

Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the Asian Consortium for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Microbial Resources (ACM)

Date: 10th -11th October 2011

Meeting Place: Hotel Pan Pacific KLIA, Malaysia

Participants:

Members:

1. Cambodia (1 person)
2. China (4 person),
3. Indonesia (5 persons)
4. Japan (10 persons)
5. Korea (7 persons)
6. Malaysia(10 persons) *Host country
7. Mongolia (1 person)
8. Thailand (4 persons)
9. The Philippines (1 person)
10. Vietnam (2 persons)
11. Myanmar and Laos was absent

Non-members:

1. Brunei (2 persons)
2. Taiwan (1 person)

Agenda

- A. Welcome Remarks
- B. Adoption of the Agenda
- C. Adoption of 7th ACM Minutes of Meeting
- D. Country Reports
- E. Task Force on Asian Biological Resource Center Network (BRC) Network
- F. Task Force on Human Resource (HRD) Development
- G. Task Force on Management of Material Transfer of Biological Resource (MMT)
- H. General Assembly Discussion on the revision of administrative rules of ACM
- I. Host country for ACM9

Minutes

1. Welcome Remarks

Chairman of 8th ACM Meeting, Dr. Mohamad Zabawi Abd. Ghani welcomed the members to Malaysia and to the 8th ACM Meeting. Mr. Junichi Nakagawa was appointed as chairman on 10th October 2011 while Dr. Mohamad Zabawi Abd. Ghani was appointed as chairman on 11th October 2011.

2. Adoption of 7th ACM Minutes of Meeting

Dr. Ken Ichiro Suzuki (NITE) summarized the ACM7 meeting held in Japan which then approved by all members attended.

3. Country Reports

Country reports were presented by the representative person of each of the member countries.

4. Task Force on Asian Biological Resource Center (BRC) Network

Dr. Ken-Ichiro Suzuki, chairperson of BRC Task Force informed that The World Data Centre for Microorganisms (WDCM) will start building a new electronic global catalogue of microorganisms kept by the World Federations for Culture Collections (WFCC) affiliated collections which will be structured in 2 phases. Dr. Philippe Desmeth, President of WFCC had invited ACM to participate in the first pilot phase which will involve 20 to 30 collections as volunteers. The first pilot phase aims to build a robust, reliable and friendly system to disseminate the information related to the WFCC member's holdings. In conjunction with this, Dr. Ken-Ichiro Suzuki informed that a small technical workshop will be held that will establish a Global Catalogue Working Group.

Dr. Ma Juncai informed that The Second Symposium of WDCM will be held in 7 – 8 July 2012 in Beijing, China. The topics of the symposium will include global catalogue, software package and material transfer agreement.

5. Task Force on Human Resource Development (HRD)

Dr. Rosario G. Monsalud, chairperson of HRD Task Force informed that a 5 day training course on “Long-Term Preservation and Management of Microbial Cultures with Agricultural Importance” was held at BIOTEC, Thailand on 23-27 May 2011. This training workshop aims to increase the capability of participants in the proper handling, long-term preservation maintain high quality inoculants. The course content consists of 13 lectures which cover on management, database design, techniques and information on classification, taxonomy, preservation and DNA sequence data processing. Demonstrations on liquid drying and cryopreservation were also conducted.

6. Task Force on Management of Material Transfer of Biological Resource (MMT)

Dr. Tanit Changtavorn, chairperson of MMT Task Force presenting the past, present and future of this task force. He first introduced the establishment of the task force with the aim to develop a practical guide for the management of material transfer. The development of MMT guide throughout the year was explained and the MMT guide is completed when Nagoya Protocol was concluded. Nagoya Protocol was adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on

Biological Diversity at its tenth meeting on 29th October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan. Activities such as awareness raising and capacity building will be conducted in order to provide technical assistance to Parties and to raise Protocol awareness among relevant stakeholders.

Dr. Katsuhiko Ando from NITE gave an introduction to ACM members on Nagoya Protocol access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization. He noted the importance of new exchange system under the framework of Nagoya Protocol that allows the distribution of type strains to the third parties and the distribution is traceable.

7. Discussion of ACM future

Dr. Ken-Ichiro Suzuki was selected as chairperson for the discussion of ACM future. In the previous ACM7, various issues were discussed such as ACM membership, budget for ACM activity and ACM operation mechanism. Following from this discussion, revision of administrative rules of ACM was proposed in ACM8. This proposal suggested 3 different models for administrative structure namely:-

- 1) Establishment of Steering Committee
- 2) Adoption of focal point
- 3) Keeping the rule unchanged (limit the number of ACM member)

The addition of administrative article on focal point was also proposed if it is selected. There are 7 matters in the focal point article namely:

- 1) The focal point shall be selected in each member country and be approved by the General Assembly.
- 2) The primary function of the focal point is to act as liaison with the Secretariat on behalf of members in own country.
- 3) The focal point is the institution designated by the present members in own country
- 4) The focal point shall receive and disseminate information related to ACM activities.
- 5) The focal point shall designate representative(s) and encourage other members to attend/participate in ACM annual meeting.
- 6) The focal point shall respond to the requests, inquires, and message from ACM members and the Secretariat.
- 7) The focal point shall collaborate with focal points in other countries to facilitate implementation of ACM activities.

