with a streamlining of all policies into a Corporate Social Responsibility document.

The ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure, which were revised in March 2024, were also subject to legal scrutiny to confirm their compliance with French law on associations.

The ISC created a risk register in 2020 which is reviewed regularly.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Extracts from the ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure (adopted 8 March 2024)

Statute 36.ii.

The Committee for Finance, Compliance and Risk, chaired by the Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk. This advisory body addresses issues of finance, compliance and risk management. It shall periodically review the Rules of Procedure and organizational policies of the Council. It shall be responsible for the dues scale, the dues schedule and related policies.

RoP 11.3.

The Committee for Finance, Compliance and Risk shall:

- i. oversee and make recommendations on finance, budgeting and compliance;
- ii. oversee internal policy development (travel, procurement, etc.);
- iii. review the risk management approach of the Council and report to the Governing Board on the Council's risk profile;
- iv. monitor adherence to the code of conduct of Governing Board and advisory body members.

Appendix 2: List of CFCR members

- Sawako Shirahase (Chair), Vice-President for Finance and Chair, Committee for Finance, ISC; Professor, University of Tokyo, Japan
- Jisoon Lee, Emeritus Professor, Seoul National University, Republic of Korea
- Isabel Varela-Nieto, Research Professor, Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), Spain
- Beatrice Weder di Mauro, President, Centre for Economic Policy Research
- Peter Gluckman, President, ISC; Centre for Informed Futures, University of Auckland, New Zealand
- Salvatore Aricò, CEO, ISC, France (ex officio)

Appendix 3: Annual Reports

[Annual Report 2019](#)

[Annual Report 2020](#)

[Annual Report 2021](#)

[Annual Report 2022](#)

[Annual Report 2023](#)

Appendix 4: Draft ISC budget 2022–2024

→ [See full budget](#)

INCOME	2022	2023	2024	Total: 2022-2024
CORE: UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
Members' Dues				
Category I Members	193 367,00	197 234,34	201 179,03	591 780,37
Category II Members	2 754 954,00	2 810 053,08	2 866 254,14	8 431 261,22
Category III Members	16 005,00	16 325,10	16 651,60	48 981,70
Host (French Ministry of Research) Annual Contribution	100 000,00	100 000,00	100 000,00	300 000,00
Other	35 000,00	10 000,00	10 000,00	55 000,00
Annual Fundraising Target	200 000,00	400 000,00	600 000,00	1 200 000,00
Sub-Total	3 299 326,00	3 533 612,52	3 794 084,77	10 627 023,29
EXTERNAL: RESTRICTED FUNDS				
Grants				
USA National Science Foundation	323 000,00	323 000,00	323 000,00	969 000,00
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency <i>[ref Note 1]</i>	668 000,00			668 000,00
United Nations Development Programme	100 000,00			100 000,00
International Programme Funds <i>[ref Note 2]</i>				
International Centre of Excellence, Taipei (IRDR Funds)	915 000,00			915 000,00
International Development Research Centre, Canada (INGSA Funds)	281 000,00			281 000,00
Government Subventions				
France (Rent for Paris Headquarters)	268 000,00	268 000,00	268 000,00	804 000,00
New Zealand (CFRS Support)	65 000,00	65 000,00	65 000,00	195 000,00
Sub-Total	2 620 000,00	656 000,00	656 000,00	3 932 000,00
TOTAL INCOME	5 919 326,00	4 189 612,52	4 450 084,77	14 559 023,29

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Muscat, Oman 2025

Note on the hosting of the ISC in France

Document 13b

17 January 2025

For noting



**International
Science Council**

وزارة التعليم العالي
و البحث العلمي والابتكار
Ministry of Higher Education
Research & Innovation



Note on the hosting of the ISC in France

17 January 2025

The ISC secretariat has been hosted in France since 1972. In practical terms, the ISC has enjoyed the use of offices rent free (although paying current expenses, including utility bills, taxes and everyday repairs) and an annual cash subsidy. In 2007 the Secretariat was relocated to its current premises at 5 rue Vacquerie and the cash subsidy set at 500k EUR for a ten-year period (2007–2016). In 2017 the annual subsidy from France was reduced to 100k EUR. This is separate to the annual membership dues of the ISC Member in France.

The ISC does not have a formal framework hosting agreement with France. Its use of a building and annual cash subsidy have been underpinned by consecutive, multi-year agreements with the Ministry for Higher Education and Research.

