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FINAL REPORT

WORKSHOP ON COMBINATORIAL CHEMISTRY AND COMBINATORIAL TECHNOLOGIES

BUENOS AIRES DECEMBER 7-11 1998

UNIDO PROJECT Nº: TF/GLO/96/105

CONTRACT N°: 98/270

Objective

The main objectives of the proposed Workshop are as follows:

- to transfer the information on combinatorial technologies available so far from industrialized countries to scientists and technologists of various companies (pharma, agro, etc.) of Latin American countries.
- to bring experts from universities, R&D institutions and industry interested in combinatorial technologies in order to build awareness on industrial applications of CC/CT;
- To identify regional R&D institutions in Latin-American countries through contacts established with the participants in this Workshop
- To supply information to ICS useful for the possible identification of qualified centres to be considered as future co-operative institutions for ICS Network
- to evaluate possible proposals of follow-up project or feasibility studies under the ICS co-ordination;

Organization

This workshop was jointly organized by the International Centre for Science and High Technology (ICS), INGEBI (Research Institute on Genetic Engineering and Molecular Biology, Argentina) and National University of Quilmes (UNQ, Argentina). The local organizers were:

- Prof. Adolfo Iribarren (INGEBI University of Quilmes), Chairman.
- Prof. Ernesto G. Mata (University of Rosario).
- Prof. Elisabeth Lewkowicz (University of Quilmes).

The scientific committee consisted of local and international scientists who advised organizers about the content of the scientific programme. This committee included the following scientists:

- Prof. Adolfo Iribarren (INGEBI University of Quilmes, Argentina)
- Prof. Stanislav Miertus (ICS, Trieste, Italy)
- Dr. Giorgio Fassina (Technogen, Italy)

Dr. Cinzia Traboni (IRBM, Italy)

Venue dates

The workshop was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, at the Research Institute on Genetic Engineering and Molecular Biology, INGEBI (CONICET), from 7 to 11 December 1998.

Funding

The total contribution from UNIDO was U\$S 36900, but due to cheaper airtickets, lodging and boarding expenses and also to the actual number of participants and speakers the real expenses accounted U\$S 31656.5. The total amount received from UNIDO was U\$S 29257.3. The resultant balance is U\$S 2399.2.

INGEBI and UNQ provided lecture halls, audio-visual equipment, secretarial services, telephones and faxes

A summary of the final budget is given in Appendix 1.

Lecturers

A total of 8 lecturers participated in the workshop. Lecturers were from different institutions and countries. (Table 1)

Table 1. Lecturers of the workshop.

Lecturer	Institution	Country
S. Miertus	ICS	Italy
G. Fassina	Technogen	Italy
E. Mata	Univ. of Rosario	Argentina
A. Missio	Glaxo-Wellcome	Italy
A. Iribarren	INGEBI - UNQ	Argentina
D. Cicero	IRBM	Italy
A. Tramantano	IRBM	Italy
C. Traboni	IRBM	Italy

Social Events

Several social events were organized during the workshop with the presence of lecturers, participants and organizers:

A welcoming Lunch at INGEBI (December 7th., at noon)

A trip around Buenos Aires (December 8th.)

A visit to Biosidus (local pharmaceutical company) (December 9th.)

Assessment

The workshop was assessed by the participants via anonymous and optional questionnaire. A summary of this evaluation is given in Appendix 4. Participant's evaluation of the organization of the workshop has been from very good to excellent.

Most of the participants consider the duration of the programme "just right". About the quality of the lectures, again the evaluation ranged from very good to excellent. All participants would recommend to others to attend a similar activity in the future.

Every participant stressed their benefit from participation on this workshop.

Most also remarked that the topics presented could be useful for local industries.

Results

As can be evaluated from the questionnaire filled by the participants, the workshop was very successful. A greater awareness of combinatorial chemistry and combinatorial technologies has been achieved.

A regional network on Combinatorial Chemistry and Combinatorial Technologies is now in preparation. The final idea is to generate a web info directory linked to ICS-UNID global network.

As a consequence of this workshop the utility of this new technology was more clearly understood by the private sector and therefore, a regional project proposal which involves several local industries is also in preparation. This project deals mainly with

the development of new drugs, the generation of new diagnostic kits and the optimization of purification processes important for biotechnological companies.

