FIRST CIRCULAR

16th International Conference on Culture Collections



ICCC16

13–17

September 2027

Beijing, China

Conference Theme

Microbial Resource Preservation in the AI Era: Conserving Microbial Diversity, Advancing Innovative Utilization, and Strengthening Quality Standards and Global Collaboration

The Organizing Committee cordially invites researchers, culture collection professionals, industry representatives, and other stakeholders from around the world to exchange knowledge and advances in microbial resource preservation and utilization.

Programme

Training workshops — Monday, 13 September 2027: Technical training on multi-omics data analysis, microbial taxonomy and identification, and related topics.

Main conference — 14–17 September 2027 (four days): Opening ceremony, plenary lectures, parallel sessions, poster presentations, an exhibition, technical visits, and social activities.

Organization

Hosts: Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IMCAS); China General Microbiological Culture Collection Center (CGMCC); and World Data Centre for Microorganisms (WDCM).

Held under the guidance of the **World Federation for Culture Collections (WFCC)**.

Conference Chairs: Prof. Wei Qian, Director, IMCAS; and Prof. Nelson Lima, President, WFCC.

Proposed Scientific Topics

01 Preservation and innovative utilization of microbial resources in the AI era

02 Quality management, certification, and accreditation of culture collections

03 Microbial diversity in extreme environments and bioprospecting

04 Preservation and utilization of microbial strains for biomanufacturing and the bioeconomy

05 Pathogenic microorganisms, biosafety, and biosecurity

06 Preservation of plant-, marine-, and forest-associated microorganisms, as well as cell lines, protists, algae, and viruses

07 Digital sequence information, FAIR data, and AI-driven microbial identification

08 Legal frameworks: the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Nagoya Protocol, access and benefit-sharing, and intellectual property rights

09 Networks and partnerships: WDCM, MIRRI-ERIC, ACM, and GBRCN

Scientific topics are provisional.

Participation and Languages

Approximately **500 participants from more than 20 countries** are expected. The working languages will be **Chinese and English**, with simultaneous interpretation between the two languages in all conference sessions. An online participation platform will also be available.

Up to **10 support places**, covering registration fee waivers and accommodation support, will be available to participants from low- and middle-income countries.

Further Information

The second circular will provide details of the call for abstracts, registration fees and deadlines, accommodation reservations, visa information, and other practical arrangements. The conference website will be announced in due course.

ICCC16 Organizing Committee
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