The latest, nine-year, agreement for use of the premises at 5 rue Auguste Vacquerie in Paris expired on 31 December 2024. Over the course of the past 20 months the Secretariat has attempted to engage the French authorities (chiefly the Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation and the Ministry for Public Finances) in discussions to renew the agreement for the use of the building and the cash subsidy.

The President and the CEO met several times and had very constructive talks with the then Minister of Higher Education and Research, Dr. Sylvie Retailleau in 2023 and 2024, before the government was dissolved following a snap general election held in June 2024. Since October 2024 the CEO has met on several occasions with high-level representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the Cabinet of the French Presidency. Verbal assurances have been provided by the French authorities that the ISC Secretariat can continue to occupy the current premises until a long-term solution is identified.

In the context of the above-mentioned discussions, the President and the CEO have broached the subject of a possible and desirable change of the legal status of the ISC in France from a non-profit organization registered in France to an international organization hosted by France, which would reflect more properly the global nature of the ISC's work and could also have fiscal advantages. This has been noted by the French authorities and is part of ongoing discussions.

The current situation is that the ISC occupies its building as of 1 January 2025 without an agreement. It is not clear whether a new agreement will involve moving to another building and/or if the ISC will be asked to pay rent.

Representatives of the Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation have assured the CEO verbally that the cash subsidy of 100k EUR per annum will continue.

The above-mentioned uncertainties will be reflected in the 2024 accounts by a provision of some 40–50k EUR to cover the possible move to another building and the amortization of expenses in the premises at 5 rue Auguste Vacquerie.

The ISC Members are invited to note the current situation related to the hosting of the ISC in France.

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Muscat, Oman 2025

Provisional 2025–2026 budget

Document 14a

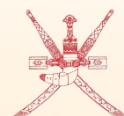
The provisional budget presented in this document (prepared November 2024) may be updated by mid-January 2025.

For adoption



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Provisional 2025–2026 budget

Introduction

The ISC Governing Board recommends this provisional high-level budget for the period 2025–2026 for the approval of the membership, with the following caveats.

1. Timeline for approval

The Governing Board would normally propose a multi-annual budget for the approval of the General Assembly before the beginning of the first financial year of the planning period. However, as the next General Assembly is exceptionally being held in January 2025, rather than in the last quarter of 2024, the Members have been asked to allow the Secretariat to operate to a provisional budget in January, pending the formal approval of the provisional budget at the General Assembly on 30 January 2025.

2. Budget period

Previous multiannual budgets have covered a period of three years, in line with the former three-year cycle of the General Assembly. As the General Assembly will henceforth meet at four-year intervals, it is proposed by the Governing Board that multiannual budgets cover a period of two years. The nature of ISC's income, with approximately 50% coming from relatively short-term external grants, furthermore makes it difficult to present a budget for a longer period with a high degree of confidence. The Committee for Finance, Audit and Risk and the Governing Board monitor the budget and develop appropriate annual budgets within the framework of the multiannual budget.

The 2026 budget is furthermore provided with a relatively high degree of uncertainty, due to the likely revision of the membership dues structure over the course of 2025.

3. Expected near-term developments

Between the end of November and the General Assembly at the end of January, it is expected that new income (grants and other forms of contribution) will be secured. An updated budget for the approval of the membership will be shared in mid-January.

For comparison, the projected end-of-year data for 2024 are also provided.

General outlook and risks

As discussed in the Report of the Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk to the General Assembly, the ISC has passed through a period of expansion, emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic over the course of 2022, beginning to convene in-person meetings again, including the Midterm Membership meeting in May 2023, and building its capacity in line with invigorated ambitions and arising opportunities. Over the period 2022–2024 the ISC used its accumulated reserves to the planned level, bringing them down to the target region (250-300k EUR), in line with the recommendations of the auditors to reflect the ISC's non-profit status. With the reserves now in the target region, multiannual budgets must aim to be neutral, i.e. producing neither a major deficit nor a major surplus and maintaining a safe level of reserves.

The years 2025–2026 will therefore be a period of consolidation after the expansion of 2022–2024. As can be seen in the report of the Vice-President FCR to the General Assembly, the cost of operating is

increasing faster than the increase in core income.

Continuing risks for the ISC include our Members' own increasing difficulty to pay dues and the short-term nature of external grant income.

Fundraising efforts continue, and the establishment of the ISC Foundation will be key to the ability of the ISC to attract philanthropic and charitable funding. The ISC leadership is working to secure additional sources of core (no-strings-attached) income to maintain delivery and support growth.

