Executive Board of the International Committee on Nomenclature of Bacteria with the Chairmen and Secretaries of Taxonomic Subcommittees of ICNB

Minutes of the Meeting, 14 August 1970

National Salon 7, Centro Médico, Mexico City

Minute 1. Call to order. The meeting was called to order in National Salon 7 of the Centro Médico at 1:00 PM by the chairman of the International Committee on Nomenclature of Bacteria, V. B. D. Skerman.

Minute 2. Record of attendance. Those in attendance were O. N. Allen (*Rhizobium*), C. Borg-Petersen (*Leptospira*), S. G. Bradley (ECICNB), K. Patricia Carpenter (*Enterobacteriaceae*), B. Wesley Catlin (*Neisseriaceae*), W. A. Clark (ECICNB), G. A. de Vries (Actinomycetes), D. G. ff. Edward (*Mycoplasmatales*), H. Engbaek (*Mycobacterium*), H. A. Feldman (*Toxoplasma*), E. A. Freundt (*Mycoplasmatales*), F. Gasser (Lactobacilli), T. Gibson (*Staphylococcus*), D. Gottlieb (Actinomycetes), S. D. Henriksen (ECICNB), E. Küster (Actinomycetes), S. P. Lapage (ECICNB), H. Lautrop (*Moraxella*), E. F. Lessel (ECICNB), R. Locci (Actinomycetes), M. Moody (Streptococci), H. H. Mollaret (*Pasteurella*), W. J. Brinley Morgan (*Brucella*), R. G. E. Murray (ECICNB), M. T. Parker (*Staphylococcus* phage typing), Muriel E. Rhodes (*Pseudomonas*), M. Rogosa (Lactobacilli), Phyllis M. Rountree (*Staphylococcus* phage typing), E. Runyon (*Mycobacterium*), R. Schubert (*Pseudomonas*), H. P. R. Seeliger (ECICNB), V. B. D. Skerman (ECICNB), P. H. A. Sneath (ECICNB), A. C. Sonnenwirth (Gram-negative anaerobes), L. H. Turner (*Leptospira*; *Spirochaetales*), R. E. O. Williams (Streptococci), and W. Wundt (*Brucella*).

Minute 3. Approval of agenda. The agenda was approved as distributed, with the addition that those taxonomic subcommittees which had not presented their reports at the ICNB meeting on 13 August would do so at this meeting.

Minute 4. Reports of taxonomic subcommittees. Verbal reports were made by the subcommittees dealing with the following taxa: Streptococci and Pneumococci; Gram-negative anaerobic bacteria with subgroup on *Lactobacillus bifidus*; Actinomycetes; *Pasteurella*, *Yersinia*, and Related Organisms; *Neisseria*; and *Toxoplasma*.

Minute 5. Status of Subcommittee on *Toxoplasma*. It was requested by the Subcommittee on *Toxoplasma* that it be allowed to continue

its work under the auspices of the ICNB until the systematic position of *Toxoplasma* is clear.

Minute 6. Liaison between the ICNB Secretary for Subcommittees and the Taxonomic Subcommittees. It was established that all correspondence from a taxonomic subcommittee to the ICNB Secretary for Subcommittees would usually be by the Secretary of the Taxonomic Subcommittee and that all correspondence from the ICNB Secretary for Subcommittees would be sent only to the secretaries of the subcommittees, who would then forward, if necessary, the correspondence to the appropriate person(s).

Minute 7. Size of membership of taxonomic subcommittees. It was agreed that the number of members of taxonomic subcommittees would normally be nine, but that no strict limitation in number would be imposed. If subgroups or working groups of subcommittees on taxonomy became rather large, their status might be reconsidered to the extent of eventually establishing them as new subcommittees with liaison to the parent subcommittee. In certain instances, such as with the *Staphylococcus* Phage-Typing Subcommittee, a larger number of members from different nations may be advisable for functional reasons.

Minute 8. Policy for preparation of subcommittee minutes, reports, etc. The following policy was adopted for the preparation of minutes, reports, etc. All such material should be sent by the secretaries of the taxonomic subcommittees to the ICNB Secretary for Subcommittees. (The name and address of the present Secretary for Subcommittees are: Dr. H. P. R. Seeliger, D-87 Würzburg, Josef-Schneider-Strasse 2, Bau 17, Germany.)

The report of the activities of taxonomic subcommittees between international microbiological congresses should be restricted to the activities occurring up to but not beyond the six months prior to the next plenary meeting of the congress and should be submitted to the ICNB Secretary for Subcommittees. Taxonomic subcommittees should not add to their reports any "last-minute matters" in order to facilitate the processing of these reports by the Executive

Board of the ICNB. Reports and minutes of meetings held at the Xth International Congress for Microbiology should be sent to the Secretary for Subcommittees no later than 15 October 1970 for forwarding to the Editorial Secretary.

Minute 9. *Presentation of subcommittee reports to ICNB.* In the future, all presentations of subcommittee reports at ICNB meetings shall consist of short statements rather than of readings of the entire reports, which would take too much time.

Minute 10. *Closed and open meetings of taxonomic subcommittees.* The holding of both closed, i.e., restricted, and open meetings of taxonomic subcommittees was found advisable, and they will be continued. The need for open meetings was recognized, and such meetings may possibly be scheduled on a special day set aside for this purpose during the time of the next congress.

Minute 11. *Relationship of taxonomic subcommittees to the ICNB.* The chairman pointed out that taxonomic subcommittees of the ICNB may act, publish, and advise only on behalf of the ICNB and not on behalf of other national or international bodies such as the World Health Organization, Bergey's Manual Trust, etc. This does not, of course, prevent members of taxonomic subcommittees from collaborating with such organizations on an individual basis providing that they do not do so in the name of the taxonomic subcommittee.

Minute 12. *Designations for infrasubspecific forms of bacteria.* The designations used to refer to infrasubspecific forms of bacteria will from now on be recognized by the ICNB and be subject to the recommendations from the Judi-

cial Commission in accordance with the new statutes of the ICNB and provisions of the Code, which are presently being revised. In consequence, taxonomic subcommittees will be expected to make recommendations to the Judicial Commission regarding designations for infrasubspecific forms.

Minute 13. *Minimum standards for descriptions of bacterial taxa.* In accordance with decisions made by the ICNB, taxonomic subcommittees and/or ad hoc committees or working groups (still to be appointed) will be asked to submit their views to the ICNB as to what the minimal standards of descriptions should be for the various bacterial taxa.

Minute 14. *Lists of approved names and a new starting date for the nomenclature of bacteria.* The chairman explained the intention of the ICNB to prepare lists of approved names of bacterial taxa and to fix a new starting date for the nomenclature of bacteria. Taxonomic subcommittees and working groups will be requested in due time to assist in these matters.

Minute 15. *Publication of ICNB matters in the Zentralblatt für Bakteriologie.* The chairman announced that the editor of the *Zentralblatt für Bakteriologie*, Professor Henneberg, Robert Koch Institut, West Berlin, Germany, has offered to publish, in the English language, free-of-charge, any matters pertaining to the ICNB and its taxonomic subcommittees, including reports, scientific papers, etc.

Minute 16. *Adjournment.* The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.

H. P. R. Seeliger
Secretary for Subcommittees