Closed meeting, 17 September 1990.

Minute 1. Call to order. Chairman H. P. R. Seeliger called the meeting to order at 1300 h.

Minute 2. Record of attendance. Those present were J. McLauchlin (representing A. G. Taylor and acting as Minutes Secretary), B. Ralovich, J. Rocourt, A. Schonberg, H. P. R. Seeliger (Chairman), and G. Suarez.


Minute 4. Resignations. Letters of resignation were received from R. E. Weaver and M. Woodbine.

Minute 5. Minutes of the last meeting. The minutes were distributed; it was proposed by H. P. R. Seeliger and seconded by B. Ralovich that they be accepted as distributed.

Minute 6. Proceedings of ISOPOL X. Dr. Ralovich was congratulated on the production of the proceedings of the Pécs symposium. Extra copies of the proceedings are available from Dr. Ralovich for $10.

Minute 7. Public health aspects of listeriosis. Professor Seeliger summarized much data on public health aspects of listeriosis and the pathogenicity of L. monocytogenes. He reported that since his retirement the serotyping work at Würzburg is not likely to continue although this may be transferred (pending funding) to the Federal Health Office in Berlin. He also reported that several thousand strains collected at Würzburg have been transported to the Institut Pasteur, Paris.

Minute 8. Listerial hemolysins. Professor Seeliger pointed out the need for standardization of the nomenclature used to describe hemolysis produced by Listeria species.

Minute 9. Serological variants of L. monocytogenes. Dr. McLauchlin reported that a variant of serovar 4b (designated serovar 4bX) had been recognized in Britain. A representative strain of this serovar may be obtained from the National Collection of Type Cultures, Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, Colindale, London NW9 5HT, United Kingdom.

Minute 10. Status of Listeria species. Dr. Ralovich made a case for the reclassification of L. innocua, L. seeligeri, and L. welshimeri within the species L. monocytogenes; Listeria ivanovii, L. grayi, and L. murrayi are to remain distinct species. Following wide-ranging discussion, it was generally agreed that the reclassification could not be justified but that more studies are required in this area.

Minute 11. W.H.O. Reference Centre. Dr. Rocourt reported that the W.H.O. Reference centre for Listeriosis has been set up in J. S. Bille’s laboratory in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Minute 12. Date of next meeting. The next meeting of the subcommittee will take place during ISOPOL XI in Copenhagen, Denmark, 11 to 14 May 1992. The meeting was adjourned at 1630 h.

Open Meeting, 19 September 1990.

The meeting was cancelled due to the impending arrival of a typhoon.

Dorothy Jones, Secretary
H. P. R. Seeliger, Chairman