



Minutes of the 17th Meeting of the Asian Consortium for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Microbial Resources (ACM17)

17th Asian Consortium for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Microbial Resources (ACM17) themed “DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION: Roles for Biological Resource Centers under COVID-19 pandemic”, organized by three of the ACM members, Biological Resource Center, National Institute of Technology and Evaluation (NBRC), Japan Collection of Microorganisms (JCM), and National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan (NIES), was held online on September 9, 2020.

Date: September 9 (Wednesday), 2020

Venue of the Meeting: Online via ZOOM

Meeting Homepage: <https://www.jsmrs.jp/ACM17/>

Participants:

Total of 22 organizations from 11 countries and regions participated

- NBRC/Japan
- BCRC/FIRDI/Chinese Taipei
- ERDB/DENR/The Philippines
- LIPI/Indonesia
- MAS-IB/Mongolia
- IMCAS/China
- IBRC/Iran
- JCM/RIKEN BRC/Japan
- KACC/Korea
- KCTC/KRIBB/Korea
- MARDI/Malaysia
- MCC/India
- UNiCC/Malaysia



- MCC-NIES/Japan
- MTCC/IMTECH/CSIR/India
- NSRI/UPD/The Philippines
- TISTR/Thailand
- TBRC/BIOTEC/NSTDA/Thailand
- PNCM/BIOTECH/The Philippines
- USTCMS/The Philippines
- ICAR-NBAIM/India (Applicant)
- UNJCC/Indonesia (Applicant)

Special Speakers:

- Dr. Ipek Kurtböke, President, World Federation for Culture Collections (WFCC), Australia
- Mr. Kazuyuki Suwabe, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan
- Dr. Hiroshi Mori, National Institute of Genetics, Japan
- Mr. Hiroyuki Kubo, National Institute of Technology and Evaluation, Japan

Program summary

17th Meeting of the Asian Consortium for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Microbial Resources (ACM17)

1. Opening Remarks
2. Plenary Seminar
3. General Assembly
4. Member Report
5. Taskforce Report
6. Closing Remarks

● Opening Remarks

The 17th Asian Consortium for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Microbial Resources (ACM17) were opened with opening remarks made by Prof. Takashi Tatsumi, President, National Institute of Technology and Evaluation (NITE).



- **Plenary session**

1. Dr. Ipek Kurtböke: Managing Culture Collections in COVID-19 Era: The catalyst role of the WFCC
2. Mr. Kazuyuki Suwabe: Bioeconomy strategy of Japan
3. Dr. Hiroshi Mori: MicrobeDB.jp: integration of microbial data from microbiome point of view
4. Mr. Hiroyuki Kubo: Data and Biological Resource Platform (DBRP)

- **General Assembly**

The chair and vice-chair of this section were Dr. Shinichiro Kato and Dr. Chatrudee Suwannachart. In general assembly, reports and discussions were made regarding the following agenda; (1) Adoption of 16th ACM Minutes, (2) Adoption of New Members, (3) AOB, and (4) Announcement of ACM18 (2021).

Prior to the General Assembly, Secretary General of the ACM Secretariat Dr. Shinichiro Kato gave the opening remarks. In addition, Dr. Manabu Suto announced that an email-based GA will be held after the online meeting.

Agenda 1: Adoption of 16th ACM Minutes

Dr. Manabu Suto reported the minutes of 16th Asian Consortium (ACM16) hosted by Microbial Culture Collection Unit (UNiCC), Universiti Putra Malaysia at the Institute of Bioscience, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Selangor, Malaysia on 23-25 July 2019.

All participants confirmed the contents and adopted the minutes.

Agenda 2: Adoption of New Members

Dr. Anil Kumar Saxena (Director of ICAR-NBAIM) from National Agriculturally Important Microbial Culture Collection (NAIMCC) of India and Dr. Dalia Sukmawati from Universitas Negeri Jakarta Culture Collection (UNJCC) of Indonesia made presentations as applicants for ACM membership, and its acceptance was deliberated. No comments were given on their acceptance and the discussion will be continued in the email-based General Assembly.

Agenda 3: AOB

No matters of other business were declared.



Agenda 4: Announcement of ACM 18 (2021)

It was announced by Dr. Chatrudee Suwannachart, TISTR that the next ACM annual meeting ACM18 would be held in Thailand from July 20-22 and hosted by the Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR), Thailand. The venue is located in Bangkok but will depend on the situation of COVID-19.

