

IMA COMMISSION ON NEW MINERALS AND MINERAL NAMES (CNMMN)

Annual report to IUGS for the year 2004

The CNMMN has dealt with 68 new mineral proposals this year. Of these 59 have been sent to members for voting. Up until the end of November, voting was completed on 42 proposals, with 41 approved and 1 suspended. Members' voting participation each month is very high, averaging 85% of the 31 members. The submission rate is very similar to last year (2003) when 70 new mineral proposals were handled for the full year.

The list of minerals approved in 2003 has been published by some journals, and is also available from the CNMMN website. Starting in 2004, approved minerals are listed monthly on the CNMMN website. The Commission has now published on its website the IMA list of 3500 minerals approved, discredited and redefined since 1959. Lists of minerals approved over the past few years have also been added to the website.

The Chairman has also been on the trail of 'missing minerals', those approved by the Commission but not yet published according to the '2-year' rule. As a result of his efforts to contact authors, only 6 minerals approved between 1959 and 2001 are likely to remain unpublished.

CNMMN members also voted to approve changes to mineralogical nomenclature involving wagnerite, triplite and zwieselite, with the discreditation of magniotriplite, and a proposal to discredit spodiosite as a mixture. A proposal to rename cesium kupletskite is currently being considered. Decisions by the CNMMN on new amphibole nomenclature will be published in *Canadian Mineralogist* (December 2004) and *American Mineralogist* (March 2005).

Two CNMMN subcommittees are discussing nomenclature of the tourmaline and epidote groups, under the chairmanships of Dr Milan Novak and Dr Thomas Armbruster, respectively. Reports have been promised by the end of 2004. Progress reports of long-running subcommittees on sulfosalts and the pyrochlore group have been submitted recently. A subcommittee on nomenclature in the alunite supergroup, chaired by Peter Bayliss, is also in the early stages of discussion.

The CNMMN has also been engaged in an informal discussion with the CCM on standardisation of the nomenclature of mineral groups. CNMMN members recently agreed that this should proceed, and how this is to be achieved will be explored by both commissions.

The CNMMN held several open meetings at the International Mineralogy and Museums conference in Paris in early September.

Bill Birch

Secretary
21 December 2004