International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes

Subcommittee on the taxonomy of Halobacteriaceae

Minutes of the meetings, 30 July 2002, Paris, France

Session 1. Closed meeting

Minute 1. Call to order. The closed meeting was held on 30 July 2002, at the Palais des Congrès, Paris, France. The Chairman, Dr A. Ventosa, opened the meeting at 14:30.

Minute 2. Record of attendance. The members present were Drs A. Ventosa (Chairman), A. Oren (Secretary), M. Kamekura, C. D. Litchfield, B. J. Tindall, H. G. Trüper and R. H. Vreeland. Apologies were received from R. R. Colwell, W. D. Grant, L. I. Hochstein, Y. Ma, A. Ramos-Cornemannzana and F. Rodríguez-Valera.

Minute 3. In memoriam Donn Kushner. The subcommittee honoured the memory of Donn J. Kushner, one of the founding members of the subcommittee, who passed away on 15 September 2001.

Minute 4. Approval of agenda. The agenda of the meeting was approved.

Minute 5. Minutes of previous meeting. The minutes of the meetings held in Seville, Spain, 24 September 2001 [Int J Syst Evol Microbiol 52 (2002), 289–290], were approved with a corrigendum as pointed out by J. P. Euzéby: the type strain of Natronobacterium nitratireducens is JCM 10879 and not JCM 10717 as stated.

Minute 6. Confirmation of Y. Ma as member of the subcommittee. Professor Y. Ma (Beijing, China), who was nominated as a new member of the subcommittee at its closed meeting in Seville in 2001, was unanimously accepted as a member.

Minute 7. Resignation of Hans G. Trüper as member of the subcommittee. Hans Trüper expressed the wish to resign from the subcommittee in view of his many other duties, including his functions as Editor-in-Chief of IJSEM and president of EMS. The subcommittee accepted the resignation. The Chairman thanked Professor Trüper for his long and active service as a member.

Minute 8. Nomination of new members. Mike L. Dyall-Smith (Melbourne, Australia) and Helga Stan-Lotter (Salzburg, Austria) were nominated as possible candidate members of the subcommittee. The Secretary will formally invite Drs Dyall-Smith and Stan-Lotter to join the subcommittee at its next meeting.

Minute 9. Current membership. The current membership of the subcommittee is as follows: A. Ventosa (Chairman; Seville, Spain), A. Oren (Secretary; Jerusalem, Israel), R. R. Colwell (Arlington, VA, USA), W. D. Grant (Leicester, UK), L. I. Hochstein (Las Vegas, NV, USA), M. Kamekura (Noda, Japan), C. D. Litchfield (Manassas, VA, USA), Y. Ma (Beijing, China), A. Ramos-Cornemannzana (Granada, Spain), F. Rodríguez-Valera (Alicante, Spain), B. J. Tindall (Braunschweig, Germany) and R. H. Vreeland (West Chester, PA, USA).

Minute 10. Next meeting of the subcommittee. The next meeting of the subcommittee will be held in 2004 in association with the meeting on halophilic micro-organisms to be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Minute 11. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 15:00 on 30 July 2002.

Session 2. Open meeting

Minute 12. Call to order. The open meeting was held on 30 July 2002, at the Palais des Congrès, Paris, France. The Chairman, Dr A. Ventosa, opened the meeting at 15:10.

Minute 13. Record of attendance. The subcommittee members present at the closed meeting also attended the open meeting.

Minute 14. New taxa. An updated list of taxa within the family Halobacteriaceae was distributed. Reports on the following new taxa and reclassification of existing taxa were presented:


with type strain DSM 14522, NCIMB 13803 (presented by A. Oren).

_Haloferax lucentensis_ sp. nov. [M. C. Gutierrez, M. Kamekura, M. L. Holmes, M. L. Dyall-Smith & A. Ventosa, *Extremophiles* (in press)] (the former species _incerta sedis 'Haloferax alicantei'), with type strain JCM 9278, NCIMB 13854, CIP 107410, CECT 5871, CCM 7023 (presented by A. Ventosa).


According to Opinion no. 74 issued by the Judicial Commission, strain NCIMB 13488 may serve as the type strain of _Halorubrum trapanicum_. In reply to a Request for an Opinion by W. D. Grant, A. Oren & A. Ventosa [*Int J Syst Bacteriol* 48 (1998), 1077–1078], in which strain NCIMB 13488 was proposed as neotype of _Halorubrum trapanicum_, the Judicial Commission decided that _Halorubrum trapanicum_ strain NCIMB 13488 will not be the neotype, but since it is derived from Petter’s original isolate, it is a ‘strain on which the original description was based’ (Rule 18c), and may therefore also serve as the type strain of the species.


_Minute 15. Species incerta sedis. Haloferax lucentensis_ (or ‘_Haloferax alicantei’), listed previously as a species _incerta sedis_, has now been effectively published as a new species (see Minute 14). No new information is available on the other species _incerta sedis_ mentioned during the previous meeting of the subcommittee [*Int J Syst Evol Microbiol* 52 (2002), 289–290, Minute 4].