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(127-135) Proposals to add new Provisions and Recommendations to Division III of the International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants related to virtual participation in the Nomenclature Section Special-purpose Committee on Virtual Participation in the Nomenclature Section

Members Special-Purpose Comm

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(000) Proposal to add new provisions in the Division III of the *Shenzhen Code* related to virtual participation in a Nomenclature Section

A Special-purpose Committee on Virtual Participation in a Nomenclature Section was proposed at the XIX International Botanical Congress in Shenzhen, China in 2017 (Wilson 2019). The mandate of this committee is “to investigate the possibility of and mechanisms for virtual participation and voting in the Nomenclature Section of an International Botanical Congress via the Internet.” After discussing the concept of virtual participation and voting we have arrived at various suggestions that are discussed in the report of our committee. We realize that virtual participation in a Nomenclature Section would be a significant change and only can be accepted as a change to the *Code* after it is tried. Thus, we are proposing that a trial be conducted at the next International Botanical Congress in Brazil in 2023. Nevertheless, we are formally proposing additions to Division III of the Code that can be considered at the end of the Nomenclature Section if the trial proves successful.

Add a new provision to DIVISION III part 4 (Nomenclature Section):

(000) Interested parties should be able to observe the Nomenclature Section of an International Botanical Congress remotely on the World Wide Web. The Nomenclature Section should take place in a country and place where broadcasting the Nomenclature Section on the web is possible. The organizers of the Nomenclature Section should make a concerted effort to ensure that this is possible and takes place.

Add new provisions to DIVISION III part 5 (Procedure and Voting at the Nomenclature Section):

(000) Observers without voting rights may need to pay a fee for this service, set at the discretion of the organizers.

(000) Observers with voting rights (electronic voting attendees) should pay fees similar to those that they would pay if they attended in person.

(000) Electronic voting attendees will register their intention to participate some weeks in advance (the number of weeks to be determined by the organizers).

(000) Electronic voting attendees will be able to accumulate Institutional Votes just as in-person attendees.

Add new *Recommendations* to DIVISION III part 5:

New Recommendation x. It is recommended that observers (voting and non-voting) of the Nomenclature Section meet together in order to facilitate discussion.

New Recommendation xx. It is recommended that when a proposal or amendments to a proposal are “made from the floor”, without being published in TAXON beforehand, that voting on them

be delayed (for a number of hours) in order to notify interested persons with voting rights but not present for the whole Nomenclature Section.

New Recommendation xxx. It is recommended that there be some written “Recognition for Participation” given to electronic voting attendees, such as an official letter sent as a PDF file by email by the organizers of the Nomenclature Section.