

Minutes of the ICTV Plenary Session
12:45 Wednesday 14 September 2011
Room 207, Sapporo Convention Center, Sapporo, Japan

Chair: Professor Eric Carstens (President of ICTV)

Attendance: 49 people.

The chairman welcomed people to the meeting and expressed the condolences of ICTV to the people of Japan for the tragedy associated with the earthquake and tsunami earlier in the year.

1. Activities of ICTV

The chairman summarised the activities of ICTV in the period 2008-2011 by presenting:

- a) A list of executive committee (EC) members and life members
- b) A list of the EC meetings held
- c) A list of the websites and newsletters associated with ICTV
- d) A list of references to ratification votes on taxonomic proposals that had taken place
- e) A list of organisations who were thanked for their financial support

2. Publication of ICTV Reports

The chairman explained that the Eighth ICTV Report (2005) continued to be available in print format and also online as an e-book. He then introduced Dr. Andrew King (AMQK), the editor-in-chief of the Ninth Report. AMQK thanked all contributors, editors and senior editors and explained their roles. The publishers expected that a printed version of the Ninth Report would be published in October and that an online version would be available later in 2011. The precise format of the online version was still unclear to the editors.

3. Reports of the Subcommittees

Brief reports were presented from each of the six subcommittees summarising progress during 2008-2011 and some issues that were currently being discussed:

- a) Vertebrate Viruses presented by Andrew Davison
- b) Plant Viruses presented by Mike Adams
- c) Prokaryote Viruses presented by David Prangishvili; the subcommittee is also responsible for viruses of Archaea
- d) Invertebrate Viruses presented by Peter Krell
- e) Virus Data Subcommittee presented by Elliot Lefkowitz; this included a survey of the web sites of ICTV, the information that was provided and how taxonomic proposals could be viewed and discussed. The availability of the Master Species List was also explained.
- f) Fungus Viruses presented by Jim Van Etten; the subcommittee is also responsible for viruses of algae and protists

4. Elections to the Executive Committee

Dr. John Mackenzie (Vice-President of ICTV) presented to the meeting a list of Subcommittee (SC) chairs who had been appointed by the EC to serve for the period 2011-2014:

- Andrew Davison, UK (Vertebrate Virus SC) (2nd term)
- Said Ghabrial, USA (Fungal Virus SC) (1st term)
- Peter Krell, Canada (Invertebrate Virus SC) (2nd term)

Rob Lavigne, Belgium (Prokaryote Virus SC) (2nd term)
Elliot Lefkowitz, USA (Virus Database SC) (2nd term)
Hélène Sanfaçon, Canada (Plant Virus SC) (1st term)

Most other positions on the EC were open for election and sufficient nominations had been received to fill each of the positions. No position was contested. The following were then elected by general affirmation:

President: Professor Eric Carstens, Canada (2nd term)

Vice President: Dr. Alexander ('Sasha') Gorbalenya, The Netherlands (1st term)

Meetings Secretary: Dr. Michael ('Mike') Adams, UK (1st term)

Eight elected members:

Dr. Keizo Nagasaki, Japan (2nd term)

Dr. David Prangishvili, France (2nd term)

Dr. Peter Simmonds, UK (1st term)

Dr. Jan Kreuze, Peru (1st term)

Dr. Dennis Bamford, Finland (1st term)

Dr. Nick Knowles, UK (2nd term)

Dr. Stuart G Siddell, UK (2nd term)

Dr. Mya Breitbart, US (1st term)

The two secretaries serve terms of 6 years: Andrew King was continuing to serve as Proposals Secretary and did not need to be elected at this meeting. Retiring EC members were thanked for their contributions.

5. Election of Life Member

Dr. John Mackenzie proposed that Dr Roger Hull, a distinguished plant virologist and Emeritus Fellow, John Innes Centre, Norwich, UK should be elected as a Life Member in recognition of many years' service to virus taxonomy. The motion was seconded by Dr J Van Etten and approved by general affirmation.

6. An ICTV statement regarding the genus *Norovirus*

The chairman displayed a statement prepared by the ICTV encouraging the use of the virus name Norwalk virus rather than the genus name *Norovirus* when referring to the infectious agent. He enlarged on the statement in response to some questions.

The chairman closed the meeting at 13:40.