



POLSKIE TOWARZYSTWO CHEMICZNE ZARZĄD GŁÓWNY

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On behalf of the Polish Chemical Society I have the pleasure and honour to invite the Conference on Chemical Education to be held in the year 2012 in Poland.

The conference would be most welcome here and we, in close cooperation with the Committee of Chemistry of the Polish Academy of Sciences, shall do our best in order to have good audience and the best, outstanding speakers to the event. I can assure you that we have all necessary organizational and financial capabilities to make the conference a significant success and do believe we have a chance to have it in Warsaw, the city of outstanding tradition of chemical research and education.

The complete application is being sent in parallel by Professor Janusz Lipkowski, the Chairman of the Committee of Chemistry of Polish Academy of Sciences, the co-chairman of the present preparation works.

Looking forward to your decision I am sending my kind regards.

Paweł Kafarski
President of the Society

Invitation to Warsaw 2012 ICCE Conference

Proposed Conference dates:

1. **11-17.08.2012 (Saturday– Friday)**
 2. **18-24.08.2012 (Saturday - Friday)**
- or any other date between August 10 – 25, 2012

A. Information on the geographic region of Mazovia and the City of Warsaw

Mazovia is the land of the music genius Frederic Chopin who could feel the melody of Mazovian landscape, and of the Nobel prize winner Maria Curie-Sklodowska who lived in Warsaw in her youth and dreamed of career in science. It is a region of interesting natural diversity and fascinating works of man. It is situated in the heart of Poland and despite the fact that it is the Central Poland Lowland, the landscape is surprisingly picturesque. The blue ribbon of the Vistula flows through it, Poland's largest river with irregular channel with wild birds and sandbar beaches. Kampinos forest, whose sand dunes as well as marsh and bog areas are protected by Kampinos National Park, is Europe's only area of pristine nature so close to a large urban area.

The region has modern hotels, conference venues, sports, recreation and restaurant facilities, as well as stylish hotels and inns housed in castles, palaces, manors and old style peasant cottages. In the very centre of Mazovia lies Warsaw – the capital of Poland.

Warsaw

Warsaw is an unusual city which attracts visitors with its history and atmosphere, and also because it is different. It is the place where Western and Eastern European cultures merge. This is where after the war damages, historic palaces, churches and buildings had been restored in great detail. Warsaw monuments had been recognized by UNESCO which then led to inclusion of Warsaw Old Town in the list of World Cultural Heritage.

The highlights of the city are the Old Town, Royal Route, Lazienki Park as well as many parks and green areas.

Old Town is the cultural salon of the capital city, in season becoming the stage for outdoor concerts or theatre performances or a gallery for painters. Romantic backstreets descending to the Vistula, stylish cafes filled with music are a wonderful break after visiting the museums. The Old Town is also a great place for sacred arts fans.

Royal Route

It is worth taking a walk along the Royal Route – the main thoroughfare of the city. It's a trail connecting the Royal Castle with palaces in Lazienki Park and Wilanow. Shaped through centuries, it enchants with the atmosphere of palaces, churches, burgher tenaments, government buildings. A stroll along the Royal Route is like a journey through centuries that educates on history of this unique city.

Royal Lazienki Park is a palace-and-park complex in Warsaw with many classical monuments, established in 18th century by king Stanislaw August Poniatowski. It is the site of many cultural, scientific, entertaining and sport events, as well as the favourite strolling place of Warsawians.

Warsaw is a city of many faiths – right next to Roman-Catholic churches one can come across Eastern Orthodox or Evangelical-Augsburg churches, a mosque or a synagogue. Warsaw's most famous shrine is St. John's Baptist metropolitan cathedral

B. Conference Site

Palace-and-Park Complex of Warsaw University

Palaces and buildings of Warsaw University are located in the heart of the city on the most beautiful street of Warsaw – Krakowskie Przedmiescie, neighbouring on the Presidential Palace and other important institutions. Despite the city centre location it is an enclave of silence and tranquility surrounded by trees, bushes and green areas.

Krakowskie Przedmiescie – the street on which the University venues are located, is the most impressive street in the city, with limited vehicle traffic. The historic surroundings of the University are full of fancy restaurants, pubs and hotels as well as theatres, galleries, museums and public buildings (the Presidential Palace). Congress infrastructure of Warsaw University includes over 100 conference rooms of capacity ranging from 15 to 1000 persons, well fit for plenary and breakout sessions, poster and sponsor sessions as well as for exhibition stands. All rooms are air conditioned, have wireless Internet access and modern conference equipment. Additionally the complex includes 15 internet working rooms. A public bus coming from the Frederic Chopin International Airport stops right in front of the University main entrance.