The lack of a permanent hosting agreement with France is a risk that the leadership aims to resolve in 2025, with the aid of the ISC–France Liaison Committee that is to be established.

Income

Core income

Income from membership dues in 2025 is based on the existing dues structure. It is a conservative estimate, based on an informed estimation of likely non-payment of dues. A high degree of uncertainty affects the dues from the ISC Member the Russian Academy of Sciences as of 2025 because of the barriers to international transfers of funds.

An adjustment of 2% per annum is applied to partially compensate for inflation. The membership will be asked to explicitly agree to an annual adjustment for inflation.

Income from dues in 2026 is based on projected 2025 income plus 2% adjustment for inflation, in the knowledge that the revision of dues over the course of 2025 will produce some change in 2026. While it is not intended that the revision of the dues structure will produce a significant increase in income from dues, it could be expected to raise it slightly.

External income

External income is from grants which are secured or for which we have reasonable assurance that an agreement will be signed in due course. All grants from now on should cover the real costs of executing the activity.

1. CAST Early- and Mid-career Researchers Grant (2024-2025)
2. Frontiers Foundation Grant (2022-2026)
3. IDRC Science Systems Grant (2024-2027)
4. International Institute of Education grant (2025-2027)
5. IRDR ICoE Taipei funds (2010-2026)
6. New Zealand CFRS support (2020-2025)
7. NSF Sustainability Grant (2024-2028)
8. University of Bergen / Stein Rokkan Prize (ongoing)

Expenditure

Governance

The costs of the Governing Board meeting in 2025 are under General Assembly 2025 expenditure (which are paid for from a set-aside fund of 200k EUR).

There will be no in-person meetings of advisory committees, with the exception of a meeting of the CFRS in 2025, for which hosting and sponsorship will be sought.

Regional Presence

150k EUR for Regional Focal Points in 2025 comprises 75k EUR for Latin America and the Caribbean (agreement runs to end 2025) and 75k EUR Asia and the Pacific, and 75k EUR in 2026 for Asia and the Pacific only (agreement runs to 2027). Efforts are being made to ensure that the regional presence in Latin America and the Caribbean continues and that Africa and the MENA regional have an ISC presence.

ISC Representation

A travel fund for ISC staff and occasionally other representatives of the organization, for meetings and engagements which are not covered by Science and Policy project budgets.

Membership Engagement

Membership engagement includes the support for Early- and mid-career researchers from the CAST grant, and a modest amount for a membership meeting in 2026, conditional on hosting and sponsorship. 50k EUR as a core contribution is proposed for the 2026 meeting, and thereafter an annual provision of 25k EUR is suggested, which would create a fund of 100k EUR for each four-yearly mid-term meeting.

Science and Policy

Science and Policy covers our activities in the following areas:

1. Freedom and Responsibility in Science
2. ISC Affiliated Bodies – covered by the NSF sustainability activities grant
3. Science systems, science futures (incl. Centre for Science Futures)
4. Social and environmental sustainability – covered by the NSF sustainability activities grant.
5. Hazard and risk – covered by the IRDR-ICoE grant
6. The Science-Policy interface – covered partially by the NSF sustainability grant

ISC Fellowship, Prizes and Sponsorship

Costs of supporting prizes, awards and the ISC Fellowship.

Communications

Costs of digital communications, subscriptions, etc. and the production of publications.

Operations

The salary envelope reflects the following:

1. The staff complement is stable at 24 people, unless fundraising permits recruitment.
2. Adjustment of salaries in 2025 and 2026 by 1.5% each year to partially compensate for inflation the previous year.

Result and reserves

This budget produces a small surplus in 2025 and a somewhat larger deficit in 2026, with the reserves ending at about 250k EUR.

The statutory reserves of the ISC (1.5m EUR) remained untouched.