One additional sub-article was proposed under the membership article stated that the nomination of new member shall be made by the focal point of its own country or secretariat of ACM. All delegates also discussed and agreed to revise the activities of the Consortium which should cover the following:

- (1) Collaboration through the network of biological resource centers;

- (2) Promotion of research and development on microbial resources and their application in industrial and other uses ;
- (3) To enhance public awareness on the Consortium's activities for the conservation and sustainable use of microbial resources;
- (4) Development of human resources
- (5) Exchange of views and information;
- (6) To organize scientific meetings (seminars, workshops, etc);
- (7) Others

Dr. Ma Juncai from Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences suggested that the format of the country report should be designated and that all members presenting on the same topic of interest.

8. Host country for ACM9

The 9th ACM Meeting will be hosted by BIOTEC in Thailand.

9. Others

Seminar on Microbial Conservation and Utilization was held in 10th October 2011 in Hotel Pan Pacific KLIA, Malaysia (Appendix 1).

APPENDIX 1: Programme for the 8TH Annual Meeting of Asian Consortium for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Microbial Resources (ACM8) and Seminar On Microbial Conservation And Utilization

| Date | Time | Matters |
|--|----------------|--|
| 9 Oct. 2011 (Sunday) | - | Arrival |
| 10 Oct. 2011 (Monday) | 8.30 - 9.00 am | Opening ceremony Doa recitation Opening Address by MARDI Director General Datuk Dr. Abd. Shukor Abd. Rahman |
| Seminar On Microbial Conservation And Utilization (Auditorium) Chairman – Dr. Mohd Norowi Abd Hamid | | |
| 9.05 - 9.50 am | | "Biology is a data science, so is microbiology" <i>Professor Sugawara Hideaki</i> |
| 9.50 -10.35 am | | Microbial Resource Centers: Quality Management Issues <i>Dr. Kyung Sook Bae</i> |
| 10.35 -10.50 am | | Coffee Break |
| 10.50 -11.35 am | | How Can ABRCN and WDCM help Asian culture collections <i>Dr. Ma Juncai</i> |
| 11.35 -12.00 am | | Closing Remarks and Photography session |
| ACM Annual Meeting (Boeing 1,2,3 meeting room) Chairman – Mr. Junichi Nakagawa | | |
| 12.00 - 1.00 pm | | Adoption of 7th ACM Minutes of Meeting (Japan) – <i>Dr. Ken-ichiro Suzuki,</i> NITE Biological Resource Centre (NBRC), Japan |
| 1.00 - 2.15 pm | | Lunch |
| Report of countries and regions (Boeing 1,2,3 meeting room) Chairman: Mr. Junichi Nakagawa | | |
| 2.15-2.30 pm | | Cambodia |
| 2.30-2.45 pm | | China |
| 2.45-3.00 pm | | Indonesia |
| 3.00-3.15 pm | | Japan |
| 3.15-3.30 pm | | Korea |
| 3.30-3.45 pm | | Laos |
| 3.45-4.00 pm | | Mongolia |
| 4.00-4.15 pm | | Myanmar |
| 4.15-4.30 pm | | Coffee Break |
| 8.15-10.00 pm | | Welcoming reception |
| 11 Oct 2011 (Tuesday) | | Report of countries and regions (Boeing 1,2,3 meeting room) Chairman: Dr. Mohamad Zabawi b. Abdul Ghani |
| 8.30-8.45 am | | Philippine |

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| 8.45-9.00 am | Thailand |
| 9.00-9.15 am | Vietnam |
| 9.15-9.30 am | Malaysia |
| 9.30-10.00 am | Brunei |
| 10.00-10.15 am | India |
| 10.15-10.30 am | Coffee Break |
| 10.30-10.45 am | Pakistan |
| 10.45-11.00 am | Taiwan |
| Report on Task Forces | |
| 11.00-11.30 am | Biological Information Management (BIM) <i>Dr. Ken-ichiro Suzuki</i> |
| 11.30-12.00pm | Human Resource Development (HRD) <i>Dr. Rosario G. Monsalud</i> |
| 12.00 - 12.30pm | Management on Material Transfer (MMT) <i>Dr. Tanit Changthavorn</i> |
| 12.30 - 2.15pm | Lunch |
| General Assembly <ACM members > | |
| 2.15 - 3.30 pm | General Discussion Chairman: <i>Dr. Ken-ichiro Suzuki</i> Agenda ACM membership rule Host county of ACM9 Other matters |
| General Assembly <Opened meeting> | |
| 3.30 - 4.30 pm | Conclusion Announcement of 9th ACM Meeting |
| Closing remarks | |
| 4.30 – 5.00 pm | Coffee Break |
| 12 Oct 2011 (Wednesday) | Departure |