



# International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes

ICSP-EB Meeting June 23<sup>th</sup> 2022

## Redacted Minutes

**Chair:**

I. C. SUTCLIFFE  
Northumbria University  
U.K.

**Vice-Chair:**

E. R. B. MOORE  
University of Gothenburg  
Sweden

**Executive Secretary:**

A. OREN  
Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Israel

**Secretary for Subcommittees:**

S. L. W. ON  
Lincoln University  
New Zealand

**Treasurer:**

P. NIELSEN  
Novozymes, Copenhagen  
Denmark

**Members at Large:**

R. HAHNKE  
Leibniz Institute DSMZ  
Germany

Y. SHOUCHE  
National Centre for Microbial  
Resource  
India

**Members of the Judicial  
Committee**

**Chair:**

D.R. ARAHAL  
University of Valencia  
Spain

**Vice-Chair:**

R. ROSSELLÓ-MÓRA  
Mediterranean Institute for  
Advanced Studies  
Illes Balears Spain

**Secretary:**

M. GÖKER  
Leibniz Institute DSMZ  
Germany

### Minute 1. Call to order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9.00 a.m. UK time.

### Minute 2. Record of attendance

The following members of the Executive Board participated: I.C. Sutcliffe (Chair), E.R.B. Moore (Vice-Chair), A. Oren (Executive Secretary), P. Nielsen (Treasurer), S.L.W. On (Secretary Subcommittees), R. Hahnke (Member-at-Large), and D.R. Arahal (Chair JC). Apologies were received from Y. Shouche (Member-at-Large), R. Rosselló-Móra (Vice-Chair JC) and M. Göker (Secretary JC).

### Minute 3. Minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022 meeting of the Executive Board

The draft minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022 meeting were approved. A. Oren will distribute the minutes to the members of the ICSP, the Judicial Commission, and chairs of the Subcommittees on Taxonomy, and he will send a copy to E.R.B. Moore to be posted on the ICSP website.

### Minute 4. Matters arising/Action points from previous meetings

- A. Oren has forwarded the minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022 meeting to all members of the ICSP, the Judicial Commission and the chairs of the Subcommittees on Taxonomy.

- I.C. Sutcliffe has contacted Sue Jones, editor of Nature Microbiology, once more to confirm our right to respond to the article by Praveen Rahi. The paper has been accepted for publication and the corrected page proofs returned to the publisher.

- I.C. Sutcliffe has prepared a position paper proposing ways to expand the membership of the ICSP, pending emendation of our statutes and approval by IUMS. The document was circulated to the members of the Executive Board to be discussed at a future meeting.

- On 21<sup>st</sup> May, A. Oren submitted a manuscript to mBio to respond to the Opinion by Panda et al. Reviewers' comments were received, and the revision is ready to be submitted.

- I.C. Sutcliffe has not yet explored options for an online meeting of the ICSP members in the second half of this year. Ongoing.

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- I.C. Sutcliffe has thanked Gilbert Greub for his kind offer for a delegate of the ICSP to participate and present a talk at the International Intracellular Bacteria meeting in Lausanne in August, and notified him that we declined his invitation.
- S.L.W. On has sent the lists of taxa received from the subcommittees on taxonomy to E.R.B. Moore to be posted on the ICSP website. He did not yet send the lists to M. Göker to be included in LPSN. Ongoing.
- S.L.W. On has not yet contacted E.R.B. Moore about the updating of the list of Subcommittees on Taxonomy on the ICSP website, notifying him which inactive subcommittees to delete. Ongoing.
- S.L.W. On has not yet explored the possibility of organizing an online meeting of the chairs and secretaries of all subcommittees on taxonomy. Ongoing.
- A. Oren and I.C. Sutcliffe have sent reminders on 1<sup>st</sup> June and 15<sup>th</sup> June to those ICSP members who had not yet returned the ballot form to vote on the revision of the ICNP. Out of the 28 voting members of the ICSP, 17 have now returned the ballot. I.C. Sutcliffe will send new personalized reminders a few days before the ballot closes.
- E.R.B. Moore did not yet submit an invoice for expenses made in 2021 for maintenance of the ICSP website to P. Nielsen for reimbursement. Ongoing.
- Y. Shouche has forwarded the document he prepared on the status of type strain accessibility in different countries to E.R.B. Moore and to A. Oren.

## **Minute 5. Validation of effectively published names by Russian scientists**

A request for validation of a name effectively published outside the IJSEM was submitted in May by a Russian author. Because of the embargo against Russia-based scientists implemented by the Microbiology Society (<https://microbiologysociety.org/news/society-news/a-statement-from-council.html>), the IJSEM editorial office did not forward the request to the list editors. The author then sent the material to list editor A. Oren with the request to place the new name on a validation list. The Executive Board discussed how the list editors should deal with this request. The board voted on the question whether requests from Russia-based scientists to validate names should be embargoed, consistent with the policy on manuscript handling. Of the voting members present, three agreed that such requests should not be handled and three abstained. A. Oren will notify the author that the request must be denied until further notice.

## **Minute 6. Launching the ICSP Twitter account and relaunching discussions on Slack**

I.C. Sutcliffe reported that the Twitter account of the ICSP is now active ([https://twitter.com/ICSP\\_news](https://twitter.com/ICSP_news)). The Executive Board thanks Maria Chuvochina for her efforts. The Slack channel will be opened again in the beginning of July to involve the public in the continued discussions on further future emendations of the ICNP.