2025-2026 budget, updated 29 Nov 2024

	2024 (provisional)	2025 budget	2026 budget
INCOME	EUR	EUR	EUR
STRUCTURAL INCOME	3,133,564	3,146,287	3,207,013
EXTERNAL CONTRIBUTIONS	2,950,948	1,955,455	877,957
TOTAL INCOME	6,084,512	5,101,742	4,084,970
EXPENDITURE	EUR	EUR	EUR
GOVERNANCE	217,794	114,072	120,000
REGIONAL STRUCTURES	227,172	150,000	75,000
ISC REPRESENTATION	58,000	50,000	58,000
MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT	137,808	146,667	50,000
SCIENCE AND POLICY	885,918	1,213,188	428,609
FELLOWSHIP, PRIZES AND SPONSORSHIP	31,554	49,488	16,500
COMMUNICATIONS	135,278	97,000	95,000
OPERATIONS	3,527,820	3,262,951	3,286,622
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	5,221,344	5,083,366	4,129,731
Dedicated funds	1,360,567	-	-
OVERALL RESULT (INCOME – EXPENDITURE)	- 497,399	18,376	- 44,761
Reserves at end of year	274,990	293,366	248,605

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Muscat, Oman 2025

ISC Membership Dues Scale 2025

Document 14b

For approval



**International
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و البحث العلمي والابتكار
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ISC Membership Dues Scale 2025

ISC membership dues rates for 2025 are presented below, with data for 2022–2024 for comparison.¹

The 2025 rates are based on the 2022–2024 scale, with (in accordance with practice since the establishment of the ISC) application of a 2% increase to compensate for inflation, pending the development of a revised dues structure over the course of 2025.

- Tables 1–3 show the official rates of dues by membership category and the respective bands or groups.
- Tables 4–6 show the position of each Member in a membership category.

The tables show the official rates and not the exceptions, such as: higher rates for members which were former members of both ICSU and ISSC; rates for second or third Category 2 members in a given country; waivers or reductions granted since 2021 due to special circumstances and in accordance with the ISC dues payment policy.

Table 1: Rate of dues for Category 1 Members (international unions/associations)

Band *	2022	2023	2024	2025
A	24,582	25,074	25,575	26,087
B	12,292	12,538	12,789	13,045
C	4,055	4,136	4,219	4,303
D	1,393	1,421	1,450	1,478
1	1,592	1,624	1,657	1,689
2	796	812	828	845

* A–D apply to former ICSU members, 1–2 to former ISSC members. Some ISC members were members of both ICSU and ISSC and pay the combined rates but appear only once.

¹ The basis of the calculations of dues are described in detail in the [Report of the Ad Hoc Dues Committee](#) presented to the General Assembly in 2021.

Table 2: Rates of dues for Category 2 Members (national/regional organizations)

Band	2022	2023	2024	2025
10	568,564	579,935	591,534	603,365
9	245,509	250,419	255,428	260,537
8	237,819	242,575	247,433	252,382
7	155,099	158,201	161,365	164,592
6	64,624	65,916	67,235	68,580
5	45,237	46,142	47,065	48,006
4	16,853	17,190	17,534	17,885
3	6,462	6,591	6,723	6,857
2	1,901	1,938	1,977	2,017
1	1,268	1,293	1,319	1,345
D	10612	10824	11,041	11,262
E	5,306	5,412	5,520	5,630
F	2,123	2,165	2,209	2,253
G	1,061	1,082	1,104	1,126

* 10–1 apply to former ICSU members, D–G to former ISSC members. Some ISC members were members of both ICSU and ISSC and pay the combined rates but appear only once.

Table 3: Rates of dues for Category 3 Members

Member	2022	2023	2024	2025
Flat rate	530	541	552	563

Note that academies and associations of young scientists, which are Category 3 Members) do not pay dues under the current dues structure.

Table 4: ISC Category 1 Members (unions/associations)

No.	Member	Band	Comments/Remarks
1	Intl Astronomical Union	A	
2	Intl Union of Geodesy and Geophysics	A	
3	Intl Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry	A	
4	Intl Union of Pure and Applied Physics	A	
5	Intl Union of Geological Sciences	A	
6	Intl Union of Forest Research Organizations	B	
7	Commission Intle de l'Eclairage	C	
8	Intl Geographical Union	C	Double ICSU/ISSC member
9	Intl Mathematical Union	C	
10	Intl Union for Quaternary Research	C	
11	Intl Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing	C	
12	Intl Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	C	
13	Intl Union of Biological Sciences	C	
14	Intl Union of Crystallography	C	
15	Intl Union of Immunological Societies	C	
16	Intl Union of Nutritional Sciences	C	
17	Intl Union for Pure and Applied Biophysics	C	
18	Intl Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology	C	
19	Intl Union of Physiological Sciences	C	
20	Intl Union of Psychological Science	C	Double ICSU/ISSC member
21	Intl Union of Soil Sciences	C	
22	Intl Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics	C	
23	Union Radio Scientifique Internationale	C	
24	Intl Cartographic Association	D	
25	Intl Federation of Societies for Microscopy	D	
26	Intl Union of Food Science and Technology	D	
27	Intl Union for History and Philosophy of Science and Technology	D	
28	Intl Union of Materials Research Societies	D	
29	Intl Union of Microbiological Societies	D	
30	Intl Union for Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine	D	
31	Intl Union of Toxicology	D	
32	Intl Council for Industrial and Applied Mathematics	D	
33	Intl Commission for Optics	D	
34	Intl Political Science Association	Grp1	
35	Intl Sociological Association	Grp1	
36	Intl Arctic Social Sciences Association	Grp2	
37	Intl Association of Legal Science	Grp2	
38	Intl Union for the Scientific Study of Population	Grp2	
39	Intl Peace Research Association	Grp2	
40	Society for Social Studies of Science	Grp2	
41	Union Internationale de Spéléologie	Grp2	Moved Cat. 3 to Cat. 1 2024
42	World Association for Public Opinion Research	Grp2	
43	World Anthropological Union	Grp2	