● **Members Report**

Member reports were presented on annual activities and their achievement from 10 member organizations. The presenters were listed as follows.

1. Dr. Man Cai, IMCAS/China
2. Dr. Moriya Ohkuma, JCM/Japan
3. Dr. Seung-Beom Hong, KACC/Korea
4. Dr. Song-Gun Kim, KCTC/Korea
5. Dr. Atit Kanti, LIPI/Indonesia
6. Dr. Suresh Korpole, MTCC/India
7. Dr. Moriyuki Hamada, NBRC/Japan
8. Dr. Masanobu Kawachi, NIES/Japan
9. Ms. Suwanee Chunhametha, TBRC/Thailand
10. Dr. Kanungnid Busarakam, TISTR/Thailand

● **ACM Task Force Meeting**

Annual activity of four task forces was presented as follows.

1. Asian BRC Network (ABRCN-TF)

Dr. Juncai Ma reported the activities of ABRCN-TF and WDCM sequencing project. He also introduced the new facility National Microbiology Data Center (NMDC) in IMCAS.

2. Human Resource Development (HRD-TF)

Dr. Song-Gun Kim reported on HRD activities of its members: NBRC, UNiCC, and KCTC which took place in 2019/2020.

3. BRC Standardization (BRCS-TF)



Dr. Hiroko Kawasaki reported on current activities, expected outputs, and the schedule until 2022. She also shared the tentative checklist for ACM implementation guidance that helps to prepare the required documents based on the ISO 20387 chapter 7. A plan of a webinar for ACM members with a focus on BRC standardization has been announced.

4. Management of Material Transfer (MMT-TF)

Dr. Jung-Sook Lee summarized MMT-TF activities from 2006-2020 and reported the plan for MMT on the development of the model of contractual clauses of MAT/MTA. She also shared a few contractual clauses which are currently available and called for new members to join the activity. Lastly, Dr. Linhuan Wu introduced the discussion of DSI on genetic resources and the efforts in WDCM.

● Closing Remarks

The ACM17 was closed with closing remarks made by Dr. Moriya Ohkuma from JCM. He expressed gratitude to all the participants and guest speakers, and concluded with hopes to meet face-to-face in Thailand next year.



- APPENDIX Schedule of the 17th Asian Consortium for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Microbial Resources (ACM17)

“DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION:

Roles for Biological Resource Centers under COVID-19 pandemic”

13:00-13:05	Opening Remarks by Prof. Takashi TATSUMI (NITE)
Session 1: Plenary Seminar (chaired by Dr. KATO Shinichiro (NITE)) “DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION: Roles for Biological Resource Centers under COVID-19 pandemic”	
13:05-13:20	Managing Culture Collections in COVID-19 Era: The catalyst role of the WFCC. Prof. Ipek KURTBOKE (World Federation for Culture Collections)
13:20-13:35	Bioeconomy strategy of Japan Mr. SUWABE Kazuyuki (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, JAPAN)
13:35-13:50	MicrobeDB.jp: integration of microbial data from microbiome point of view Dr. MORI Hiroshi (National Institute of Genetics)
13:50-14:05	Data and Biological Resource Platform (DBRP) Mr. KUBO Hiroyuki (National Institute of Technology and Evaluation)
14:05-14:15	Discussion
Intermission (15 min.)	
Session 2: General Assembly	
14:30-15:00 (30 min.)	1. Adoption of 16th ACM Minutes (5 min.) 2. Adoption of New Member (15 min.) 3. AOB (5 min.) 4. Announcement of ACM18 (5 min.)
Intermission (5 min.)	
Session 3: Member Report	
15:05-15:55 (5 min. each)	1. IMCAS, China 2. JCM, Japan 3. KACC, Korea 4. KCTC, Korea 5. LIPI, Indonesia 6. MTCC, India 7. NBRC, Japan 8. NIES, Japan 9. TBRC, Thailand 10. TISTR, Thailand
15:55-16:10	Discussion



(15 min.)	
Intermission (5 min.)	
Session 4: Taskforce Report	
16:15-16:35 (5 min. each)	1. Asian BRC Network (ABRCN) 2. Human Resource Development (HRD) 3. Management of Material Transfer (MMT) 4. BRC Standardization (BRCS)
16:35-16:50 (15 min.)	Discussion
16:50-16:55 (5 min.)	Closing Remarks by Dr. Moriya OHKUMA (JCM)