Draft Document to Establish the International Molecular Biology Network for Asia and the Pacific Rim (Draft Version #3)

(N.B. This draft document is being circulated for your comments and suggestions. It is hoped that a consensus document will evolve from your respective inputs which could be signed at the end of the IMBN meeting to signify its transition from dream to reality.)

Preamble

Recognizing the potential of research and development in molecular biology and genetic engineering to contribute to improvements in human well-being through advances in the biomedical, life and agricultural sciences,

The benefits of cooperation and collaboration amongst scientists and research institutions working in molecular biology and genetic engineering,

And the need for more effective mechanisms for the promotion of such cooperation and collaboration in Asia and the Pacific Rim,

The under-signed scientists have come together to establish the International Molecular Biology Network (IMBN).

Objective of the Network

IMBN is committed to the promotion of scientific and technical exchange amongst scientists and institutions dedicated to molecular biology and genetic engineering research, with particular focus on Asia and the Pacific Rim.

Membership of the Network

There shall be two basic types of membership to IMBN:

- 1. Institutional Membership shall be open to institutions committed to working in partnership to promote the development and application of molecular biology and genetic engineering for the benefit of humankind.
- 2. Individual Membership shall be open to individuals (regardless of geographical origin or institutional affiliation) who support the objectives of the Network.

Governance of the Network

- 1. IMBN shall be governed by an Executive Council to be elected from representatives of member institutions of the network as well as members elected from the rolls of individual members of IMBN.
- 2. The Executive Council shall elect, from among its members, a Chairperson, a Treasurer and a Secretary. All Officers of IMBN shall serve for a term of one year.
- 3. The International Molecular Biology Network shall hold an Executive Council meeting at least once every year.
- 4. The Executive Council shall normally operate by consensus but in the case a vote is taken, each member shall have one vote and a majority shall determine.

Activities of the Network

To fulfill its objective, the Network shall be free to:

- 1. organize scientific and technical activities including meetings, workshops, lectures and symposia.
- 2. publish material in print and electronic media including newsletters, World Wide Web pages, position papers and other such publications.
 - 3. initiate any other activity as deemed appropriate by the Executive Council.

An Organizing Committee has been set up to begin developing and implementing an initial Work Plan for IMBN, to identify potential sources of funding support for the activities of IMBN, and to lay the groundwork for the establishment of the Executive Council.

We call upon national governments, international organizations, industry, foundations and other interested parties, to support the IMBN in its efforts to promote scientific and technical exchange in genetic engineering and molecular biology for the well-being of humankind.

Signed, this day,

June 28, 1997

The International Molecular Biology Network for Asia and the Pacific Rim

I agree with the concept of the International Molecular Biology Network for Asia and the Pacific Rim, and support its establishment.

Signed,

Ken-ichi Arai	Joh-E Ikeda
Chi-Bom Chae	Nancy Ip
Wei-Feng Chen	Ch Cocceler Kiyoshi Kurokawa
Chen-Kung Chou	Louis Lim
Chung-Ming Chung	Jung-Yaw Lin
Benjamin Geiger	Depei Liu Depei Liu
Truf Zu X Zuxun Gong	Nor Muhammad Mahadi

Atsushi Miyajima	Jongbin Yim
Yoshikazu Nakamura	Juj Yrdv Junji Yodoi
Maciej J. Nalecz [On behalf of MCBN/UNESCO, with a hope of future association and collaboration]	Och Jon / Och Joon You
Olus A Oluola Nicos Nicola	Angel Squaon
Gurinder Shahi	
Warren Tate Jate	