

**STATUTES COMMITTEE**  
**Report for Triennium 1995-1998**

Chair: John S Colligon

Secretary: J Harry Leck

Committee: M-G.Barthes, R.Dobrozemsky, J.Dupont, V.A.Grazhulis, J.Leclerc, T.E.Madey, J-J.Pireaux, J.L.Robins, V.Stepaniants, M.Vesely.

The main role of the Statutes Committee is to monitor the Statutes and Bylaws of IUVSTA, the Statutes of its Scientific Divisions, Statutes of new applicant societies and those of existing societies, where changes in these societies have been made. The Committee studies all applications for membership to IUVSTA by Vacuum Societies to ensure that these satisfy our requirements and also coordinates formal interactions between IUVSTA and other organisations. The Committee generates material for the Procedures Manual.

In the 1995-1998 triennium the committee has completed the following programme:

**1) Review of Statutes and Bylaws.**

The committee has made recommendations to change the following Statutes.

STATUTE IV,4 A(e)

(original version: The Executive Council must include a member of Belgian nationality.)

Proposed new version:

(Agreed at the 78th Executive Council Meeting, Debrecen, Hungary on 25th May 1997)

The Executive Council must include a member of Belgian nationality as long as Belgian law so requires.

STATUTE VI.3

(original version: In case of Dissolution of the Union, any remaining available assets shall be transferred to UNESCO which will use them for the advancement of science.)

Proposed new version:

(Agreed at the 79th Executive Council Meeting, Port Stephens, Newcastle, Australia, 23rd November 1997)

In case of Dissolution of the Union, any remaining available assets shall be transferred into a holding account of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU), or its successor organisation. Within 5 years from the transfer, the most senior of the surviving last-serving officers of IUVSTA, after discussion with the other last-serving officers, may direct ICSU to transfer these funds into the account of a new International Union representing similar areas of Vacuum Science, Technique and Applications as those covered by IUVSTA. (Seniority order is defined at the time of dissolution as President, President-elect, Past-President, Secretary General, STD Director, Treasurer and STD Secretary). If no such request is received within the 5 year period these funds will be retained by ICSU which will use them for the advancement of science.

A standard set of Division Statutes has been prepared and will be voted on by members of Divisional Colleges at the start of the 1998-2001 triennium.

The Committee was asked if a President of a member society could be given the right to vote at Executive Council Meetings; this was checked with the Belgian Ministry who stated that this could not be allowed, unless of course the President is also the Councillor or Alternate Councillor.

Owing to the economic situation Romania had not been able to pay shares this triennium. The Committee judged that, as the society was still active, it could on this occasion recommend that a period of suspended membership be granted during which Romania can participate but not vote. Further subscriptions will not be due from 1998 until the period of suspension is over.

The Committee prepared new guidelines for IUVSTA Sponsorship of meetings which allow decisions to be made without waiting for an Executive Council meeting. These guidelines were accepted at ECM78 and are now in the Procedures Manual

The Secretary General would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the members of this committee for their support and advice and, in particular, Professor Leck, for keeping an accurate record of the Minutes, Monsieur Dupont, for liaising with the Belgian Ministry of Justice and for transferring IUVSTA archive files to the storage space in the Military Academy in Brussels and Professor Jahrreiss for patiently pruning out his files for storage as part of these archives.

Respectfully submitted

John S Colligon

May 1998