



Twenty-Sixth General Assembly and International Congress of Crystallography, Melbourne, Australia, 22–29 August 2023

Keywords: International Union of Crystallography; General Assembly; International Congress of Crystallography; IUCr 2023.

Supporting information: this article has supporting information at journals.iucr.org/a

1. Introduction and Opening Ceremony

By invitation of the Society of Crystallographers in Australia and New Zealand, the Twenty-Sixth General Assembly and International Congress of Crystallography were held both in person at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC), Australia, and partially in hybrid format, 22–29 August 2023. The meetings were attended by 1788 participants from 66 countries, 1706 of whom attended in person and 82 of whom attended virtually.

The General Assembly and Congress were opened at 4:30 p.m. on 22 August at the MCEC. Delegates were treated to an ‘Australian Welcome to the Country’ with a message from Mandy Nicholson, a smoke ceremony and a group performance of New Zealand Poi and Haka dances.

Welcoming addresses were made by Professor Michael Parker (Chair of the Local Organizing Committee), who acknowledged the traditional landowners of Australia and New Zealand with respect given to elders past, present, and emerging; the Director of the International Science Council (ISC), Sir Peter Gluckman; and the SCANZ President, Professor Charlie Bond.

The Ewald Prize was awarded to Professor Wayne Hendrickson, who then presented the Ewald Award Lecture.

The IUCr President, Dr Hanna Dabkowska, presented a video montage celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the International Union of Crystallography, and then declared the meeting open. Professor Parker invited the audience to the evening Welcome Reception, which featured Australian flora and fauna, and hoped everyone would enjoy the conference.

2. Twenty-Sixth International Congress

2.1. Scientific programme

A public lecture, three plenary lectures, four prize lectures, 31 keynote lectures, 120 microsymbosia and Open Commission Meetings, poster sessions displaying a total of 795 posters, 19 workshops, a software fayre, five satellite meetings, six industry-sponsored sessions and other activities took place in the parallel programme. An easy-to-use app for mobile phones and a website served as the platforms for the real-time scientific programme.

2.2. Exhibitions

A commercial exhibition comprising 37 companies and booksellers was organized.



Table 1

Delegates appointed by the Adhering Bodies and alternates.

Dates of attendance are given in parentheses for those who were not present at every session. The names are listed by the countries to which the respective Adhering Bodies belong, and the number of votes of the Adhering Body is given in parentheses after the name of the country. The names of alternates are marked by an asterisk.

