

## **Report on COCI Workshop – Beijing, China on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2005.**

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On 17<sup>th</sup> August 2005, Committee On Chemistry and Industry (COCI) organized a workshop on Environmental Safety and management during the 40th IUPAC congress in Beijing, China. The workshop was well attended by representative of IUPAC, UNESCO, UNIDO, and petrochemical industry across the Globe. Each of the recently training IUPAC-UNESCO-UNIDO safety fellows from developing countries presented a paper each on their experience in their home countries and various place of work on Environmental Health and safety (EHS).

I presented a paper on my training at Mitsui Chemical Inc, (MCI) Japan on Environmental Safety and Management (ESM) training and the impact on research institutes in Nigeria. My training at MCI cover different aspect of safety which includes; ESM audit, material safety data sheet, HAZOP study, accident investigation techniques etc, with series of lectures, demonstrations and practical exercise at waste water treatment and utility plant. Some of the achievement as a result of the training includes; renovated of our laboratory at Rubber Research Institute of Nigeria with safety facilities put in place. Provision of safety showers, eye wash, sectional chemical stores, protective gears, fire extinguisher, developments of laboratory safety manual and training of laboratory staff on ESM. Since, environmental safety and health is not thought as a course in our University, we have incorporated this as part of the Industrial training course for final year students attached to my Institute. There were a lot of suggestion and encouragement on how to improve EHS generally in developing Countries during discussion at the workshop.

Other papers presented during the workshop by experts from Industries centered on a good practice of occupational hygiene and environmental health and safety that brings comfortable and safe work-environment in Industry and academic institutions. A workshop on occupational hygiene and environmental safety with active participation of industrial sector, academic, research institutes, governmental and non-governmental organizations, will be held at Kenya, in 2006.

Appreciation to BP Chemical Inc USA; Mitsui Chemical Inc, Japan; Sankyo Co Japan; SASOL Chemical Industries, South Africa; and a host of other IUPAC Company Associates who have trained and those who have also shown interest to train Safety fellows. And finally to COCI members for their sustained interest in Safety Training Program.