Appendix 1
Summary of the final budget

Description	Amount in US Dollar, as estimated in the ToR	Actual expenses
Transport	2,000	2,005.00
Accommodation of invited speakers	7,200	7,510.00
Accommodation of international participants	8,500	6,177.00
Accommodation of participants from the country	2,000	2,335.00
Travel of invited international speakers	9,200	8,735.50
Travel of international participants	8,000	4,894.00
TOTAL	36,900	31,656.50
Total amount received from UNIDO		29,257.30
Balance		2399.20

Appendix 2

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December 9 9.00-10.00 10.00-11.00 11.00-11.30	"Analytical Tools by NMR for the characterization of combinatorial libraries" Daniel Cicero, IRBM, Italy "Assesing the biological properties of combinatorial libraries by NMR". Daniel Cicero, IRBM, Italy Coffee break
11.30-12.30 12.30-14.00	Application of CC/CT: A case study. G. Fassina, TECNOGEN Lunch
14.00-14.30	Discussion Session
14.30-18.00	Visit to Biosidus
December 10	
9.00-10.00	Computational methods for the analysis and interpretation of peptide library results
10.00-11.00	Anna Tramantano, IRBM, Italy Biological libraries: methods for construction and selection Cinzia Traboni, IRBM, Italy
11.00-11.30	Coffe break
11.30-12.30	Designing appropriate protein scaffolds for conformationally constrained libraries.
12 20 14 00	Anna Tramontano, IRBM, Italy
12.30-14.00 14.00-15.00	Lunch Biological libraries: applications
14,00-15.00	Cinzia Traboni, IRBM, Italy
15.00-16.00	Exploring peptide libraries to overcome viral variability
	Anna Tramantano, IRBM, Italy
16.00-16.30	Coffee break
16.30-17.30	Biological libraries: perspectives for therapy.
17.30-18.00	Cinzia Traboni, IRBM, Italy Discussion Session
December 11	
9.00-10.00	Economics of Combinatorial Chemistry G.Fassina, Tecnogen
10.00-10.30	Coffee break
10.30-12.30	Contry and Institutional Reports Workshop participants
12.30-14.00	Lunch
14.00-15.00	Discussion on possible common Initiatives
15.00.16.20	G.Fassina, A.Iribarren, E.Mata, S. Miertus
15.00-16.30 16.30-18.00	Workshop evaluation S. Miertus Workshop closes and coffee
10.50-16.00	WOLKSHOP CIOSCS and COLICE

Appendix 4

Summary of the questionnaire

A. Organization	Excellent	Very good	Goo	d	Fair
Information process	19%	44%	31%	ó	6%
Announcement	20%	20%	40%	ó	20%
Scientific programme	56%	44%	0%		0%
Applied lecture/workshop	44%	44%	12%	ó	0%
Small working groups	50%	25%	12.59	%	12.5%
Case studies	37.5%	44%	18.59	%	0%
Question of time	44%	44%	12%	, 0	0%
		Bal	ance	N	ot Balance
Students scientific knowledge		71	1%		29%

B. Duration of Programme	Just Right	Too Long	Too short
Number of days	87.5%	12.5%	0%
Length of working days	94%	6%	0%

C. Training Facilities and Hotel	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair
Lecture/Training rooms	33%	47%	20%	0%
Breaks/refreshments	13%	60%	27%	0%
Hotel accommodation	15.5%	61.5%	23%	0%
Meals at hotel	11%	44.5%	44.5%	0%

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair
D. Organizer's response to participants needs	71.5%	28.5%	0%	0%
F. Overall programme organization	50%	50%	0%	0%

	Yes	May be	No
F. Would you recommend to others	100%	0%	0%
from institution to attend a similar			}
activity in the future?			

G. Evaluation of Lecturers and	Excellent	Very	Good	Fair
Speakers		good		
Course materials	26.5%	53.5%	6.5%	13%
Resident lecture presentation	47%	41%	6%	6%
International presentation	56%	44%	0%	0%
Ability to answer specific questions	73%	27%	0%	0%