

Please send the summary report before sep. 12(Friday) to zhangiy@im.ac.cn

Summary Report by Dr. O Myong Gwon

Personal Introduction

My name is O Myong Gwon and I am an Advisor of the Korean Center for Culture Collection, State Academy of Sciences (SAoS), DPR Korea.

I graduated from the University of Sciences, DPRK, and in the university I majored Genetics. After graduation I was employed in the Institute of Microbiology, SAoS, DPRK, and worked in the Bureau of Biological Science and Technology, SAoS, DPRK.

Since 2002, I have been working as a director and then advisor in the Korean Center for Culture Collection, SAoS, DPRK.

Name of my organization

State of Sciences, DPRK, under which Korean Centre for Culture Collection (KCCC) is affiliated as an individual institute.

Abstract

The State Academy of Sciences, DPRK, is a ministry level governmental organization and is a responsible organization for national development of natural science and technology. The SAoS includes more than 100 individual research institutes and branch academies.

Korean Centre for Culture Collection is supported by financing of the State Academy of Sciences, DPRK. The KCCC is in operation as a national facility under the administrative and financial structure of our Government.

The culture collection has been acquiring the status of domestic depository institution because of the existence of the culture collection for the past 45 years since its foundation (founded in the year 1967) and all requirements such as staff, equipment, and storage space are in place.

At present, microbial cultures received for deposit under domestic regulations are preserved by freeze-drying and by other methods of long-term preservation and the cultures are tested for viability periodically.

Key words:

State Academy of Sciences (SAoS), DPRK, Korean Center for Culture Collection (KCCC)

1. Brief introduction of my culture collection

The Korean Center for Culture Collection is affiliated to State Academy of Sciences, DPR Korea.

The KCCC is engaged in phenotypic and chemical taxonomy of bacteria and fungi and also in charge of collection and preservation of cultures of microorganisms in DPRK. Isolation and identification of microorganisms are also carried out at the KCCC.

There are 4 main laboratories which are in charge of collection and preservation of microorganisms, but deal with nonpathogenic microorganisms only.

At present the laboratories of the KCCC have about 3000 strains including 550 strains of bacteria, 550 strains of actinomycets, 700 strains of fungi, 1100 strains of yeasts,

At present, microbial cultures received for deposit under domestic regulations are preserved by freeze-drying and by other methods of long-term preservation and the cultures are tested for viability periodically.

A few microorganisms that can not be freeze-dried are maintained in

active forms like slant cultures. Some of fungi are also maintained under mineral oil.

The KCCC supplies the cultures to academic and research institutes as well as industry.

Scientists in the KCCC are also active in research programs related to microbial diversity and microbial taxonomy.

2. Benefit from the training course.

Firstly, it is very beneficiary for us to fully understand mission and activities of WFCC and WDCM so that possible cooperation and domestic project for improvement of culture collection can be developed.

Secondly, it is very helpful for us improve our understanding of the significance and importance of culture collections and microbiologist for successful implement of CBD and Nagoya protocol.

Thirdly, it is very helpful to fully understand the Database management system and its benefits to CCs.

Fourthly, it is good for representatives from various CCs to make acquaintance and relation with each other for future cooperation.

3. Suggestion on WDCM work

As WDCM is collecting and maintaining all the information on WFCC and individual CCs, and with the ever increasing importance of activities of CCs for CBD and ABS implementation, I suggest that WDCM and WFCC can develop and initiate a world-wide programme of project for capacity building of CCs in the developing countries under the financial support of CBD, UNEP, UNDP or GEF.

Such kind of project can comprise many CCs in the Asian region and this project can be managed by WFCC and mainly by WDCM.

4. Comments or suggestion on the training course

No special comment.

5. Suggestion on further cooperation between WDCM and my collection

I fully understand the activities and support of WDCM for CCs.

I will actively try to register to CCINFO and GCM, further to WDCM for the first step to become a member of WFCC.

And subsequently, I will try to register KCCC as a member of WFCC and for these affairs we would require close cooperation with WDCM.