C. Catering Site

Conference participants will have coffee breaks at the conference site. Lunches can be served within the University complex or in restaurants located close by. The meals will be prepared in various versions taking into consideration diet or religious preferences.

D. Laboratories, Resources, Technology and Internet

All the premises of Warsaw University, as briefly indicated above (A) will be at disposal of the conference participants and organizers of individual sessions. In addition to it, the neighboring *Societas Scientiarum Varsaviensis* (Staszic Palace, next to the University main campus) will be happy to offer its resources to the conference, if need be. The signed below (JL) is presently the President of the Society mentioned above. And, if it may help, the Society would be happy to join the set of institutions organizing the conference.

E. Financial Resources for the Conference

The conference organizers will try to obtain part of the resources from central government agencies and local governments as well as from Poland's chemical industry sponsors.

Considering the place and date of the conference, the registration fee should not exceed 400 Euro.

F. Accommodation

In the vicinity of the Warsaw University there are more than a dozen two- to five-star hotels, including hotel chains like Sofitel and Novotel, as well as small and cozy properties. The organizers will also provide accommodation in student dormitories and other inexpensive places.

There will be no need to make arrangements for transfers from conference hotels, as most of them are located within 1 km from the conference site.

All major hotels are accessible from the F.Chopin International Airport via public transportation.

The organizers estimate that in 2012 the hotel rates, including discounts, will be as follows:

- 5* hotel – up to 150 EUR for a single room
 - 4* hotel – up to 120 EUR for a single room
 - 3* hotel – up to 100 EUR for a single room
 - cheap accommodation and student dormitories – up to 60 EURO for a single room.
- All rates include breakfast.

G. Access to the City, prices, air transport rates.

1. Accessibility - Air Transport.

Frederic Chopin Warsaw-Okecie International Airport

Frederic Chopin Warsaw-Okecie International Airport is the largest and the most modern airport in Poland. It is located 10 km south-west from the center of Warsaw. The Warsaw airport covers about 70% of all passenger air traffic in Poland. At present Warsaw has over 80 scheduled connections to domestic and international airports and an ever growing number of charter connections.

The Congress participants can use the Polish national carrier LOT Polish Airlines or other member airlines of the Star Alliance group.

The Polish organizer will offer airline discounts for congress participants.

International Connections from the Warsaw-Okecie Airport

The Okecie airport has connections with the following cities:

- Amsterdam, Athens
- Barcelona, Berlin, Bolonia, Bratislava, Brussels, Budapest, Bucarest, Bydgoszcz
- Chicago, Cork
- Dortmund, Dublin, Dusseldorf
- Edinburgh,
- Frankfurt
- Geneva, Grenoble
- Hamburg, Helsinki
- Istanbul
- Kaliningrad, Kiev, Cologne, Copenhagen, Kovno
- Larnaca, Lyon, Liverpool, Lisbon, London

- Lubljana, Lviv
- Madrid, Malmo, Manchester, Milan, Minsk, Munich, Moscow
- Nice, Newn York
- Odessa, Oslo
- Paris, Prague
- Riga, Rome
- Salzburg, Shannon, Sofia, St. Petersburg, Stuttgart, Stockholm
- Tallin, Tel Aviv, Toronto, Tunis
- Venice, Vienna, Vilnius,
- Zagreb, Zurich

2. Accessibility – Railway Transport

There are three large railway stations in Warsaw receiving international and long haul domestic traffic: Warszawa Zachodnia, Warszawa Centralna, Warszawa Wschodnia. At present Warsaw has railway connections with the following European cities: Vienna, Prague, Budapest, Berlin, Amsterdam, Basel, Munich, Rome, Kiev, Moscow, Brussels, Cologne.

3. Accessibility - Visas

Poland is a member country of the Schengen zone within which citizens of the member countries can move freely without visas and passports.

For citizens of many other countries there are simplified visa procedures and discounts, including youth, cultural, scientific and sports exchange. No visa has been denied to people coming to participate in conferences, training and congresses.

Detailed list of countries whose citizens are required to obtain a Polish visa can be found on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website: www.msz.gov.pl

H. Level of Interest in the Conference in Poland

According to the organizers it can be assumed that the ICCE conference will arouse great interest in scientific and academic Polish chemical trade circles.

