

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE GMO ACT, 1997 HELD ON 04 JULY 2023,

MICROSOFT TEAMS

PRESENT

Dr J Jaftha (Chairperson)
Dr B Ntshabele
Dr M Matlala
Dr A Sigobodhla
Dr M Jugmohan-Naidu
Prof. G Bouwer

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)
Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)
Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)
Department of Health (DoH)
Department of Science and Innovation (DSI)
Chairperson of the Advisory Committee (AC) under the GMO Act, 1997

APOLOGIES

Dr T Makholela
Mr B Durham
Ms T Ndukwana
Ms P Campbell
Ms J Mhlophe
Ms T Masilela

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)
Department of Science and Innovation (DSI)
Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (the dtic)
Department of Health (DoH)
Department of Employment and Labour (DEL)
Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms A Madzivhandila
Ms T Mogapi
Ms P Mampolelo
Ms B Mathebula
Mr S Mokhothu
Ms B Mahlangu
Ms R Ngoepe
Ms N.L. Mkhonza

Department of Health (DoH)
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)
Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)
Department of Science and Innovation (DSI)
Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)
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NO.	SUBJECT	RESOLUTION	FOR ATTENTION
1.	OPENING AND WELCOME	The EC Chairperson welcomed those present at the EC meeting.	EC Chairperson
2.	ATTENDANCE REGISTER AND APOLOGIES	The OoR noted the attendance since this was a virtual meeting.	EC Chairperson
3.	ADDITIONS TO AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA	The agenda was adopted with additions.	All
4.	APPROVAL OF THE RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF 16 MAY 2023	The record of proceedings of 16 May 2023 was approved.	All

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5.	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PROCEEDINGS		
5.1	Corteva's response: Request for local seed production of TC1507xNK603 maize (OoR)	The EC considered Corteva's response and concluded that EC's decision for Corteva's request for local seed production will be communicated to Corteva once the EC has considered Corteva's responses for a request for additional trial sites for TC1507xNK603 maize.	EC
5.2	Appeal lodged in terms of the GMO Act	The EC noted that the Minister's final decision is still outstanding. Once the Minister has made a final decision, the EC Chairperson will inform the EC accordingly and the EC will then have a discussion on a way-forward in line with the Minister's final decision.	EC
6.	Compliance/Non-compliance	a. <u>Inspections</u> The OoR informed the EC that two inspections were conducted. A summary of the inspections conducted was circulated to the EC. b. <u>Annual Reports</u> The OoR informed the EC that two annual reports for trial releases were received and assessed. A summary of the annual report assessment was circulated to the EC.	OoR
7.	APPLICATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY EC (REGISTRAR)		Registrar
	Trial release and import and /or export		
7.1	FHI Clinical SA 23/014: Import and trial release of MTBVAC vaccine	The EC approved the FHI Clinical SA 23/014: Import and trial release application of MTBVAC vaccine subject to approval by SAHPRA.	EC
7.2	FHI Clinical SA 23/015: Import and trial release of CodaVax-RSV vaccine	The EC approved the FHI Clinical SA 23/015: Import and trial release application of CodaVax-RSV vaccine subject to approval by SAHPRA.	EC
7.3	FHI Clinical SA - 23/016: Import and trial release of VIR-1388 (HCMV-HIV) vaccine	The EC approved the FHI Clinical SA 23/016: Import and trial release application of VIR-1388 (HCMV-HIV) vaccine subject to submission of additional information by the applicant and approval by SAHPRA.	EC

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		relevant document regarding the GEF process.	
8.3	Feedback: Symposium of the International Society for Biosafety Research (ISBR2023) (DSI)	(i) Ms Beulla Mathebula from DSI gave feedback to the EC on the Symposium of the International Society for Biosafety Research (ISBR2023) that was held on 30 April to 04 May 2023. Forty-six countries were represented. (ii) The EC noted the feedback.	DSI EC
9.	General		
9.1	African Centre for Biodiversity: Call for EC to review its decision to approve GM wheat	(i) The EC Chairperson informed the EC that the African Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) submitted a request for the Executive Council to review its decision to approve GM wheat for import into South Africa as food, feed and processing. ACB's request was submitted in terms Section 5(2) g of the GMO Act, 1997 and circulated to the EC for consideration in the July 2023 meeting. The EC deliberated and noted that: - Section 5(2) g of the GMO Act, 1997 stipulates that the Council may reconsider any decision taken by it if new and relevant scientific or technological evidence about activities conducted in terms of the GMO Act becomes available. - ACB's submission does not comprise new and relevant scientific or technological evidence regarding the genetically modified wheat event HB4 (IND-ØØ412-7). (ii) The OoR will communicate EC's decision to ACB.	EC Chairperson EC
10.	Date of the next meeting	(iii) The EC noted that the next EC meeting is scheduled for 05 September 2023.	All
12.	Closure	The meeting was concluded at 11:15am.	All

Approved by EC Chairperson
Dr J Jaftha

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Signature

Approved by Registrar
Ms NL Mkhonza

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Signature