



## **Minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Asian Consortium for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Microbial Resources (ACM18)**

**The 18th Meeting of the Asian Consortium for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Microbial Resources (ACM18)** was organized by one of the ACM members, TISTR Culture Collection, Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR), Thailand on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021 via Zoom Meeting due to COVID-19 situation.

**Date:** Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**Venue of the meeting:** Online meeting via Zoom

**Participants:** Total of 89 attendees, 19 organizations from 11 countries and region participated in ACM18 Meeting as follows:

1. NBRC/Japan
2. BCRC/FIRDI/Chinese Taipei
3. ERDB/DENR/The Philippines
4. LIPI/Indonesia
5. MAS-IB/Mongolia
6. IMBT/Vietnam
7. IMCAS/China
8. KACC/Korea
9. KCTC/KRIBB/Korea
10. MARDI/ Malaysia
11. NIES/Japan
12. UNiCC/Malaysia
13. MTCC/IMTECH/CSIR/India
14. TISTR/Thailand
15. TBRC/BIOTEC/NSTDA/Thailand
16. PNCM/BIOTECH/The Philippines
17. USTCMS/The Philippines
18. ICAR-NBAIM/India
19. UNJCC/Indonesia



### **Keynote Speakers:**

- Prof. Dr. Ipek Kurtböke, President, World Federation for Culture Collections (WFCC), Australia
- Prof. Dr. Somboon Tanasupawat, Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand

### **Program Summary:**

- Opening Remarks
- Plenary Session
- General Assembly
- Member Reports
- Taskforce Presentation
- Closing Remarks

### **Minutes of Meeting:**

- **Opening Remarks**

The 18th Meeting of the Asian Consortium for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Microbial Resources (ACM18) was opened with the opening remarks by Dr. Chutima Eamchotchawalit, Governor of Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR).

- **Plenary Session**

1. Prof. Dr. Ipek Kurtböke: The key role of culture collections when mankind faces climate change, pollution and emerging infectious diseases
2. Prof. Dr. Somboon Tanasupawat: Polyphasic taxonomy of *Sporolactobacillus* and *Terrilactibacillus* strains from tree bark and soil

- **General Assembly**

The Chair of this section was Dr. Chatrudee Suwannachart. In General Assembly, discussion was made regarding the following agenda: 1) Adoption of 17th ACM Minutes, 2) Candidate for the next ACM Secretariat, 3) Host for the ACM 19, 2022 & ACM 20, 2023, and 4) AOB.



Prior to the General Assembly, Dr. KATO Shinichiro, Director-General of Biological Resource Center, National Institute of Technology and Evaluation (NBRC) and Secretary General of the ACM Secretariat, delivered the opening remarks.

#### Agenda 1: Adoption of 17th ACM Minutes

The minutes of ACM17 online meeting co-hosted by Biological Resource Center, National Institute of Technology and Evaluation (NBRC), Japan Collection of Microorganisms (JCM), and National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020, was sent to all members by the Secretariat for amendment. All members agreed on the contents and adopted the minutes.

#### Agenda 2: Candidate for the next ACM Secretariat

Dr. Chatrudee Suwannachart reported the term of ACM Secretariat will be expired at the end of ACM18 meeting. NBRC volunteered for the next ACM Secretariat. All participants adopted the new ACM Secretariat.

#### Agenda 3: Host for the ACM19 (2022) & ACM20 (2023)

The Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IMCAS), China will be the host for the ACM19 in 2022, and was approved by members.

Date: October 2022

Venue: IMCAS, Beijing, China (Toward a face-to-face ACM meeting)

Regarding the host for ACM20 in 2023, the Secretariat is open for the proposal. If any member is interested in being the host for ACM20 in 2023, please contact the Secretariat via an email: [acm\\_desk@nite.go.jp](mailto:acm_desk@nite.go.jp).

#### Agenda 4: AOB

No matters of other businesses were declared.

#### • **Member Reports**

Member reports were presented on annual activities and their achievements from 12 member organizations. The presenters were listed as follows:

1. Dr. Sung Yuan Hsieh, BCRC/FIRDI/Chinese Taipei



2. Dr. Man Cai, CGMCC/China
3. Dr. Marjangul Nuramkhaan, IB-MAS/ Mongolia
4. Dr. Danang Ambar Prabowo, InaCC/LIPI/Indonesia
5. Dr. Saung Beom Hong, KACC/ Republic of Korea
6. Dr. Song Gun Kim, KCTC/ Republic of Korea
7. Dr. Pawan Kumar Sharma, NAIMCC/NBAIM/India
8. Dr. Hamada Moriyuki, NBRC/Japan
9. Ms. Suwanee Chunhametha, TBRC/Thailand
10. Dr. Chatrudee Suwannachart, TISTR/Thailand
11. Dr. Zunita Zakaria, UniCC/Malaysia
12. Dr. Dalia Sukmawat, UNJCC/ Indonesia

