

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE GMO ACT, 1997 HELD ON 05 MARCH 2024,

MICROSOFT TEAMS

PRESENT

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

Ms P Campbell
 Ms J Mhlophe

APOLOGIES

Ms T Masilela
 Mr B Durham
 Ms T Ndukwana
 Dr B Nishabele

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms A Madzivhandila
 Ms T Mogapi
 Ms L Mulaudzi
 Ms F Mpikanisi
 Dr T Masehela
 Ms Z Mboweni
 Ms P Mampolelo
 Ms B Mathebula
 Mr S Mokhothu
 Ms B Mahlangu
 Ms R Ngoepe
 Ms N.L. Mkhonza

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
 Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)
 Department of Health (DoH)
 Department of Employment and Labour (DEL)
 Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)
 Department of Science and Innovation (DSI)
 Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (the dtic)
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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 no additions.	All
4.	APPROVAL OF THE RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF 07 NOVEMBER 2023	The record of proceedings of 07 November 2023 was approved with no amendments.	All
5.	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PROCEEDINGS		

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		remain due to the following: South Africa currently only has two GM Canola events approved for food and feed purposes. Thus, there is no environmental safety data available for any GM Canola for the South African environment. This is of particular concern mindful of the risk of gene flow between GM Canola and related wild populations in South Africa. (iii) The OoR will communicate EC's decision to GrainSA.	OoR
6.	Compliance/Non-compliance	a. Inspections The OoR informed the EC that eleven post-planting inspections were conducted. A summary of the inspections conducted was circulated to the EC. b. Annual Reports The OoR informed the EC that eighteen annual reports for trial releases and general 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
	Commodity clearance		
7.1	Bayer - 23/249: Commodity clearance of MON94313xMON89788 soybean	The EC's decision for Bayer - 23/249: Commodity clearance application of MON94313xMON89788 soybean is pending submission of additional information by the applicant.	EC
	General release		
7.2	Zoetis 23/002: General release of Poulvac Procerta HVT-IBD vaccine	The EC approved Zoetis 23/002: General release application of Poulvac Procerta HVT-IBD vaccine subject to approval by the Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act 36 of 1947, and the Animal Diseases Act 35 of 1984.	
7.3	Zoetis 23/003: General release of Poulvac HVT-IBD-ND vaccine	The EC approved Zoetis 23/003: General release application of Poulvac HVT-IBD-ND vaccine subject to approval by the Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act 36 of 1947, and the Animal Diseases Act 35 of 1984.	
	Trial release and import and /or export	None	
	Contained use and import and/or export	None	

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			DFFE to circulate the presentation.	
9.3	Appointment/reappointment of AC members (OoR)	(i)	The OoR reminded the EC that section 10(6) of the GMO Act makes provision for the reappointment of AC members. The OoR informed the EC that the tenure of four AC members will expire on 16 March 2024. A list of members and expertise currently serving at AC was circulated to EC.	
		(ii)	The EC deliberated and concluded as follows: - The four members are recommended for reappointment to the AC. - The OoR will draft a Ministerial submission for the reappointment of the AC members. - The EC will further discuss the AC's expertise, demographics, and succession plan at the next EC meeting.	EC
9.4	Acting Registrar (All)	(i)	The OoR informed the EC that the Registrar will be absent from 11 to 25 March 2024 and Section 8 (3) of the GMO Act makes provision for the EC to designate one of its members as acting Registrar until the registrar resumes his or her functions.	
		(ii)	The EC deliberated and designated the following EC members as acting Registrars: - Dr Julian Jaftha from the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development for the periods 11 to 15 March 2024 and 25 March 2024. - Dr Tsepang Makholela from Department of Forestry Fisheries and the Environment for the period 18 to 22 March 2024.	EC
10.	General	None		
11.	Date of the next meeting		The EC noted that the next EC meeting is scheduled for 14 May 2024.	All
12.	Closure		The meeting was concluded at 12:30am.	All

Approved by EC Chairperson
Dr J Jaftha

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Signature

Approved by Registrar
Ms NL Mkhonza

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Signature