

1 **Public discussion on a proposed revision of the International Code of**  
2 **Nomenclature of Prokaryotes**

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21 List of abbreviations: ICNP, International Code of Nomenclature of Prokaryotes; ICSP,  
22 International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes; IJSEM, International Journal  
23 of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology.

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26 **Abstract**

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28 The Editorial Board for the International Code of Nomenclature of Prokaryotes  
29 (ICNP) has compiled proposed revisions of the ICNP. As outlined previously (Oren *et*  
30 *al.*, *Int J Syst Evol Microbiol* 2021;71:004598) and to comply with Articles 13(b)(4)  
31 and 4(d) of the statutes of the International Committee on Systematics of

32 Prokaryotes (ICSP), a public discussion of the document will start on July 1, 2021, to  
33 last for six months. Here, we present the procedure for this discussion.

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35 As announced previously [1], the Editorial Board for the International Code of  
36 Nomenclature of Prokaryotes (ICNP) has started the preparation of a new revision of  
37 the ICNP, to replace the current version [2]. Proposals for emendation of the General  
38 Considerations, Principles, Rules, Recommendations and Appendices are now ready,  
39 based on the proposals for emendation published in the IJSEM from 2008 until the  
40 end of 2020.

41 Therefore, the next stage will be a six-month period in which the proposals  
42 can be discussed, based on Article 13(b)(4) of the statutes of the ICSP [3]. To comply  
43 with Article 4(d) of the statutes, the discussion will be public [3]. The discussion will  
44 be opened on July 1, 2021 and will last for six months. All relevant documents  
45 (General Considerations, Principles, Rules, Advisory Notes, and Appendices) have  
46 been posted on the ICSP website (<http://the-icsp.org>), as described previously (1),  
47 and on the Slack platform (<https://slack.com>). Each document tabulates the current  
48 (2008) version of the ICNP text section to be revised [2]; the new version with the  
49 proposed changes clearly marked; comments from the editorial board members; and  
50 references to the requests for emendation on which the proposed changes are  
51 based. Instructions of how to access the documents and the discussion forum on the  
52 Slack platform will be posted on the ICSP website ([www.the-icsp.org](http://www.the-icsp.org)) no later than  
53 July 1. Interested participants who wish to participate in the discussions should  
54 contact Prof Aharon Oren (Editor-in Chief ICNP) and/or Prof Iain Sutcliffe (ICSP Chair;  
55 see Correspondence details) to be registered in the Slack workspace.

56 In the period January 1 - February 28, 2022 the authors of the proposals  
57 compiled in the documentation for discussion will have the opportunity to respond  
58 to the comments (in line with Article 13(b)(4) of the statutes of the ICSP). After the  
59 two-month response period, the Editorial Board for the ICNP will prepare summary  
60 materials for balloting among the full and co-opted members of the ICSP. We expect  
61 to open the ballot on April 1, 2022.

62 A copy of this announcement will be posted on the website of the ICSP,  
63 which will also be used for further technical updates, if necessary.

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69 Conflict of interest – The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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71 Ethical statement – No experiments with humans or animals were carried out.

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#### 74 **References**

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