

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE GMO ACT, 1997 HELD ON 05 SEPTEMBER 2023,

MICROSOFT TEAMS

PRESENT

Dr J Jaffha (Chairperson)

Dr B Nishabele

Dr M Matlala

Dr A Sigobodhla

Dr M Jugmohan-Naidu

Prof. G Bouwer

Dr T Makholela

Mr B Durham

Ms P Campbell

Ms J Mhlophe

Ms T Masilela

APOLOGIES

Ms T Ndukwana

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms A Madzivhandila

Ms T Mogapi

Ms L Mulaudzi

Ms F Mpikanisi

Ms Z Mboweri

Mr S Mokhothu

Ms B Mahlangu

Ms R Ngoepe

Ms N.L Mkhonza

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

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)

Department of Science and Innovation (DSI)

Department of Health (DoH)

Department of Employment and Labour (DEL)

Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)

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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 04 JULY 2023	The record of proceedings of 04 July 2023 was approved with amendments.	All
5.	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE		

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	PROCEEDINGS		
5.1	Corteva's response: Request for additional trial sites for TC1507xNK603 maize seed production trial release (OoR)	The EC's decision for Corteva's request for additional trial sites for TC1507xNK603 maize is pending submission of additional information by the applicant.	EC
5.2	Appeal lodged in terms of the GMO Act	(i) The EC Chairperson reminded the EC that the Minister's final decision was communicated to the EC in August 2023. The Minister has upheld the Executive Council's decision communicated in a public notice dated 27 October 2021. (ii) The EC deliberated on the Minister's final decision and possible next steps in addressing this matter.	EC
6.	Compliance/Non-compliance	a. <u>Inspections</u> The OoR informed the EC that 02 harvest, 02 post-harvest and 01 pre-flowering inspections were conducted. b. <u>Annual Reports</u> The OoR informed the EC that 14 annual reports for general releases were received and assessed.	OoR
7.	APPLICATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY EC (REGISTRAR)		Registrar
	Trial release and import and /or export		
7.1	Bayer 23/227: Import and trial release of MON87427 x MON95379 x MIR162 maize	The EC's decision on Bayer 23/227: Import and trial release application of MON87427 x MON95379 x MIR162 maize is pending submission of additional information by the applicant.	EC
7.2	Bayer 23/228: Import and trial release of MON87427 x MON95379 x MIR162 x NK603 maize	The EC's decision on Bayer 23/228: Import and trial release application of MON87427 x MON95379 x MIR162 x NK603 maize is pending submission of additional information by the applicant.	EC
7.3	Bayer 23/231: 2x Import and trial release of MON87751 x MON87701 x MON87708 x MON89788 soybean	The EC's decision on Bayer 23/231: 2x Import and trial release application of MON87751 x MON87701 x MON87708 x MON89788 soybean is pending submission of additional information by the applicant.	EC
	Commodity clearance		
7.4	Corteva - 23/193: Commodity clearance of DP202216 x NK603 x	The EC approved Corteva - 23/193: Commodity clearance application of DP202216 x NK603 x DAS-40278-9 maize	EC

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	DAS-40278-9 maize	(i)		
	General release	None		
	Time extensions, amendments to (existing) permits, import and exports	None		
	Contained use and import and/or export	None		
		None		
	APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED BY EC INAUGUST 2023 (INTERSESSIONAL)			
8.1	CEVA 17/007: General release of Vectormune® HVT AIV poultry vaccine	The EC's decision on CEVA 17/007: General release application of Vectormune® HVT AIV poultry vaccine is pending submission of additional information by the applicant.	EC	
9	Standing matters			
9.1	Regulatory and policy developments (All)	None		
9.2	Cartagena Protocol (All)	(i) The DFFE informed the EC of the following: • A webinar celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety's entry into force will be held on 11 September 2023. • Resumed second part of CBD COP-15, CPB COP-MOP-10 and Nagoya Protocol COP-MOP-4 will be held on 19-20 October 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya. • Global Risk Assessment Workshop will be on 30-31 October 2023 in Montreal, Canada. • First meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Benefit-sharing from the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources will be held on 14-18 November 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland. (ii) The EC noted the feedback.	DFFE	
10.	General		EC	
10.1	UFS' request to the GMO Council	(i) The EC considered UFS request to obtain validated methods or reference material, seed material and sequence information for the following GM	EC Chairperson	

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		(ii)	events: HB4 wheat, HB4 soybean and DP-056113-9 maize. The EC concluded that UFS should be requested to indicate their previous arrangements regarding other approved GM events and be informed that the information they are requesting is confidential.	EC
10.2	Meeting: CEO of Kenyan National Biosafety Authority regarding Kenya's approach to Genome Editing (DSI/EC Chairperson)	(i)	The DSI informed the EC that Biosafety SA in collaboration with CropLife SA, will host a 4 th Sustainable Bio-Innovation Symposium on 28 September 2023, in Pretoria. The keynote speaker will be Dr Mugira, the CEO of the Kenyan National Biosafety Authority.	DSI
		(ii)	The DSI also suggested that the EC meets with Dr Mugira on 29 September 2023 to discuss the Kenyan approach to genome editing.	
		(iii)	The EC deliberated and agreed that they will meet with Dr Mugira on 29 September 2023.	EC
10.3	SANBI's appointment of lead scientist responsible for GMO matters	(i)	The DFFE informed the EC that SANBI has appointed James Rhodes as the lead scientist responsible for GMO matters.	DFFE
		(ii)	The EC noted the appointment by SANBI.	EC
11.	Date of the next meeting		The EC noted that the next EC meeting is scheduled for 07 November 2023.	All
12.	Closure		The meeting was concluded at 11:36am.	All

Approved by EC Chairperson
Dr J Jaffha

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Signature

Approved by Registrar
Ms NL Mkhonza

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Signature