- **Taskforce Presentation**

Annual activities of five taskforces were presented as follows:

### **1. Asian BRC Network (ABRCN)**

Dr. Somsak Likhitrattanasrisakul from TBRC, BIOTEC, NSTDA representing Dr. Juncai Ma and Dr. Supawadee Ingsriswang, reported on the short summary of the highlighted achievements which were the ACM Catalogue of Strains, WDCM 10K Type Strain Sequencing Project, and ASEAN Microbial Database (AmiBase). He also introduced the future work plan of ABRCN, which included the encouragement of Asian culture collections to join the collaboration networks and the promotion of data sharing in Asian collaborative projects and workshops on Asian microbial diversity, microbiome, and microbial utilization – MekongDNA and SubwayDNA.

### **2. BRC Standardization (BRCS)**

Dr. Hiroko Kawasaki reported on the activities, expected outputs, and schedule of the BRCS-TF. There will be a tentative TF member meeting, which will be held online in September 2021. Moreover, some of the TF members attended the TC276/WG2 conferences and several online meeting for ISO standardization. Dr. Hiroko Kawasaki also updated on the implementation of the ISO20387, ISO21899, and ISO21710. The current ISO24088: a biobank specification for bacteria and archaea was under development.



Dr. Lily Eurwilaichitr delivered the presentation on an international webinar: The 1<sup>st</sup> ACM BRC-Standardization Forum under the theme “Understanding ISO Standards for Microbial Resource Centres”, which was held on 1 December 2020 at NSTDA, Thailand with the support of ISO experts – Dr. Hiroki NAKAE, Director-General and R&D Director of Japan Bio Measurement & Analysis Consortium (JMAC), Japan and Prof. Dr. Zunita Zakaria, Director of the Institute of Bioscience, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Malaysia.

### **3. Human Resource Development (HRD)**

Dr. Kim Song Gun reported on the HRD activities in 2020 of the members: UNiCC, TBRC, NBRC, and KCTC as followings:

#### **UNiCC, UPM, Malaysia**

1. Workshop on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing – 25-26 August 2020
2. Webinar Series 1: Microbial Science in the Post Pandemic Era under the theme “Opportunities and Challenges for Microbial Culture Collection” – 5 April 2021

#### **TBRC, BIOTEC, NSTDA, Thailand**

1. AnMicro Training Course: Equip phylogenetic analysis tools in your research arsenal with AnMicro – TBRC phylogenetic seminar – 25 September 2020
2. ACM BRC-Standardization Forum: Understanding ISO Standards for Microbial Resource Centres – 1 December 2020

#### **NBRC, Japan**

1. MALDI-TOF MS maintenance for domestic food companies – 10 November 2020 and 10 March 2021
2. DBRP: Utilization of microbial information and Standardization of method of microbiome analysis and microbial cocktail for academic microbial researchers, especially university graduate students – 28 May and 5 July 2021

#### **KCTC, Korea**

1. 11 offline workshops with a small group of 5 trainees:
  - Cultivation and Long-term Preservation of Microorganisms
  - Analysis of Cellular Fatty Acid (MIDI)



- Molecular Phylogenetic Analysis
- Protoplast Isolation and Cultivation

2. ACM international training course on microbial taxonomy to be organized in 2022

#### **4. Management of Material Transfer (MMT)**

Dr. Lee Jung Sook summarized the comparison between the MTA articles of the MMT members (TBRC and KCTC) and MTA recommended by the ECCO. It was necessary to compare the MTA of the Microbial Resource Centers (MRCs) among Asian members in the future. She also reported on the Digital Sequence Information (DSI) and the upcoming of the COP15/NP-MOP4 in October 2021. MMT members participated in an online International Workshop Issue of Digital Sequence Information (DSI) in Convention on Biodiversity on 8 December 2020. In addition, Dr. Lee explained the summary of CBD webinar in April 2021 – Policy Options and Proposed Criteria for ABS and DSI.