Table 5: ISC Category 2 Members (national/regional/territorial)

No.	Country	Member	Band	Comments/Remarks
1	United States	National Academy of Sciences	10	
2	China	China Association for Science and Technology	9	
3	Germany	Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft	8	Double ICSU/ISSC member
4	Japan	Science Council of Japan	8	Double ICSU/ISSC member
5	France	Académie des Sciences	7	
6	Italy	Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche	7	
7	Russia	Russian Academy of Sciences	7	
8	United Kingdom	Royal Society	7	
9	Australia	Australian Academy of Science	6	
10	Canada	National Research Council of Canada	6	
11	India	Indian National Science Academy	6	
12	Brazil	Academia Brasileira de Ciências	5	
13	Indonesia	Indonesian Institute of Sciences	5	
14	Rep. of Korea	National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Korea	5	Double ICSU/ISSC member
15	Mexico	Academia Mexicana de Ciencias	5	
16	Netherlands	Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen	5	Double ICSU/ISSC member
17	Spain	Ministry for Science and Innovation	5	
18	Austria	Die Osterreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften	4	
19	Belgium	Royal Academies for Science and the Arts of Belgium	4	
20	China: Taipei	Academy of Sciences located in Taipei	4	
21	Colombia	Academia Colombiana de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales	4	
22	Norway	Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters	4	
23	Poland	Polish Academy of Sciences	4	
24	South Africa	National Research Foundation	4	Double ICSU/ISSC member
25	Sweden	Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences	4	
26	Switzerland	Swiss Academy of Sciences	4	
27	Thailand	National Research Council of Thailand	4	
28	Bangladesh	Bangladesh Academy of Sciences	3	
29	Chile	Academia Chilena de Ciencias	3	
30	Denmark	Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters	3	
31	Egypt	Academy of Scientific Research and Technology	3	
32	Finland	Council of Finnish Academies	3	
33	Argentina	National Scientific and Technological Research Council	3	
34	Greece	Academy of Athens	3	
35	Hungary	Hungarian Academy of Sciences	3	
36	Iraq	Ministry of Science and Technology	3	
37	Ireland	Royal Irish Academy	3	
38	Israel	Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities	3	
39	Republic of Korea	Korean Academy of Science and Technology	3	
40	Malaysia	Academy of Sciences Malaysia	3	
41	New Zealand	Royal Society of New Zealand	3	Double ICSU/ISSC member
42	Nigeria	Nigerian Academy of Science	3	
43	Peru	Academia Nacional de Ciencias	3	

