

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE GMO ACT, 1997 HELD ON 07 NOVEMBER 2023,

## MICROSOFT TEAMS

### PRESENT

Dr J Jaffha (Chairperson)

Dr A Sigobodhla

Dr M Jugmohan-Naidu

Prof. G Bouwer

Dr T Makholela

Ms P Campbell

Ms T Masilela

### APOLOGIES

Ms T Ndukwana

Dr B Ntshabele

Mr B Durham

Ms J Mhlophe

Dr M Matlala

### IN ATTENDANCE

Ms A Madzivhandila

Ms T Mogapi

Ms L Mulaudzi

Ms F Mpikanisi

Dr T Masehela

Ms Z Mboweni

Ms B Mathebula

Mr S Mokothu

Ms B Mahlangu

Ms R Ngoepe

Ms N.L Mkhonza

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)

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 Water & Sanitation (DWS)

Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (the dtic)

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)

Department of Science and Innovation (DSI)

Department of Employment and Labour (DEL)

Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)

Department of Health (DoH)

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| NO. | SUBJECT                                     | RESOLUTION                                                                                        | FOR ATTENTION  |
|-----|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1.  | OPENING AND WELCOME                         | The meeting commenced at 08:30am.<br>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 05 | The record of proceedings of 05 September 2023 was approved with no amendments.                   | All            |

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| <b>SEPTEMBER 2023</b> |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |           |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>5.</b>             | <b>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PROCEEDINGS</b>                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |           |
| 5.1                   | Corteve's response: Request for additional trial sites for TC1507xNK603 maize seed production trial release (OoR) | The EC considered Corteve's responses and approved Corteve's request for additional sites for TC1507xNK603 maize seed production trial release.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | EC        |
| 5.2                   | AC/EC workshop (EC Chairperson)                                                                                   | <p>(i) The EC Chairperson reminded the EC that at the September 2023 EC meeting, the EC deliberated on the Minister's final decision and possible next steps. The EC had concluded that an AC/EC workshop will be a first step in addressing this matter.</p> <p>(ii) The EC Chairperson informed the EC that the AC/EC workshop was held on 31 October 2023 and the OoR will circulate a draft report for EC's consideration.</p> | EC        |
| <b>6.</b>             | <b>Compliance/Non-compliance</b>                                                                                  | <p>a. Inspections<br/>The OoR informed the EC that no inspection reports were received in October 2023.</p> <p>b. Annual Reports<br/>The OoR informed the EC that no annual reports were assessed in October 2023.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                             | OoR       |
| <b>7.</b>             | <b>APPLICATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY EC (REGISTRAR)</b>                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Registrar |
|                       | <b>Trial release and import and /or export</b>                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |           |
| 7.1                   | Bayer - 23/230: 2x Import and trial release of maize MON87708 x MON89788 soybean                                  | The EC approved Bayer - 23/230: 2x Import and trial release application of maize MON87708 x MON89788 soybean subject to submission of additional information by the applicant.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | EC        |
|                       | <b>Commodity clearance</b>                                                                                        | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |           |
|                       | <b>General release</b>                                                                                            | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |           |
|                       | <b>Time extensions, amendments to (existing) permits, import and exports</b>                                      | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |           |