#### **5. Mutual Aid Association (MAA)**

Dr. Ishida Takahide reported on the ABS activities of NIES – ABS for the previously deposited strains. For the strains of past deposition, many of them were left from ABS prior to Nagoya Protocol. For the strains of new deposition, legislative access in the country of origin was confirmed by collections (when accept deposition). The reasons that NIES considered on the ABS for the previously deposited strains were

- 1) Concern about the lack of ABS confirmation until 2018
- 2) PIC and MAT should be necessary after CBD, not after Nagoya Protocol
- 3) ABS was the third CBD goal and contributed to the conservation of biodiversity
- 4) Some Japanese users needed ABS clearness for the genetic resources in *ex situ* collections

In the NIES collection, there were 300 strains were suspended from distribution. ABS arrangement was preferable before strain distribution. Hence, NIES had two agreements with InaCC and TISTR regarding the strain deposition, provision of user information, and endorsement of strain distribution for scientific purposes. For commercialization, users would need a separate agreement with each country's authority. NIES shall not exchange the strains with other collections and included reciprocal backup in the agreement with TISTR.



There were also countries under negotiation on ABS for the previously deposited strains, which were Lao PDR, Vietnam, and Brazil.

The ABS status of strains collected *in situ* were unknown. It was difficult to have an agreement with government as there was no legislation in such case and if the government applied legislation, PIC would be necessary for distribution. In Mongolia, the agreement was needed as a new law request retroactive permission and ethically good.

- **Closing Remarks**

The 18th Meeting of the Asian Consortium for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Microbial Resources (ACM18) ended with the closing remarks by Mr. Sayan Tanpanich, Deputy Governor of Research and Development Group for Bio-Industries, Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR).

- APPENDIX 1. Program of the 18th Meeting of the Asian Consortium for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Microbial Resources (ACM18)



The Asian Consortium for the  
Conservation and Sustainable  
Use of Microbial Resources

**The 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Asian Consortium for the Conservation and  
Sustainable Use of Microbial Resources (ACM)**

20<sup>th</sup> July 2021 | Online-meeting

Time	Program
11:00-11:15	<b>Opening Remarks by TISTR Governor</b>
11:15-12:00	<b>Plenary Seminar</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Prof. Dr. Ipek Kurtböke: The key role of culture collections when mankind faces climate change, pollution and emerging infectious diseases (25 minutes)</li><li>2. Prof. Dr. Somboon Tanasupawat: Polyphasic taxonomy of <i>Sporolactobacillus</i> and <i>Terrilactibacillus</i> strains from tree bark and soil (20 minutes)</li></ol>
12:00-13:00 <b>ACM Meeting Session 1</b>	<b>General Assembly for ACM 18</b> <p>Agenda for the General Assembly of ACM 18</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Adoption of 17<sup>th</sup> ACM Minutes</li><li>2. Candidate for the next ACM Secretariat</li><li>3. Host for the ACM 19, 2022 &amp; ACM 20, 2023</li><li>4. AOB</li></ol>





Time	Program
<p>13:15-14:15</p> <p><b>ACM Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Session 2</b></p>	<p><b>Member Reports (5 minutes each)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. BCRC/FIRDI/Chinese Taipei, Dr. Sung-Yuan Hsieh</li> <li>2. CGMCC/China, Dr. Man Cai</li> <li>3. IB-MAS/Mongolia, Dr. Marjangul Nuramkhaan</li> <li>4. InaCC/LIPI/Indonesia, Dr. Danang Ambar Prabowo</li> <li>5. KACC/Republic of Korea, Dr. Saung-Beom Hong</li> <li>6. KCTC/Republic of Korea, Dr. Song-Gun Kim</li> <li>7. NAIMCC/NBAIM/India, Dr. Pawan Kumar Sharma</li> <li>8. NBRC/Japan, Dr. Hamada Moriyuki</li> <li>9. TBRC/Thailand, Ms. Suwanee Chunhametha</li> <li>10. TISTR/Thailand, Dr. Chatrudee Suwannachart</li> <li>11. UniCC/Malaysia, Dr. Zunita Zakaria</li> <li>12. UNJCC/Universitas Negeri Jakarta/Indonesia, Dr. Dalia Sukmawati</li> </ol>
<p>14:15-15:15</p> <p><b>ACM Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Session 3</b></p>	<p><b>Taskforce Presentation (15 minutes each)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Asian BRC Network (ABRCN)/Dr. Juncai Ma</li> <li>2. BRC Standardization/Dr. Hiroko Kawasaki</li> <li>3. Human Resource Development/Dr. Kim Song-Gun</li> <li>4. Management of Material Transfer/Dr. Lee Jung-Sook</li> <li>5. Mutual Aid Association/Dr. Ishida Takahide</li> </ol>
<p>15:15-15:30</p>	<p><b>Closing Remarks by Deputy Governor, Research and Development Group for Bio-Industries, TISTR</b></p>