

Topic 4: International Co-operation

SFC is acting at three levels for the development of international co-operations. Although not within the scope of the "Conférence Pasteur", the actions undertaken by its working groups implicitly contain international outlooks.

At the national level, SFC has good interactions with institutions and governmental agencies which manage an international policy. For example:

- the COPED (COopération avec les Pays En Développement) working group of the French Academy of Sciences is a good relay towards the French government for international co-operation with developing countries. SFC provides to the group its own experience and actions,

- the Chemistry Department of CNRS has played an important role in the make-up of CERC3 (Chairmen of the European Research Councils' Chemistry Committees) which is promoting collaborations between European research groups ("TransNat" initiative) by funding research and postgraduate training in chemistry. With respect to European FP6 programme, the elaboration of an ERA-Net coined "ERA-Chemistry" will be a place for implementing joint European research programmes *via* a bottom-up procedure with much less bureaucracy. Prof. J.-C. Bernier, vice-President of SFC and former Chairman of CNRS' Chemistry Department, is committed to relay SFC views and proposals.

At the European level, SFC is a member of FECS and ECTN and participates to the activities of these two bodies at different levels.

SFC has been very active in the structuring of the network of European Journals in Chemistry (*Chemistry Eur. J.*, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.*, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.*, *ChemBioChem*, *ChemPhysChem* and *Anal. Bioanal. Chem.*) and will look for further rationalisation and synergism of relations between European sister societies. For example, SFC has organised in 2002, Toulouse, the first Eurochem Conference which was supported by GDCh, RSC and SCS (Swiss Chemical Society).

Finally, SFC has mutual agreements with several of European sister societies for

- providing reduced rates for attendance to colloquia and congresses organised by these societies,
- granting bi-national prizes consisting in an invitation to give at least three lectures at academic places within France and a diploma.

At the international level, SFC is part of the adhering body to IUPAC and encourages participation to IUPAC conferences.