

**Memorandum of Understanding
for the international Collaboration
between
WFCC-MIRCEN WORLD DATA CENTER FOR MICROORGANISMS (WDCM)
and
UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA (UPM)**

From 30th September to 1th October, Director of World Data Center for Microorganisms (WDCM) - Dr. Juncai Ma visited Microbial Culture Collection Unit, Institute of Bioscience, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UNiCC), signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Deputy Vice Chancellor of University Putra Malaysia - DatoIr Dr. MohdSalehJaafar. President of WFCC – Dr. Philippe Desmeth and Director of Institute of Bioscience - Dr. Abdul Rahman Oman also attended the event and signed as witness on MoU.

WDCM is subordinate to World Federation of Culture Collection (WFCC) and UNESCO Microbial Resources Centers Network (MIRCEN). It is a vehicle for networking microbial resource centers of various types of microbes. It also serves as an information resource for the customers of the microbial resource centers. Until now, 684 culture collections from 70 countries have registered in WDCM. UPM was established in 1931 which is covering the area of 1200 hectares in Malaysia. UNiCC is subordinate to Institute of Bioscience, UPM. It is in charge of microbial resource preservation and management; also provide strains and related services to the researchers and scientific research institutions.

After the negotiation, the two sides have therefore reached the following understandings:

- Establishment of microbial information management system for Microbial Culture Collection Unit in Institute of Bioscience, University Putra Malaysia, which is one of the important node of WDCM global information network;
- Cooperation on establishment of Malaysia national network of microbial resources;
- Cooperation on publishing UNiCC UPM microbial resources data on WFCC Global Catalogue of microorganisms;
- Exchange of experts and assistance in training of personnel;
- Dissemination of technology and information;
- Development of globally shares data standards of microbial resources under the guideline of World Federation for Culture Collection (WFCC);
- Development of a microbial resources management platform in order to facilitate data management and culture exchange.

After signed MoU, WDCM and UPM held a joint workshop for management of microbial culture collection from 30th September to 3rd October.

Until now, WDCM have signed MoU of establishing global network system with Thailand Institute of Biotechnology, Thailand National Science and Technology Institute and Russia National Culture Collections etc. 52 microbial resource preservation organizations from 25 countries have participated in the WDCM program -Global Catalogue of Microorganisms (GCM) which has collected the information of 270,000 strains from the world so far. WDCM global collaboration program will contribute to the sharing of global microbial resources information, the communication among microbiologists and the sustainable use of global microbial resources as well.



Two parties signed MoU



President of WFCC – Dr. Philippe Desmeth



Director of WDCM – Dr. Juncai Ma



Deputy vice Chancellor of UPM - Datolr Dr. Mohd Saleh Jaafar



Participants