44	Philippines	National Research Council of the Philippines	3	
45	Romania	Academia Română	3	
46	Singapore	Singapore National Academy of Science	3	
47	Ukraine	National Academy of Sciences	3	
48	United Kingdom	The Academy of Medical Sciences	3	
49	Portugal	Academia das Ciencias de Lisboa	3	
50	Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences	2	
51	Bulgaria	Bulgarian Academy of Sciences	2	
52	Costa Rica	Academia Nacional de Ciencias	2	
53	Dominican Rep.	Academy of Sciences of the Dominican Republic	2	
54	Ghana	Ghana Academy of Arts & Sciences	2	
55	Jordan	Royal Scientific Society	2	
56	Kenya	Kenya National Academy of Sciences	2	
57	Lithuania	Lithuanian Academy of Sciences	2	
58	Luxembourg	Fonds National de la Recherche	2	
59	Oman	Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation	2	Double ICSU/ISSC member
60	Panama	Universidad de Panama	2	
61	Serbia	Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts	2	
62	Slovak Republic	Slovak Academy of Sciences	2	Double ICSU/ISSC member
63	Sri Lanka	National Science Foundation	2	
64	Uruguay	Comisión Consejo Nacional de Innovacion Ciencia y Tecnologia	2	
65	Rep. of Congo	Académie Congolaise des Sciences	2	
66	Ethiopia	Ethiopian Academy of Sciences	2	New member
67	Albania	Academy of Sciences	1	
68	Armenia	National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia	1	
69	Australia-AASSREC	Association of Asian Social Science Research Councils	1	
70	Benin	Academie Nationale des Sciences Arts et Lettres du Benin	1	
71	Bosnia H. ANUBiH	Academy of Sciences and Arts of Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	
72	Bosnia H. ANURS	Academy of Sciences and Arts of the Republic of Srpska	1	
73	Cameroon	Cameroon Academy of Sciences	1	
74	Caribbean	Caribbean Academy of Sciences	1	
75	Cote d'Ivoire	Académie des Sciences, des Arts, des Cultures d'Afrique et des Diasporas Africaines, Côte d'Ivoire	1	
76	Cuba	Academia de Ciencias de Cuba	1	
77	El Salvador	Viceministerio de Ciencia y Tecnología de El Salvador	1	
78	Estonia	Estonian Academy of Sciences	1	
79	Honduras	National Academy of Sciences of Honduras	1	
80	Hungary	Hungarian Research Network	1	
81	Jamaica	Scientific Research Council	1	
82	Latvia	Latvian Academy of Sciences	1	
83	Macedonia	Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Art	1	
84	Malawi	National Commission for Science and Technology	1	

85	Mauritius	Mauritius Academy of Science	1	
86	Moldova	Academy of Sciences of Moldova	1	
87	Monaco	Centre Scientifique de Monaco	1	
88	Mongolia	Mongolian Academy of Sciences	1	
89	Montenegro	Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts	1	
90	Senegal	Senegal Academy of Science and Technology	1	
91	South Pacific	University of the South Pacific	1	
92	Turkey	Bilim Akademisi	1	
93	Zimbabwe	Research Council of Zimbabwe	1	
94	Zambia	Zambia Academy of Sciences	1	
95	Guatemala	Academia de Ciencias Médicas Físicas y Naturales de Guatemala	1	
96	Kenya-NACOSTI	National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation	1	
97	Georgia	Georgian National Academy of Science	1	
98	Lesotho	Department of Science and Technology of Lesotho	1	
99	Namibia	National Commission on Research, Science and Technology	1	
100	Cyprus	Cyprus Academy of Sciences, Letters and Arts	1	New member
101	Rwanda	Rwanda Academy of Sciences	1	New member
102	Sudan	Sudanese National Academy of Sciences	1	New member
103	Botswana	Botswana Academy of Science	1	New member
104	Switzerland	Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences	D	
105	India	Indian Council of Social Science Research	E	
106	Norway	University of Bergen	E	
107	South Africa	Human Sciences Research Council of South Africa	E	
108	United Kingdom	British Academy	E	
109	China	Chinese Academy of Social Sciences	F	
110	Arab Region	Arab Council for the Social Sciences	G	
111	Brazil	Associação Nacional de Pós-Graduação e Pesquisa em Ciências Sociais	G	
112	Latin America	Latin American Council of Social Sciences	G	
113	Philippines	Philippine Social Science Council	G	
114	Turkey	Turkish Academy of Science	G	

Table 6: ISC Category 3 Members

No.	Member	Comments/Remarks
1	Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia	
2	African Academy of Sciences	
3	Association of Academies and Societies of Sciences in Asia	
4	Association of Science-Technology Centers	
5	Barcelona Science and Technology Diplomacy Hub	
6	Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes	
7	European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes	
8	European Consortium for Political Research	
9	Federation Internationale des Geometres/Int'l Federation of Surveyors	
10	Global Young Academy	
11	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies	
12	Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research	
13	International Arctic Science Committee	
14	International Association of Applied Psychology	
15	International Commission for Acoustics	
16	International Consortium of Research Staff Associations	
17	International Council for Laboratory Animal Science	
18	International Council for Scientific and Technical Information	
19	International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions	
20	International Foundation for Science	
21	International Institute for Applied System Analysis	
22	International Network for Advancing Science and Policy	
23	International Society for Digital Earth	
24	International Society for Porous Media	
25	International Statistical Institute	
26	International Union for Vacuum Science, Technique and Applications	
27	Islamic World Academy of Sciences	
28	Marie Curie Alumni Association	
29	Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World	
30	Pacific Science Association	
31	Scientific Committee of Problems of the Environment	
32	Society for the Advancement of Science in Africa	
33	Somali Natural Resources Research Center	
34	The Transnational Institute	
35	The World Academy of Sciences	
36	University of the Arctic	