The Regional Committee of Crystallographers from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam (1)	A. T. Sang Loon (27 August)
Albania and Kosovo (1)	B. Dida
Australia (3)	M. Parker (24 and 27 August), H. Maynard-Casely (23 and 24 August), B. Heras, C. Bond* (23 and 27 August)
Austria (1)	R. Miletich
Bangladesh (1)	A. Hussain
Belgium (2)	J. Hadermann (23 and 24 August)
Brazil (1)	M. C. Nonato (23 and 24 August), J. Ellena* (27 August)
Bulgaria (1)	M. Aroyo
Cameroon (1)	P. K. Tsobnang
Canada (3)	L. Dawe, M. Fraser, B. Moreno (24 and 27 August), M. Fodje* (23 August)
China (4)	A. H. Liu, L. L. Liu, S. Yuan, W. Ren
Costa Rica (1)	A. Araya Sibaja
Croatia (1)	G. Pavlović
Czech and Slovak Republics (2)	R. Kuzel, J. Kozisek
Denmark (1)	A. Østergaard Madsen
Finland (1)	K. Rissanen
France (4)	S. Kodjikian, C. Sauter, P. Legrand, F. Ferron
Germany (4)	A. Grzechnik, S. Schorr, M. Meven, T. Schleid
Guatemala (1)	N. Alvarez (27 August)
Hungary (1)	P. Bombicz
India (3)	A. Sundaresan (27 August), C. Narayana, P. Munshi
Israel (1)	L. Meshi (23 and 24 August)
Italy (3)	G. Artioli, A. Guerri, D. Siliqi
Japan (4)	A. Nakagawa, G. Kurisu, S. Toma-Fukai, Y. Kimura
Korea (2)	K. K. Kim (27 August), S. J. Cho (27 August)
Mexico (1)	L. Bucio
Morocco (1)	D. Haynes
Netherlands (2)	L. Kroon-Batenburg, M. Lutz
New Zealand (1)	K. Krause
Pakistan (1)	S. Hasnain (24 and 27 August)
Poland (2)	K. Woźniak, P. Dominiak
Slovenia (1)	M. Lozinsek (23 and 27 August)
South Africa (2)	W.-D. Schubert, E. Batisai
Spain (3)	G. de la Flor Martin, F. Lahoz, F. Gandara
Sweden (2)	X. Zou (23 and 24 August), A. Kentaro Inge (23 and 24 August), H. Xu* (27 August), L. C. Pacoste* (27 August)
Switzerland (2)	S. Grabowsky, A. Neels (24 August), D. Sisak Jung* (23 and 27 August)
Taipei (2)	C.-J. Chen, N.-L. Chan
UAE (1)	P. Naumov (24 and 27 August)
UK (5)	S. Ward, M. Glazer, J. Helliwell, N. Johnson (23 and 24 August), I. Gimondi, S. Coles* (27 August)
Uruguay (1)	N. Alvarez (23 and 24 August), L. Suescun* (27 August)
USA (5)	B. Campbell, J. Ferrara, A. Fry-Petit, C. Lind-Kovacs, J. Wierman
Venezuela (1)	M. Delgado Quinones

2.3. Social events

Evening entertainment included a ‘Night at the Museum’ Congress Banquet.

3. Minutes of the Twenty-Sixth General Assembly

These minutes have been prepared by A. Stanley, Chief Executive Officer, under the authority of B. Brummerstedt Iversen, General Secretary and Treasurer of the IUCr and Secretary of the General Assembly.

3.1. Introduction and list of delegates

Sessions of the General Assembly were held on the evenings of Wednesday 23 August, Thursday 24 August and Sunday 27 August. The names of the official delegates appointed by the Adhering Bodies (see Appendix D in the supporting information) and the alternates who substituted at one or more sessions are given in Table 1. There were no delegates from Greece, Portugal, Russia, Serbia, Singapore or Turkey.

Present as members of the Executive Committee: H. A. Dabkowska (President), S. Garcia-Granda (Vice-President), B. Brummerstedt Iversen (General Secretary and Treasurer), S. Lidin (Immediate Past President), A. Altomare, G. C. Diaz de Delgado, J. L. Martin and T. Proffen (Ordinary Members). M. Takata (Ordinary Member) sent apologies for absence. A. Stanley was in attendance as Chief Executive Officer.

Representatives (non-voting) from the Regional Associates were seated with the delegates.

3.2. First Session, Wednesday 23 August 2023, 7:30 p.m.

(1) *Introductory remarks by the President*

Dr Hanna Dabkowska welcomed the delegates and observers, and noted the approximate running order of the agenda for the first session of the General Assembly.

(2) *Procedural matters*

In order to verify the list of voting delegates, the President asked the General Secretary to read this list, and asked delegates to indicate their presence when their names were called. Delegates were also asked to complete an attendance form.

Two delegates, one from Costa Rica and one from Hungary, were appointed to act as tellers when votes had to be counted during the Assembly.

Electronic voting was used for secret ballots in the third session of the General Assembly.

(3) *Approval of agenda*

The agenda and appendices to the agenda had been distributed to Chairs and Secretaries of the National Committees in June 2023. The agenda were approved.

(4) *Amendments to Statutes and By-Laws affecting adherence to the Union*

The President reported that there were no proposals for amendments.

