PROPOSED EMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CODE
OF NOMENCLATURE OF BACTERIA

Compiled by the Editorial Secretary on behalf of the
Drafting Committee of the Judicial Commission of the
International Committee on Nomenclature of Bacteria

The proposed emendments refer to the revision of the Code made at the International Congress of Microbiology in Moscow 1966, which is published in the International Journal of Systematic Bacteriology, Vol. 16, No. 4, pp. 459-490 (1966). The page numbers are noted for ease of reference. The proposals are made by the Drafting Committee of the Commission (Minutes 44-47, IJSB Vol. 20, No. 1, pp. 7-8).

Item 1. Emendation of Principle 7 (p. 461).

Emend Principle 7 by deleting paragraph (b), and emend the lettering of the third paragraph from (c) to (b).

The Drafting Committee considered that the categories sections, subsections, series and subseries were not of such service as to require formal regulation under the Rules (see also Item 3 below).

Item 2. Emendation of Principle 11 (p. 462).

Emend Principle 11 by deleting '(nominifers)' and add at the end of Principle 11 the following

"The nomenclatural type is not necessarily the most typical or representative element of a taxon."

It was considered that the term nominifer or nomenifer was not sufficiently used to require mention in the Code. The additional note appears to be useful in the interests of clarity.

Item 3. Emendation of Rule 5d (p. 463).

Replace Rule 5d by the following (see Item 1 above).

"Rule 5d. Sections, subsections, series and subseries are informal categories not regulated by the Rules of this Code. Their designations do not compete with names of genera and subgenera as to priority, and homonymy."

Item 4. Emendation of Rule 9d(3) (p. 469).

Insert in line 2 after "failed to designate a type strain"

"(see Rule 9d(1) Note 2(b))."

This cross reference is proposed to clarify the kind of type strain that is referred to here, i. e. it is not a neotype strain that is meant.

Item 5. Emendation of Rule 11 (p. 470).

Replace the first paragraph of Rule 11 by the following

"Rule 11. Publication is effected under this code by making generally available, by sale or distribution, to the scientific community printed material for the purpose of providing a permanent record. No other kind of publication is accepted as effective, nor are the following:

- 1) communication of new names at a meeting or in minutes of a meeting, or after 1950 in abstracts of papers presented at meetings,
- 2) placing of names on specimens in collections or in listings or catalogues thereof,
- 3) distribution of microfilm, microcards, or matter reproduced by similar methods,
- 4) reports in ephemeral publications, newsletters, newspapers after 1900 or nonscientific periodicals."

The emendation is proposed to clarify the rule on effective publication, and to specify certain forms of publication that are generally considered unacceptable.

Item 6. Emendation of Recommendation 12 (pp. 470-471).

It is to be noted that the following recommendation was inadvertently omitted on p. 471, and was restored by the Commission by Minute 8 in the International Journal of Systematic Bacteriology, Vol. 20, No. 1, p. 1.

"Recommendation 12e. An author, when publishing the name of a new taxon, should designate the type, and, in the case of a species or subspecies cultivable on artificial media, or otherwise preservable in pure culture in the living state, indicate the collection where the type strain or its equivalent is deposited."

Recommendation 12e should then be numbered 12f.

Item 7. Emendation of Rule 13 (p. 471).

A phrase was inadvertently deleted in paragraph (a) in the published form of the Moscow revision, and should be restored. The paragraph should read:

"(a) unless it is accompanied (1) by a description of the genus or subgenus; or by citation of a previously and effectively published description of the genus as a subgenus (or subgenus as a genus) or in the case of a monotypic new genus based on a new species, by a combined generic and specific description; and (2) by a description of one or more species, or by citation of a previously published description of one or more species included in the genus."

Item 8. Emendation of Rule 24 (p. 476).

Insert after paragraph f of Rule 24 the following

"g. If the characteristics of the taxon were based upon studies of impure or mixed cultures, that is, if there is evidence that the description was based on the properties of more than one species grown in mixed culture. This statement does not apply to the name of a species or subspecies whose description is based on morphology or other characters not dependent on cultivation in pure culture."

It was considered that this rule was of particular importance in connection with the species category, in addition to the category of genus (Rule 13 paragraph b).

Item 9. Emendation of Provisions 1, 2 and 3 (pp. 481-482).

The wording of these will require changes to bring them into line with the Statutes of the ICSB (ICNB) if these are approved by the International Congress for Microbiology, in order to correct the designations of the organizations referred to there.

Item 10. Emendation of Provision 4 (pp. 482-487).

The Judicial Commission (IJSB 20:8 Minute 40) recommended the removal of the existing Provisions 4 and 5 (pp. 482-490) from the Code, and their replacement by a short new Provision 4 to explain the essential points of the Statutes of the ICNB. Most of the present content of these Provisions are to be included in the Statutes.

The following Provision is proposed.

"Provision 4. A permanent International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology (International Committee on Nomenclature of Bacteria) has been established by the International Association of Microbiological Societies. This Committee is so constituted that wherever practicable each country is represented by at least one member, and by no more than five. The organization of the Committee is summarized below; further details may be found in its Statutes.

The Committee has an Executive Board, a Board of Publications, and a Judicial Commission. The functions of the International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology (International Committee on Nomenclature of Bacteria) include the following: (1) to hold meetings as part of the sessions of the International Congresses for Microbiology, and to sponsor a section on taxonomy at the Congresses; (2) to approve the International Code of Nomenclature of Bacteria and those changes recommended by the Judicial Commission; (3) to receive and approve the Opinions issued by the Judicial Commission; (4) to set up special Subcommittees on Taxonomy to study and make recommendations on classification and nomenclature of bacterial taxa; (5) to publish the Code of Nomenclature, official lists of bacterial names, and the International Journal of Systematic Bacteriology.

The Judicial Commission of the International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology (International Committee on Nomenclature of Bacteria) is elected from the members of that Committee. The Chairman and Secretaries of that Committee are *ex officio* members of the Commission. The functions of the Judicial Commission include the following: (1) to consider all proposals for emendation of the International Code of Nomenclature of Bacteria and to recommend emendations to the International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology (International Committee on Nomenclature of Bacteria); (2) to consider all requests for Opinions; (3) to establish lists of names that have been conserved or rejected, and other lists of use in bacterial taxonomy.

The Judicial Commission considers Requests for Opinions on the interpretation of the Code, and on specific exceptions to the Code (including the conservation or rejection of names of bacterial taxa) in the interests of stability. Requests for Opinions should be submitted to the Chairman of the Judicial Commission. Requests should be accompanied by a fully documented statement of the relevant facts and will be returned for revision if the evidence presented is not adequate to allow the Commission to decide upon the case.

More detailed instructions to authors of Requests given in various issues of the International Journal of Systematic Bacteriology."

Changes similar to those in Provisions 1, 2 and 3 may also be required in Provision 4.