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|     | Contained use and import and/or export                                                         | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |    |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 8.  | APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED BY EC IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2023 (INTERSESSIONAL)                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |    |
|     | <u>Trial release and import and/or export</u>                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |    |
| 8.1 | Bayer 23/227: Import and trial release of MON87427 x MON95379 x MIR162 maize                   | The EC considered Bayer's additional information and approved Bayer 23/227: Import and trial release application of MON87427 x MON95379 x MIR162 maize.                                                                                                                                           | EC |
| 8.2 | Bayer 23/228: Import and trial release of MON87427 x MON95379 x MIR162 x NK603 maize           | The EC considered Bayer's additional information and approved Bayer 23/228: Import and trial release application of MON87427 x MON95379 x MIR162 x NK603 maize.                                                                                                                                   | EC |
| 8.3 | Bayer 23/231: 2x Import and trial release of MON87751 x MON87701 x MON87708 x MON89788 soybean | The EC considered Bayer's additional information and approved Bayer 23/231: 2x Import and trial release of MON87751 x MON87701 x MON87708 x MON89788 soybean.                                                                                                                                     | EC |
|     | <u>General release</u>                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |    |
| 8.4 | CEVA 17/007: General release for Vectormune® HVT AIV poultry vaccine                           | The EC considered CEVA's additional information and approved CEVA 17/007: General release application of Vectormune® HVT AIV poultry 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. | EC |
| 8.5 | BASF's response: BASF 22/009-General release of GHB614 x LL Cotton (GLxLL)                     | The EC considered BASF's additional information and approved BASF 22/009-General release application of GHB614 x LL Cotton (GLxLL).                                                                                                                                                               | EC |
| 9   | <u>Standing matters</u>                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |    |
| 9.1 | Regulatory and policy developments (All)                                                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |    |
| 9.2 | Cartagena Protocol (All)                                                                       | (i) The DFFE informed the EC of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An online forum of the Network of Laboratories for the Detection</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                 | EC |

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|  | <p>and Identification of Living Modified Organisms will be held on 17–24 November 2023. Participants must be involved in laboratory-based detection and identification of LMOs and have an understanding of techniques used in molecular biology.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A notification for submission of information related to the detection and identification of living modified organisms in the context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the due date is 24 November 2023.</li> <li>• Fourth joint Aarhus Convention and Convention on Biological Diversity round table on public awareness, education, access to information, public participation, and access to justice regarding living modified organisms/genetically modified organisms, will be held 11 and 12 December 2023, Geneva, Switzerland.</li> <li>• An online discussion of the Open-ended Online Forum on Synthetic Biology will be held on 6 to 15 November 2023. The discussions will consider trends and issues in synthetic biology identified by the multidisciplinary AHTEG.</li> <li>• A notification for submission of information on synthetic biology, the due date is 24 November 2023.</li> <li>• A notification for submission of information on measures in place to provide for financial security for damage from living modified organisms in the context of Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress, the due date is 30 November 2023.</li> <li>• An online Fourth meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on indicators for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework will be held on 4 December 2023.</li> <li>• An online Fifth meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on indicators for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework will be held on 29 January 2024.</li> <li>• Second meeting of the multidisciplinary Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Synthetic Biology to Support the Process for Broad and Regular Horizon Scanning, Monitoring and Assessment will be held on 29 January to 2 February 2024 in Montreal, Canada.</li> <li>• Second meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk</li> </ul> | EC |
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|      |                                       | <p>Assessment will be held on 4–8 March 2024 in Montreal, Canada.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sixth meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework will be held on 12–15 March 2024 in Cambridge, UK.</li> <li>Twenty-sixth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) will be held on 13–18 May 2024 in Nairobi, Kenya. The meeting is expected to consider risk assessment and risk management; Detection and identification of living modified organisms; synthetic biology.</li> <li>Fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI), 21–29 May 2024, Nairobi, Kenya. The meeting expected to consider Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework related agenda items.</li> </ul> <p>(ii) The DFFE also informed the EC that they will prepare letters to respective departments for nomination of officials to form part of the South African delegation for SBSTTA and SBI.</p> <p>(iii) The EC noted the feedback.</p> | EC  |
| 10.  | General                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |     |
| 10.1 | Proposed EC meeting dates for 2024/25 | The EC noted the meeting dates for 2024/25 financial year. The September 2024 meeting date was corrected to the 10 <sup>th</sup> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | EC  |
| 11.  | Date of the next meeting              | The EC noted that the next EC meeting is scheduled for 05 March 2024.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | All |
| 12.  | Closure                               | The meeting was concluded at 09:34am.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | All |

Approved by EC Chairperson  
Dr J Jaffha

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Signature

Approved by Registrar  
Ms NL Mkhonza

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Signature