(5) *Applications for membership of the Union*

An application for membership of the IUCr had been received from the African Crystallographic Association (AfCA) as a Regional Associate. The AfCA President, D. Haynes, and Vice President, P. K. Tsobnang, presented a brief overview of the organization. One question was raised as to how the European Crystallographic Association (ECA) and

AfCA would be separated. This matter had already been anticipated and discussed by the ECA and AfCA with a satisfactory resolution. The application was accepted by the General Assembly.

(6) *Withdrawal of Adhering Bodies*

(a) *Algeria*. The subscriptions due from the Adhering Body in Algeria, the Algerian Association of Crystallography, had not been paid for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. Accordingly, the membership of the Adhering Body for Algeria had been automatically suspended in February 2023, in accordance with Statute 9.6. The President indicated that the General Assembly could either confirm the withdrawal of Algeria (in which case the membership arrears would be written off and Algeria could re-apply for membership in 2023) or allow the suspension of the membership to continue until such time as the arrears could be paid. The General Assembly voted to continue the suspension of the Adhering Body for Algeria.

(b) *Chile*. The subscriptions due from the Adhering Body in Chile, the Asociacion Chilena de Cristalografia, had not been paid for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. Accordingly, the membership of the Adhering Body for Chile had been automatically suspended in February 2023, in accordance with Statute 9.6. The Executive Committee had received a request from the Asociacion Chilena de Cristalografia to allow a continuation of the suspension. The General Assembly voted to continue the suspension of the Adhering Body for Chile.

(c) *Russia*. A motion to suspend the Russian Adhering Body, the Russian Academy of Sciences, from the IUCr was submitted by the Polish Adhering Body, the Committee for Crystallography of the Polish Academy of Sciences, and co-sponsored by the French Adhering Body, the French Crystallographic Association. The Executive Committee considered the motion and sought advice from the International Science Council (ISC). Following consideration of this advice, the Executive Committee determined that the IUCr's role is to promote international scientific cooperation and advancement in crystallography. The Committee therefore decided that the motion would not be presented for discussion.

(7) *Changes in names of Adhering Bodies*

The change in name of the Adhering Body of Norway from the Norwegian Academies of Science to the Norwegian Chemical Society Division for Crystallography and Structural Chemistry was approved.

(8) *Changes in category of adherence of Adhering Bodies*

An application from the Committee for Crystallography, the Polish Academy of Sciences, to change the adherence of Poland from Category I to II had been received. The application was accepted by the General Assembly.

(9) *Approval of minutes of Twenty-Fifth General Assembly*

The minutes, which were contained in the Report of the Twenty-Fifth General Assembly and International Congress of Crystallography published in *Acta Crystallographica* Section A [*Acta Cryst.* (2023), **A79**, 220–228], were approved and two copies were signed by the President and the General Secretary, in accordance with By-Law 1.13. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

(10) *Amendments to Statutes and By-Laws not affecting adherence to the Union*

There were two proposals to amend the By-Laws.

The first was to change the three occurrences of the phrase 'Executive Secretary' to 'Chief Executive Officer' in By-Law 4.4 to recognize that the name of the role had changed following a recent appointment.

The second was to amend By-Law 6.2 to reflect the change in the name of the Sub-committee on the Union Calendar to the Meeting Support Committee.

Both proposals were accepted by the General Assembly.

A copy of the amended Statutes and By-Laws is given as Appendix B in the supporting information.

(11) *Reports of Executive Committee*

The reports of the Executive Committee on the activities of the IUCr since the Twenty-Fifth General Assembly had been submitted to the National Committees and the Commissions in June 2023, in accordance with Statute 6.8. These reports are given in *Acta Cryst.* **A79**, 95–131 and **A80**, 221–223.

(12) *Financial report*

A financial report, covering the calendar years 2021 and 2022, had been prepared by the Treasurer and had been submitted to the National Committees and the Commissions in June 2023. The report is available as Appendix A2 in the supporting information.

