

The ICSU-ISSC merger

On 26 October 2017, ICSU and ISSC members will be asked to vote in favour or against a merger of the two Councils.

Should the vote be in favour of a merger, ISSC and ICSU members will be asked at the joint meeting to take four further decisions on the proposed merger. These are:

- Members will be asked to mandate the ICSU and ISSC Presidents to finalise a formal Merger Treaty and initiate the legal process of implementing the agreed merger via a merger-absorption mechanism.
- Members will be asked to agree on the date on which the merger should take effect (to be included in the Merger Treaty).
- Following consideration of proposals (document JM12), members will be asked to vote on the date and place of the founding General Assembly to be held in 2018.
- Members will be asked to agree that the process of electing the new Council's Governing Board during its founding General Assembly in 2018 should be conducted in accordance with the new Statutes and Rules of Procedure that will be discussed and agreed during the October 2017 Joint Meeting.

Key documents are

JM7a Draft Statutes and Rules of Procedure

JM/8 Prospective Joint Annual Budgets

JM/10 Legal mechanism, including the Merger Treaty

JM/13 Proposed Roadmap towards implementation and launch of the new organisation

which are provided individually on the C&CC and the IUPAP GA website.

Also available there are an earlier set of questions asked of Unions regarding the merger, with my response as the IUPAP President.

The full set of documents relevant to the merger discussion at the ICSU-ISSC meeting are available at

<https://icsu.sharefile.com/d-seb5d7c5854643d8>

and at

<https://icsu-issc.gitbooks.io/documentation-on-the-icsu-issc-merger-process/content/2017-general-assembly.htm>

Please note that our past President, Cecilia Jarlskog, attended the meeting in Oslo last year, and was very critical of the details of the proposed merger, as explained then. My answers to the questions were intended to be constructively critical. Both of us were concerned about the possibility that the merged body could raise sufficient funds to support its operations. I invite you to read the documents, and come to your own conclusions.

To provide a structure for our discussion, I move that

The IUPAP Executive Council recommends to the General Assembly of IUPAP that IUPAP casts its vote at the ICSU General Assembly in favour of the proposal to merge ICSU and ISSC.

Barbara Erasmus, the Treasurer of ICSU and a member of the ALICE collaboration at CERN, will be attending the C&CC meeting and the GA and will speak to the motion after I move it.

It will then be open for discussion

Bruce H J McKellar
President, IUPAP