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## **Minute 7. Participation of a delegate of the ICSP in the Taxonomy Group of Catalogue of Life**

In the past months, A. Oren has participated in the monthly meetings of the Taxonomy Group of Catalogue of Life (CoL). The group will hold a special meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> June. As A. Oren is unable to attend, M. Göker agreed to be his substitute. A. Oren will notify CoL and request the organizers of the event to invite M. Göker. After that meeting, we may discuss who can best represent the ICSP in CoL in the regular meetings that take place on the first Wednesday of each month.

## **Minute 8. Update on Subcommittees**

S.L.W. On reported that the Mollicutes subcommittee has sent the requested list of taxa dealt with by the subcommittee.

The minutes of the videoconference meeting of the subcommittee on the taxonomy of Rhizobia and Agrobacteria (5 July 2021, followed by online discussion until 31 December 2021) were published in the IJSEM on 13<sup>th</sup> June (<https://doi.org/10.1099/ijsem.0.00545>).

A. Oren reported that the minutes of the closed meeting of the subcommittee on the Taxonomy of *Halobacteria* held on 12<sup>th</sup> May were accepted for publication, and that a joint open meeting of that subcommittee with the subcommittee on the taxonomy of *Halomonadaceae* will be held in Alicante, Spain on 28<sup>th</sup> June.

S.L.W. On intends to remind the chairs of the subcommittees on taxonomy that the proposed minimal standards for description of new taxa for many groups may need updating.

## **Minute 9. Report from the Judicial Commission**

The minutes of the JC meeting held on 3 March 2022 were published in the May issue of the IJSEM (<https://doi.org/10.1099/ijsem.0.005395>).

D.R. Arahal reported that the paper with Opinions 112-122 was accepted for publication in the IJSEM, and that the JC will convene online on 27<sup>th</sup> July to discuss Opinions 123-127.

The JC intends to prepare a paper with guidelines for future authors of Request for an Opinion papers.

The Executive Board discussed a query from I.C. Sutcliffe whether we should post summaries of the votes by the ICSP members for endorsement of each opinion. There was a consensus that this is not necessary.

## **Minute 10. Update from the Publications Committee**

I.C. Sutcliffe reported that at the end of May, Gaynor Redvers-Mutton of the Microbiology Society has sent the agreed version of the publishing agreement to the IUMS for approval. No reply was yet received. I.C. Sutcliffe will contact G. Revers-Mutton again to check whether progress has been made.

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## **Minute 11. Update from the IJSEM**

There was nothing to report.

## **Minute 12. Update from the editor-in-chief of the ICNP**

Thus far, 17 members of the ICSP have completed the ballot to vote on the new revision of the ICNP. In the coming days I.C. Sutcliffe will send personalized reminders to those voting members who have not yet returned the ballot.

After the ballot closes at the end of June, the tellers will count the votes, and a summary will be included in the minutes of the upcoming meeting of the Executive Board and posted online. The Editorial Board of the ICNP will then prepare the new revision for typesetting, finalize the preface, and finalize the proposals for further emendation of the ICNP.

S.L.W. On noted that, while completing the ballot form, he detected a small number of minor errors that may need to be corrected before the new revision of the ICNP is finalized. A. Oren requested S.L.W. On to send the list of problems detected. The Editorial Board will then discuss how to act.

## **Minute 13. Update from the treasurer**

There was nothing to report.

## **Minute 14. Update from the working group on type strain accessibility**

There was nothing to report.

## **Minute 15. Update from the working group on Education & Outreach**

Except for the launching of the ICSP Twitter account (see Minute 6), there was nothing to report.

## **Minute 16. Other business**

There was no other business.

Date of next meeting: **28<sup>th</sup> July 2022, 9 am UK time**

Adjourned at 10.55

Minutes prepared by A. Oren – 23<sup>th</sup> June 2022

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## Action points

- A. Oren, to forward the redacted minutes of the 19<sup>st</sup> May 2022 meeting to all members of the ICSP, the Judicial Commission and the chairs of the Subcommittees on Taxonomy.
- E.R.B. Moore, to post the minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> April and 19<sup>th</sup> May meetings of the Executive Board and the lists of taxa received from the subcommittees on taxonomy on the ICSP website
- A. Oren, to finalize and submit the revised manuscript to mBio to respond to the Opinion by Panda et al.
- I.C. Sutcliffe, to explore options for an online meeting of the ICSP members in the second half of this year.
- S.L.W. On, to send the lists of taxa received from the subcommittees on taxonomy to M. Göker to be included in LPSN.
- S.L.W. On, to contact E.R.B. Moore about the updating of the list of Subcommittees on Taxonomy on the ICSP website, notifying him which inactive subcommittees to delete.
- S.L.W. On, to explore the possibility of organizing an online meeting of the chairs and secretaries of all subcommittees on taxonomy.
- I.C. Sutcliffe, to send a last reminder to those ICSP members who have not yet returned the ballot form to vote on the revision of the ICNP.
- I.C. Sutcliffe, to reopen the Slack channel in the beginning of July to involve the public in continued discussions on further future emendations of the ICNP.
- E.R.B. Moore, to submit an invoice for expenses made in 2021 for maintenance of the ICSP website to P. Nielsen for reimbursement.
- A. Oren, to notify the Russian author of the validation request mentioned in Minute 5 that the list editors cannot approve the request because of the embargo on Russia-based scientists by the Microbiology Society.
- A. Oren, to notify D. Hobern of Catalogue of Life that M. Göker has agreed to be his substitute at the special meeting of the Taxonomy Group that will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> June.
- I.C. Sutcliffe, to check with G. Redvers-Mutton of the Microbiology Society whether the IUMS has reacted to the last version of the publishing agreement sent at the end of May.
- S.L.W. On, to send to A. Oren a list of minor errors in the ballot on the proposed revision of the ICNP that may need to be corrected.