The Treasurer reported that the total assets of the Union decreased by USD 739,959 from USD 4,697,664 to USD 3,957,705, or by 15.7%, over the biennium in line with the global economic state. The great majority of the amounts under debtors and creditors had been settled since year-end. The total holding of investments on 31 December 2022 was USD 2,642,928 at market value. The IUCr bank accounts and short-term deposits are held with the Union Bank of Switzerland and the National Westminster Bank involving the currencies CHF, GBP and USD. As an association incorporated in Switzerland, the IUCr is exempt from Swiss Federal and Geneva Cantonal Tax, although in 2019 the Swiss Tax Authorities required the IUCr to provide a declaration of the number of hours that were donated without payment to non-commercial activities of the Union. The value of these hours was required to be similar in value to the income from IUCr Journals over the same period. This declaration was not required by the Swiss Tax Authorities in 2021 or 2022.

The academic publishing market faces difficult challenges, with business models in flux and increased financial and regulatory pressure from funders and politicians. There had been an increase in general running costs, in line with global inflation. It had become increasingly expensive to maintain business insurances as a Swiss-registered organization wholly operating from the UK, as there are very few insurance companies willing to underwrite the IUCr's activities. The insurance market is thus not competitive. In addition, Wiley now takes a larger share of the proceeds from IUCr Journals than in the past, so the losses were not unexpected for this biennium.

Actions had been taken to reduce losses and included the recruitment of a new CEO, closure of one of the premises in Chester, UK, reduced spending on travel, meetings and administration, planning to investigate domiciling in the UK to reduce overheads, actively investigating alternative publishing arrangements, increasing journal submissions and efficiency of operation, increase marketing output and optimizing the Chester office.

(13) *Proposal to research the relocation of the IUCr's Country of Domicile*

The President presented a proposal from the Executive Committee to research the relocation of the IUCr's country of domicile from Switzerland to the United Kingdom and change its financial reporting currency from United States Dollars (USD) to Great British Pounds (GBP). The full proposal is available as Appendix A3 in the supporting information. A query was raised on what the cost of the research would be with regards to legal and tax advice, which was answered to satisfaction. The proposal was accepted by the General Assembly.

(14) *Ewald Prize*

Details of the prize, awarded to Professor W. Hendrickson at the Opening Ceremony, and the citation are given in Appendix A4 in the supporting information.

(15) *Bragg Prize*

Details of the prize, awarded to Professor Arkadiy Simonov, are given in Appendix A5 in the supporting information.

(16) *Struchkov Prize*

Details of the prize, awarded to Dr Robert R. Fayzullin, are given in Appendix A6 in the supporting information.

(17) *IUCr Associates Programme*

The President outlined the benefits of joining the Associates Programme and thanked the Corporate Associates for supporting the IUCr by becoming members. Details of the Programme are given in Appendix A7 in the supporting information.

(18) *Committee for the Maintenance of the CIF Standard (COMCIFS)*

The President reported that Brian McMahon has now retired from the IUCr office in Chester, and has indicated that he will also be stepping down as Secretary of COMCIFS. The reports of the Chair of the Committee for the Maintenance of the CIF Standard (COMCIFS) for 2021 and 2022 had been distributed to the National Committees and the Commissions in June 2023 and are given in the corresponding Annual Reports of the Executive Committee [*Acta Cryst.* A79, 95–131 and A80, 221–223].

(19) *IUCr Newsletter*

The reports of the Editor of the *IUCr Newsletter* for 2021 and 2022 had been distributed to the National Committees and the Commissions in June 2023 and are given in the corresponding Annual Reports of the Executive Committee [*Acta Cryst.* A79, 95–131 and A80, 221–223]. On behalf of the Executive Committee, the President expressed huge appreciation for Mike Glazer for volunteering a considerable amount of time to supporting the curation and publication of the *IUCr Newsletter*.