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Muscat, Oman 2025

Proposal for annual adjustment of ISC membership dues for inflation

Document 15

For approval



**International
Science Council**

وزارة التعليم العالي
و البحث العلمي والابتكار
Ministry of Higher Education
Research & Innovation



Proposal for annual adjustment of membership dues for inflation

ISC membership dues have been automatically adjusted by 2% each year to compensate for inflation. This is a practice inherited from the predecessor organization, ICSU, and applied every year since the establishment of the ISC with the exception of 2022.

Over the past three years (2021–2023), inflation in France has exceeded 2% (see Table 1), with an increase over the whole period (2018–2024) of 12.8%.

Salaries were adjusted by 10.7% over the period 2018–2024.

ISC dues rates in any given category have increased by 10.4% over the period 2018–2024.

Table 1: Inflation rates since 2018

	Actual inflation	Applied to ISC salaries	Applied to ISC dues
2018	1%	1%	2%
2019	1.2%	1.2%	2%
2020	0.3%	0.3%	2%
2021	2.9%	2%	0%
2022	6.1%	5%	2%
2023	3.9%	0%	2%
<i>Compound</i>	<i>12.8%</i>	<i>10.7%</i>	<i>10.4%</i>

The General Assembly is asked to formalize this automatic annual adjustment of membership dues by 2% until such time as a new dues structure and related policies and practices are approved and implemented.

In principle, the revision of the dues structure by the Dues Structure Working Group should lead to a vote of the Members on a new structure and related policies and practices in the course of 2025 for application in 2026.

The General Assembly is asked to approve an automatic annual increase of membership dues by 2%.

THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Muscat, Oman 2025

Appointment of external auditor

Document 16

For approval



**International
Science Council**

وزارة التعليم العالي
و البحث العلمي والابتكار
Ministry of Higher Education
Research & Innovation



Appointment of an external auditor

v. 8 November 2024

The General Assembly is required by the Statutes and Rules of Procedure to appoint an external auditor ('commissaire aux comptes'), in accordance with French law.

At the 2017 General Assembly of ICSU (Taipei), the auditing and consulting company Sadec Akelys was confirmed as ISC auditor for six years (2017–2022), which is the legally defined period for an auditor's appointment in France.

In 2023, the ISC President and CEO invited Sadec Akelys to renew their engagement for a further six years, for the years 2023 to 2028 inclusive. The responsibility for the audit of ISC's accounts is currently with Mr. Francois Lamy.

The General Assembly is asked to confirm this appointment.
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THIRD ISC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Muscat, Oman 2025

Proposed principles for the revision of the ISC membership dues structure

Document 17

For discussion and approval



**International
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وزارة التعليم العالي
و البحث العلمي والابتكار
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Proposed principles for the revision of the ISC membership dues structure

17 January 2025

The Dues Revision Working Group was established by the ISC Governing Board in September 2024 to review and revise the ISC membership dues structure. The main aim of the revision is to unify the parallel structures for former ICSU and former ISSC members and address the question of affordable dues for organizations of limited means; the context for the revision is the need to secure the ISC's financial sustainability amidst an increasingly difficult financial situation for many ISC Members.

The composition of the Working Group is broadly representative of the various types of members, and its members are working collectively in the interests of the organization as a whole. The terms of reference and composition of the Group can be found in Appendix A and B respectively.

The Working Group will have met three times, virtually, by the time of the third ISC General Assembly in Muscat, Oman, on 29–30 January 2025.

The Working Group is using the occasion of the ISC General Assembly to consult the membership directly on the core principles that should underlie the review and revision of the ISC dues structure. The aim of this first round of consultation with Members is to reach agreement on a set of principles and guidelines that will allow the Working Group to move to the next stage of the work. Based on feedback received at the General Assembly, or in writing after the General Assembly and until mid-February 2025, the Working Group will proceed to develop a proposal for a revised dues structure, with an accompanying dues scale, for the consideration of the membership, by mid-year 2025.