Poland can demonstrate many significant achievements of its scientists who lived and worked in 19th and 20th centuries, as well as dozens of universities, institutes, associations and organizations engaged in scientific research and chemical science teaching.

We expect high school teachers and university students interested in these topics, to attend the conference.

I. Weather Conditions During the Conference

Poland and Warsaw are situated in a moderate climate zone characterized by mild winters, warm but not hot summers and moderate rainfall. There are no extreme weather occurrences (severe thunder storms, hurricanes, etc).

In August temperatures may vary from 15 C to 25 C degrees. August is a traditional harvest month in Poland with abundance of fresh vegetables and fruit. It is the month of holidays, during which the pace in the city slows down and there are relatively lesser crowds.

J. City Tours and Entertainment

1. Welcome Meeting

Welcome meeting for conference participants will take place in the gardens of the New University Library – one of the most modern in Europe, boasting unique modern architecture or at the Warsaw University palace complex.

2. City Tours for Accompanying Persons

On each conference day tours of Warsaw and the surroundings will be arranged, including major historical monuments and palaces, old Warsaw sightseeing, as well as the birthplace of Frederic Chopin – the famous composer and pianist whose bicentennial birthday will be celebrated in 2010.

3. Gala Dinner

The organizers are offering three attractive venues to choose from:

- Fabryka Trzciny – a multicultural center located in the old part of Warsaw and housed in a former 19th century factory building.
- Folklore on the lake – a complex of farmer houses offering Polish traditional cuisine and folklore situated on the Zegrzynski Reservoir some 20 km from the city center.
- Museum of Oil and Gas Industry – fully restored old Warsaw 19th century gasworks, the seat of the Polish gas and oil concern (PGNiG) located near the city center.

4. Post-conference Tours

The organizers will arrange four optional post-conference tours covering Poland's world class historical monuments included in the UNESCO list:

- Kraków/Wieliczka.

Former capital of Poland, one of the most famous cities in Europe – Royal Wawel Castle, St. Mary's Basilica with its unique 15th century limewood altar, 14th century Jagiellonian University with its Collegium Maius, Main Market Square – Europe's largest market place with Merchant halls and the old Jewish quarter of Kazimierz.

Wieliczka is famous for its world's oldest operating salt mine housing several hundred chambers carved in salt and serving different purposes (museum, conference rooms, restaurants).

It is Poland's most frequently visited historical monument – over 1 million domestic and international visitors.

- Gdańsk/Malbork

Gdańsk is an old Hanseatic city situated at the mouth of the Vistula. Through centuries it has been a rich, multicultural and multitrade city, the birthplace of the Solidarity movement led by Lech Walesa. Cultural monuments of shipbuilders and the Gdansk Shipyard where the August agreement was signed.

Gdańsk is also a world center of amber jewellery .

Malbork – in the period between 14th and 16th centuries the capital of the state of the Teutonic Knights. Europe's largest complex of Gothic defensive strongholds built of bricks.

- Białowieża.

The only pristine part of primal forest in the European Lowlands, divided by the border between Poland and Belarus. In the Białowieża forest live European bison – the largest European land mammal. Poland has had a great share in saving and protecting this unique species.

- Sanok/Krosno/Bóbrka

A trip to the world's oldest oil field. In the village of Bobrka there is an oil well dating back to 1854, museum of oil industry displaying unique equipment from 19th century and the house of Ignacy Lukaszewicz, the pioneer of the world petrochemical industry and the inventor of the oil lamp.

In Krosno, Europe's largest museum of oil lamps, and in Sanok open air museum displaying Polish, Ukrainian and Lemko cultures.

K. Organization of the Congress

The conference will be organized with the support of sophisticated IT system that includes: interactive website, participant registration, event, payment and scheduled speech management system and a system managing presentations during the conference.

The logistics organizer is responsible for all congress organizational and financial aspects as well as for the financial security of the event.

The Conference Honorary and Scientific Committee will ensure the high scientific level of the conference program.

Signed for the Committee of Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences, and the Polish Chemical Society

Prof. Dr hab. Janusz Lipkowski

Prof. dr hab. Paweł Kafarski

**Corr. Mem. PAsci, Chairman,
Committee of Chemistry, Polish Academy
of Sciences**

President, Polish Chemical Society