(20) *Committee on Data (CommDat)*

The President reported that Professor John Helliwell will be succeeded by Professor Simon Coles as the Chair of Committee on Data. The reports of the Chair of the Committee on Data (CommDat) for 2021 and 2022 had been distributed to the National Committees and the Commissions in June 2023 and are given in the corresponding Annual Reports of the Executive Committee [*Acta Cryst.* A79, 95–131 and A80, 221–223].

Both John Helliwell and Brian McMahon were thanked on behalf of the Executive Committee by the President for their significant contributions to the work of this Committee.

(21) *Outreach and Education*

The Executive Outreach Officer, Dr Michele Zema, presented a report on recent activities, which included the IUCr's involvement in the International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development (2022/2023) and the Year of Mineralogy (2022) to increase visibility of the IUCr, the re-establishment of the IUCr Crystal Growing Competition in 2023, the IUPAP–IUCr–ICTP initiative for Light-sources for Africa, the Americas, Asia, Middle East and Pacific (LAAAMP), and the IUCr–UNESCO OpenLabs represented on behalf of the IUCr by Professor Claude Lecomte. A full report is given in Appendix A8 in the supporting information.

Dr Zema was thanked by the President for all they had done for the Union.

The President then adjourned the session at 10:00 p.m.

3.3. Second Session, Thursday 24 August 2023, 7:30 p.m.

(22) *Consideration of date and place of Twenty-Eighth General Assembly*

Dr Manfred Weiss and Tina Weigel, on behalf of the German Society for Crystallography (DGK), presented a bid for holding the Twenty-Eighth General Assembly and Congress in Berlin, Germany. As there were no other competing host bids, the President confirmed that the Twenty-Eighth General Assembly and Congress would be at the Estrel Congress Centre and Hotel in Berlin, Germany, to be held 18–25 August 2029.

(23) *Commission on Journals*

The Reports of the Commission on Journals for 2021 and 2022 had been distributed to the National Committees and the Commissions in June 2023 and are given in the corresponding Annual Reports of the Executive Committee [*Acta Cryst.* A79, 95–131 and A80, 221–223].

The Editor-in-Chief addressed the General Assembly and reported that the IUCr has ten journals, four of which are open access and a number which are well on their way to becoming open access. The Journals Management Board meeting held in March 2023 was also reported as having been an excellent opportunity for Editors to meet in person and discuss the strategy for individual journals and IUCr Journals as a whole. Progress with the individual journals was described and the top three countries in terms of submitted papers for each journal were shown, with the USA being the largest

contributor for the majority of the journals. Details of upcoming special issues were also presented. Delegates were encouraged to publish with the journals to support the finances of the Union.

(24) Commission on International Tables

The Reports of the Chair of the Commission on *International Tables* for 2021 and 2022 had been distributed to the National Committees and the Commissions in June 2023 and are given in the corresponding Annual Reports of the Executive Committee [*Acta Cryst.* A79, 95–131 and A80, 221–223].

As the Chair of the Commission on International Tables was unable to attend the Congress, the Executive Managing Editor (Peter Strickland) addressed the General Assembly on their behalf. The status of all the volumes was summarized.

(25) Committee for Gender Equity and Diversity (GEDC)

The Reports of the Chair of the Gender Equity and Diversity Committee for 2021 and 2022 had been distributed to the National Committees and the Commissions in June 2023 and are given in the corresponding Annual Reports of the Executive Committee [*Acta Cryst.* A79, 95–131 and A80, 221–223].

The GEDC had held a workshop at the start of the Congress with the aim of defining the purpose, vision and values of the IUCr. The results were presented by the Chair of the GEDC. The goals were to develop draft IUCr purpose and vision statements and identify values that reflect the IUCr's diversity and inclusivity, and the UN sustainable development goals. The draft statements and values were shown, and the General Assembly were informed that feedback from a broader range of stakeholders would be requested by November 2023 with the result being used to inform the development of the IUCr mission statement, strategy, planning and priorities by the CEO and the Executive Committee.