It must be noted that questions around dues are closely related to questions concerning membership, notably eligibility for a given membership category, short- and long-term consequences of non-payment of dues for whatever reason, new membership of organizations which cannot pay dues, obligations of resigning Members. The Dues Working Group understands the scope of its task as making recommendations on what Members should pay as dues, rather than on questions of membership *stricto sensu*.

The Working Group acknowledges the challenges in defining a perfectly fair dues structure, but is committed to proposing a transparent and practical solution.

Below are a set of proposed principles for discussion and approval at the General Assembly. Written feedback on these principles and attendant questions will be invited after the ISC General Assembly.

Note that information on ISC income and finances can be found on its website at:

<https://council.science/about-us/funding/>

Proposed principles

Income from membership dues is core to ISC operations, sustainability and independence. The following principles should apply to ISC members in Categories 1, 2, and 3. Category 4 members are exempt from paying dues and these principles do not apply.

1. ISC Members are expected to comply with the requirement to pay dues.
2. The membership dues of former ICSU and ISSC members should be consolidated into a single structure.
3. The dues structure should be tiered according to the financial strength of the Members and the category of membership. Factors in assessing financial strength need to be defined with input from ISC members.
4. New Members should pay dues on a pro rata basis for the calendar year of admission.

Appendix A

Dues Revision Working Group 2024–2025 Terms of Reference

18 July 2024

1. Background

At the 2017 joint meeting of the ISSC and ICSU in Taipei in preparation for the merger of the two organizations in 2018, it was decided that the dues of founding ISC Members would remain the same until a new dues structure was adopted, and that a new, unified dues structure should be developed under the leadership of the first ISC Governing Board, for adoption in 2021. In separate meetings, the ISSC and ICSU membership had agreed to an annual indexation of up to 2%.

An ad hoc Dues Committee was tasked in 2019 with developing a proposal for a unified dues structure for the ISC. The committee produced a report containing sound analysis and viable options¹ but concluded that a new dues structure should not be developed in isolation from strategic considerations around membership matters. The General Assembly in 2021 approved a 2022–2024 budget outline which was based on the existing membership dues structure, including a 2% annual increase for inflation.

With the adoption of revised ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure in March 2024, which dealt with some of the outstanding membership issues, the dues structure can and must now be tackled. The Governing Board is therefore establishing a Dues Revision Working Group under the aegis of the Committee for Finance, Compliance and Risk with the mandate of developing a new dues structure and other dues-related policies.

2. Composition

Members of the Dues Revision Working Group should be knowledgeable about key factors impinging on questions of dues, including global economic trends, science funding developments globally and regionally, the mission of the ISC, the diversity of the membership of the ISC, the recent revision of ISC membership categories, and issues of fairness and equity. Members of the Working Group should have experience in organizational finances.

The Working Group will be chaired by the Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk and should include individuals nominated by:

- The Committee for Outreach and Engagement
- A Category 1 Member in the natural sciences
- A Category 1 Member in the social sciences
- A Category 2 Member in a high band
- A Category 2 Member in a mid-level band
- A Category 2 Member in a lower band
- A Category 3 Member of large size/structure/means
- A Category 3 Member of smaller size/structure/means

The Working Group may invite input from outside the group, as appropriate.

¹ See <https://council.science/about-us/governance/committees/dues-committee/>

3. Mandate

The Dues Committee will:

1. Review the findings of the Ad hoc Dues Committee of 2019–2021 and, as appropriate and in consultation with the membership, adapt them or develop a new approach to the revision of dues and related policies in the context of the revised Statutes and Rules of Procedure and perennial or emerging issues relating to dues.
2. Offer concrete proposals for a single, fair and sustainable dues structure and associated dues scale and related policies.

Appendix B: Composition of the Dues Revision Working Group

- [Sawako Shirahase](#), ISC Vice-President for Finance, Compliance and Risk (Chair of the Working Group)
- [Magdalena Stoeva](#), Secretary General, International Union for Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine (IUPESM)
- [Ehud Keinan](#), President, International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC)
- [Irasema Coronado](#), International Political Science Association (IPSA) Executive Committee
- [Ourania Kostj](#), US National Academies, Director of Board on International Scientific Organizations
- [Lai Meng Looj](#), Academy of Sciences of Malaysia, Chair of International Committee
- [Jones Fairfax Agwata](#), Kenya National Academy of Sciences
- [Silvia L. Vilches](#), International Consortium of Research Staff Associations (ICoRSA)