

## Standardization in human cytogenetics

At the *Fourth International Conference on Standardization in Human Cytogenetics*, which was held in Paris in 1971, a Standing Committee consisting of Dr. B. Dutrillaux (France), Dr. HJ. Evans (Scotland), Dr. C.E. Ford (United Kingdom), Dr. J.L. Hamerton, Chairman (Canada), Dr. J. Lindsten (Sweden), and Dr. F.H. Ruddle (USA) was appointed to examine problems relating to standardization in human cytogenetics and to make recommendations thereon between international standardization conferences. It was intended that the Standing Committee should hold office until either the next standardization conference or until the next International Congress of Human Genetics, which is to be held in Mexico City in October, 1976.

During the last four years the Standing Committee has been responsible for publication of the report of the Paris Conference (1971) and a supplement (1975) to that report. In addition, the Standing Committee sponsored a workshop on human cytogenetic registers, held in Edinburgh in April, 1975, and on the recommendation of this workshop, appointed an international advisory committee on cytogenetic registers.

The terms of reference of the Standing Committee call for elections to a new committee no later than the International Congress of Human Genetics in October, 1976, and the possibility of holding the next standardization conference at that time. For these reasons the committee has recently circulated recommendations to the participants of the Paris Conference, which have been approved as follows:

1. That a standardization conference on the lines of the Paris and Chicago Conferences could not be justified in 1976 and, therefore, that no such conference should be held in conjunction with the Fifth International Congress of Human Genetics in Mexico City in October, 1976.

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That a Standing Committee charged with the task of monitoring developments relating to standardization and nomenclature in human cytogenetics should be maintained.

That an open meeting of all interested human cytogeneticists should be held at the Fifth International Congress of Human Genetics in Mexico City in October, 1976. At this meeting a report of the Standing Committee would be received and a new Standing Committee elected. The existing Standing Committee will be acting as a nominating committee and will be preparing a slate of nominations for consideration by the meeting in Mexico City. These nominations will take into account both regional as well as sectional interests to ensure, so far as possible, a fully representative Standing Committee.

Suggestions for nominations should be sent to the Standing Committee, who will prepare a slate from which the new Committee will be elected. The time and place of the Mexico City meeting will be announced later and circulated to those requesting this information.

Nominations and requests for further information should be addressed to:

Dr. John L. Hamerton

Department of Genetics

Health Sciences Children's Centre

685 Bannatyne Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3E 0W1 CANADA