(26) The IUCr Crystallography in Africa initiative

The reports of the Chair of the Steering Committee of the Crystallography in Africa initiative for 2021 and 2022 had been distributed to the National Committees and the Commissions in June 2023 and are given in the corresponding Annual Reports of the Executive Committee [*Acta Cryst.* A79, 95–131 and A80, 221–223].

(27) IUCr/Oxford University Press Book Series Committee

The reports of the Chair of the IUCr/Oxford University Press Book Series Committee for 2021 and 2022 had been distributed to the National Committees and the Commissions in June 2023 and are given in the corresponding Annual Reports of the Executive Committee [*Acta Cryst.* A79, 95–131 and A80, 221–223].

(28) Non-publishing Commissions

The reports of the Commissions on their activities since the Twenty-Fifth General Assembly had been distributed to the National Committees and the Commissions in June 2023 and are given in the corresponding Annual Reports of the Executive Committee [*Acta Cryst.* A79, 95–131 and A80, 221–223].

The President reported that the Executive Committee had held in-depth discussions with the Chairs.

Table 2

Numbers of elected members of each Commission.

These numbers do not include Chairs, Co-editors or *ex officio* members.

Commission on Journals	0
Commission on <i>International Tables</i>	0
Commission on Aperiodic Crystals	8
Commission on Biological Macromolecules	13
Commission on Crystal Growth and Characterization of Materials	8
Commission on Crystallographic Computing	7
Commission on Crystallography of Materials	7
Commission on Crystallographic Nomenclature	0
Commission on Crystallographic Teaching	8
Commission on Crystallography in Art and Cultural Heritage	7
Commission on Diffraction Microstructure Imaging	8
Commission on Electron Crystallography	9
Commission on High Pressure	10
Commission on Inorganic and Mineral Structures	9
Commission on Magnetic Structures	11
Commission on Mathematical and Theoretical Crystallography	8
Commission on Neutron Scattering	8
Commission on NMR Crystallography and Related Methods	8
Commission on Powder Diffraction	9
Commission on Quantum Crystallography	9
Commission on Small-Angle Scattering	7
Commission on Structural Chemistry	10
Commission on Synchrotron and XFEL Radiation	9
Commission on XAFS	10

(29) Review of existing Commissions

The President reported that the Executive Committee met with Commission Chairs prior to the General Assembly to review the work and structure of the Commissions and had decided that the Commission on Crystallography of Materials would revert to having *ad interim* status until membership could be re-established. It was noted that By-Law 8.3 states ‘*Recommendations from each Commission for the Chair and members of the Commission shall be made in writing to the General Secretary not less than seventy-two hours before the voting session of the General Assembly. These recommendations shall be approved by a majority of the members of the Commission and shall be accompanied by a written statement that the consent of the persons recommended has been obtained.*’

(30) Determination of number of elected members of each Commission

In accordance with Statute 5.10(d) (see Appendix B in the supporting information), the Assembly had to determine the number of persons to be elected on the Commissions until the Twenty-Seventh General Assembly; these numbers did not include Chairs, Co-editors or *ex officio* members. The numbers of elected members approved by the General Assembly (Chairs not included) are shown in Table 2.

(31) Reports of Representatives on Regional and Scientific Associates

In accordance with Statute 8.5, the reports of the Representatives on Regional and Scientific Associates for 2021 and 2022 had been circulated with the agenda papers in June 2023 and are given in the corresponding Annual Reports of the Executive Committee [*Acta Cryst.* A79, 95–131 and A80, 221–223].

All the reports were accepted.

(32) *Reports of Representatives on bodies not belonging to the Union*

In accordance with Statute 8.5, the reports of the Representatives for 2021 and 2022 had been circulated with the agenda papers in June 2023 and are given in the corresponding Annual Reports of the Executive Committee [*Acta Cryst.* **A79**, 95–131 and **A80**, 221–223].

