International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of Vibrios

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 4 September 1978

Munich, Germany

Minute 1. Members present at the closed meeting. R. Sakazaki (Chairman), S. C. Sanyal, R. H. W. Schubert, W. H. Ewing (representing Rudolph Hugh), and A. L. Furniss (Secretary) were present. Apologies were received from G. I. Barrow and R. Hugh.

Minute 2. Approval of minutes of previous meeting. The minutes of the meeting held on 3 September 1974 in Tokyo were approved. Since that time R. Sakazaki had been elected Chairman and A. L. Furniss has been elected Secretary. These elections were formally confirmed.

Minute 3. Membership of the Subcommittee. The following were elected to membership on the Subcommittee: P. Baumann, University of California, Davis, Calif.; Rita Colwell, University of Maryland, College Park, Md.; M. Véron, Paris, France. The Secretary had received from these individuals expressions of willingness to serve on the Subcommittee. J. J. Farmer, Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, Ga., was also recommended for membership, and the Secretary was asked to write to Dr. Farmer to confirm that he was willing to serve. The Secretary was asked to write and ask absent members whether they still wished to continue on the Subcommittee.

Minute 4. Approved list of names of bacteria and the designation of type strains. After considerable discussion, the Subcommittee prepared a list of specific names and type strains. The Subcommittee was concerned only about the names to be retained without any prejudice to future discussion on classification. For this reason the generic name *Beneckea* is at present recorded in the list.

The subcommittee reaffirmed its previous declaration (4) in Minute 11 of the meeting of 3 September 1974 that *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* and *Vibrio alginolyticus* should not be excluded from the genus *Vibrio*.

Minute 5. Type strains of *A. hydrophila* and *A. salmonicida*. In a letter to the Chairman, R. Hugh drew attention to the fact that two neotype strains existed for *Aeromonas hydrophila* and for *Aeromonas salmonicida*. The subcommittee supported the recognition of ATCC 9071 as the neotype strain for *A. hydrophila* in place of NCMB 1102 and the recognition of ATCC 14174 as the neotype strain for *A. salmonicida* in place of ATCC 7966. The Secretary was asked to request the Judicial Commission for an opinion.

Minute 6. L+ vibrio isolated from blood. It was agreed that the L+ vibrios (3) constituted a distinct entity that needed further study. Until further studies

had been undertaken, the Subcommittee was not prepared to accept the specific epithet "*vulnifica*" proposed by Reichelt et al. (5) for this organism.

Minute 7. V1669 biovar strains pathogenic for fish. It was agreed that the V1669 biovar strains pathogenic for fish (2, 6) constitute a group that also needs further study.

Minute 8. NAG vibrios. The use of the term "NAG vibrio" was strongly deprecated by the Subcommittee. The name *Vibrio cholerae* should be the name used for the whole taxon, which consists of a number of different serovars on the basis of differing O antigens.

Minute 9. Serotyping of *V. cholerae*. It was agreed that ideally three or four laboratories should undertake serotyping of *Vibrio cholerae* and the further development of such a scheme; these laboratories should regularly interchange strains. It was recognized that there was great need for an international system both for serotyping and phage-typing of *V. cholerae*.

Minute 10. Open meeting. At the open meeting after the closed meeting, in addition to members of the Subcommittee, there were present: J. M. Shewan, Rita Colwell, D. Brenner, W. A. Sheppers, J. Kaper, and K. Tamura.

Minute 11. *Vibrio marinus* and *Vibrio fischeri*. Drs. Colwell and Shewan agreed to write a note for the IJSB about the neotype strains for these two species, which they now distinguish.

Minute 12. Anaerogenic strains of *Aeromonas* in cases of diarrhea. Considerable interest was expressed in anaerogenic strains of *Aeromonas*; they are a distinct taxon and probably correspond to the group F of Furniss et al. (1) and Eff6 of the Center for Disease Control. Sanyal had experience with these organisms, which he had found toxigenic, and considered that they should be in a genus separate from *Aeromonas* or *Vibrio*.

Minute 13. Serotyping of *V. cholerae*. After considerable discussion, the Subcommittee's intention to set up an ad hoc commission on serotyping was approved. It was agreed that the development of an international system, both of serotyping and phage typing of *V. cholerae*, was particularly the concern of this Subcommittee on the taxonomy of vibrios.

Minute 14. Flagellation. In answer to a question concerning flagellation, the Chairman quoted Minute 4 of the closed meeting of 3 September 1974 (4). It was agreed that flagellation may show considerable variation. It should be looked on as but one character in the classification of different species.

A. L. Furniss
Secretary

LITERATURE CITED

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3. Hollis, D. G., R. E. Weaver, C. N. Baker, and C. Thornsberry. 1976. Halophilic *Vibrio* species isolated from blood cultures. *J. Clin. Microbiol.* 3:425-431.
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5. Reichelt, J. L., P. Baumann, and L. Baumann. 1976. Study of genetic relationships among marine species of the genera *Beneckeia* and *Photobacterium*. *Arch. Microbiol.* 110:101-120.
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