All the reports were accepted.

(33) *Sponsorship of meetings: Meeting Support Committee (formerly the Sub-committee on the Union Calendar)*

The reports of the Chair of the Meeting Support Committee for 2021 and 2022 had been distributed to the National Committees and the Commissions in June 2023 and are given in the corresponding Annual Reports of the Executive Committee [*Acta Cryst.* **A79**, 95–131 and **A80**, 221–223]. The President reported that a new online submission system for applications for sponsorship will replace the current submission forms.

The Committee was thanked for its hard work.

(34) *Determination of general policy and timetable for period to Twenty-Seventh General Assembly*

There were no comments on this item.

(35) *Preliminary consideration of activities for period 2026–2029*

There were no comments on this item.

The President then adjourned the session at 9:30 p.m.

3.4. Third session, Sunday 27 August 2023, 7:30 p.m.

(36) *Budget estimates for period to Twenty-Seventh General Assembly: determination of unit contribution*

These budget estimates had been distributed with the agenda papers and are given as Appendix A9 in the supporting information.

The General Assembly accepted the budget estimates and approved the recommendation of the Executive Committee to continue the unit contribution unchanged, at CHF 1000, for the years 2024 to 2026.

(37) *Date and place of Twenty-Seventh General Assembly*

The Twenty-Seventh General Assembly will be held in Calgary, Canada, in August 2026, at the invitation of the Canadian National Committee for Crystallography (CNCC), the US National Committee for Crystallography (USNC/Cr) and the American Crystallographic Association (ACA).

(38) *Confirmation of appointments of Editors of publications of the Union*

In accordance with Statute 7.1, the initial appointments and the reappointments of the Editors of the publications of the IUCr were made by the Executive Committee and were subject to confirmation by the General Assembly.

The Assembly confirmed the following appointments and reappointments:

Editor-in-Chief of IUCr journals: A. J. Allen (USA)

Editors of Section A of *Acta Crystallographica*: A. Altomare (Italy) and S. J. L. Billinge (USA)

Editors of Section B of *Acta Crystallographica*: A. J. Blake (UK), M. de Boissieu (France), L. Dawe (Canada) and A. Nangia (India)

Editors of Section C of *Acta Crystallographica*: A. R. Kennedy (UK), A. Sarjeant (USA) and J. White (Australia)

Editors of Section D of *Acta Crystallographica*: C. S. Bond (Australia), E. F. Garman (UK) and R. J. Read (UK)

Editors of Section E of *Acta Crystallographica*: G. Diaz de Delgado (Venezuela), C. Massera (Italy), S. Parkin (USA) and L. Van Meervelt (Belgium)

Editor of Section F of *Acta Crystallographica*: M. J. van Raaij (Spain)

Editors of *Journal of Applied Crystallography*: J. Hajdu (Sweden), G. J. McIntyre (Australia) and F. Meilleur (USA)

Editors of *Journal of Synchrotron Radiation*: Y. Amemiya (Japan), D. Bhattacharyya (India) and K. Kvashnina (France)

Editors of *IUCrJ*: D. Argyriou (USA), E. N. Baker (New Zealand), C. R. A. Catlow (UK), H. Chapman (Germany), S. Subramaniam (Canada) and X. Zou (Sweden)

Editors of *IUCrData*: W. T. A. Harrison (UK), L. M. J. Kroon-Batenburg (Netherlands), E. R. T. Tiekink (Malaysia), L. Van Meervelt (Belgium) and M. Weil (Austria)

Commissioning Editors: E. V. Boldyreva (Russia), T. Proffen (USA) and R. Steiner (UK).

Editor-in-Chief of *International Tables*: C. P. Brock (USA)

Editor of Volume A: M. I. Aroyo (Spain)

Editor of Volume B: G. Chapuis (Switzerland)

Editor of Volume C: T. R. Welberry (Australia)

Editor of Volume D: To be determined

Editor of Volume E: G. Madariaga (Spain)

Editors of Volume F: E. Arnold (USA) and L. Tong (USA)

Editors of Volume G: B. McMahon (UK) and J. Hester (Australia)

Editors of Volume H: C. J. Gilmore (UK) and J. A. Kaduk (USA)

Editors of Volume I: C. T. Chantler (Australia), F. Boscherini (Italy) and B. Bunker (USA)

Editor of Volume A1: To be determined

(39) *Election of Chairs and members of Commissions*

The nominations made by the Executive Committee for the Chairs and members of Commissions, after consultation with the Commissions through their Chairs, had been notified to delegates.

Since no other nominations had been made by the delegates, the persons recommended by the Executive Committee were considered elected.

The full memberships of all the Commissions, including the *ex officio* members, are given as Appendix C in the supporting information.

(40) *Election of Representatives on bodies not belonging to the Union and on Regional and Scientific Associates*

The nominations made by the Executive Committee for those Representatives to be elected by the General Assembly had been notified to delegates. As no other nominations were made, these persons were considered elected.

The names of the Representatives of the Union, including those appointed *ex officio*, are given in Appendix C in the supporting information.

(41) *Election of Officers of the Union*

The nominations made by the Executive Committee for Officers of the Union had been included in the agenda papers distributed in June 2023. S. Garcia-Granda (Spain) was nominated for President, G. Diaz de Delgado (Venezuela) was nominated for Vice-President and T. Forsyth (Sweden) was nominated for General Secretary and Treasurer. Nine nominations were made for the three six-year vacancies for Ordinary Members: H. Liu (China), S. C. Mande (India), A. Moreno (Mexico), A. Nakagawa (Japan), P. Naumov (United Arab Emirates), M. C. Nonato (Brazil), S. Ravy (France), D. Tomchick (USA) and K. Woźniak (Poland). In addition to the Executive Committee nominations (and in accordance with By-Law 8.2), S. Bourne (South Africa) was nominated for Ordinary Member by six delegates to the General Assembly. Prior to the Congress, S. Ravy withdrew from the elections. As there was only one candidate for each of the President, Vice-President and General Secretary and Treasurer positions, these candidates were considered elected. Elections for the three Ordinary Members for the normal six-year term were held by secret ballot. The following nominees were elected:

President: S. Garcia-Granda (Spain)

Vice-President: G. Diaz de Delgado (Venezuela)

General Secretary and Treasurer: T. Forsyth (Sweden)

Ordinary Members (six years): S. Bourne (South Africa), M. C. Nonato (Brazil) and A. Nagakawa (Japan)

The President congratulated the new members of the Executive Committee and thanked those who would be retiring. The delegates were also thanked and applauded for their contributions.

(42) *Any other business*

Representatives from the adhering bodies of China and Korea both gave brief presentations to announce their intention to bid for the Twenty-Ninth Congress in 2032.

As there was no other business, the President declared the Twenty-Sixth General Assembly closed at 10:15 p.m.

4. Closing Ceremony, Tuesday 29 August 2023

The outgoing President, Hanna Dabkowska, said that the Congress had been excellent and thanked everyone involved. Poster prizes were presented to the winners of the poster competitions. The incoming President, Santiago Garcia-Granda, also spoke about his enjoyment of the Congress.

The Chair of the Local Organizing Committee, Michael Parker, presented some highlights of the Congress and its legacy. He provided statistics on the number and diversity of participants, saying that the total number of registrations was 1788. Brendan Kennedy also summarized the meeting.

A presentation was given by Louise Dawe on behalf of the organizers of the next Congress, inviting everyone to Calgary in 2026.

Hanna Dabkowska declared the Twenty-Sixth Congress and General Assembly to be closed.