

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE GMO ACT, 1997 HELD ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2024,

MICROSOFT TEAMS

PRESENT

Dr J Jaftha (Chairperson)
 Dr M Matlala
 Prof. G Bouwer
 Dr T Makholela
 Ms P Campbell
 Ms T Masilela

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)
 Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)
 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)

APOLOGIES

Ms J Mhlophe
 Ms T Ndukwana
 Dr B Ntshabele
 Mr B Durham
 Dr M Jugmohan-Naidu
 Dr A Sigobodhla

Department of Employment and Labour (DEL)
 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 Science and Innovation (DSI)
 Department of Health (DoH)

IN ATTENDANCE

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

Department of Health (DoH)
 Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)
 Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)
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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 meeting was held virtually on MS Teams and the OoR noted the attendance and apologies.	EC Chairperson
3.	ADDITIONS TO AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA	The agenda was adopted with the following addition: (i) Agenda item 7.3: Bayer's request for an additional site for an approved trial release.	All
4.	APPROVAL OF THE RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF 09 JULY 2024	The record of proceedings of 09 July 2024 was approved with no amendments.	All
5.	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PROCEEDINGS		
5.1	Update: Draft questions for legal opinion – NBTs (EC Chairperson)	(i) The EC Chairperson reminded the EC that in July 2024, a meeting was held to discuss the draft questions for requesting a legal opinion. EC's comments were incorporated, and a final version was subsequently	EC Chairperson

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		<p>(ii) submitted to DALRRD's Directorate: Legal Services.</p> <p>(iii) The EC Chairperson informed the EC that feedback from the directorate legal services is still outstanding.</p> <p>The EC noted the feedback and that the EC Chairperson will follow-up with the directorate legal services and inform the EC accordingly.</p>	EC Chairperson
5.2	Way forward: Expertise, demographics, succession plan at AC (EC)	<p>(i) The EC Chairperson reminded the EC that at the July 2024 EC meeting, the EC had discussed and concluded that the matter on developing a capacity building plan for the subcommittee will be discussed further at September 2024 EC meeting.</p> <p>(ii) The EC deliberated and concluded that: .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A session will be held in due course to discuss the development of an outline for a draft capacity building plan and the date for the session will be shared with the EC. • The agenda item will remain in the EC agenda under "standing matters". 	<p>EC Chairperson</p> <p>EC and AC Chairpersons/OoR</p> <p>EC</p>
5.3	Way forward: Import and trial release permit timeframe (EC)	<p>(i) The EC Chairperson reminded the EC that at the July 2024 EC meeting, the EC had noted the proposal of amending the trial permit timeframe and concluded that the matter will be discussed further at the September 2024 EC meeting.</p> <p>(ii) The EC deliberated and also noted that this agenda item is connected to agenda item 5.4 and concluded that further discussion on the proposed timeframe will be resumed upon finalizing agenda item 5.4.</p>	<p>EC Chairperson</p> <p>EC</p>
5.4	Way forward: Guideline for submission of time extension requests and time extension application form (EC)	<p>(i) The EC Chairperson reminded the EC that at the July 2024 EC meeting, the EC had noted the proposal for a possible review of the guideline document and extension application form and concluded that the matter will be discussed further at the September 2024 EC meeting.</p> <p>(ii) The EC deliberated and concluded that the OoR will compile and submit a summary consisting of applicant's reasons for time extension application for EC's consideration.</p>	<p>EC Chairperson</p> <p>EC</p>
5.5	Way forward: Extension application for seed production (EC)	<p>(i) The EC Chairperson reminded the EC that at the July 2024 EC meeting, the EC had discussed the seed production trial and concluded that they will further discuss the possible measures applicable to seed production at the September 2024 EC meeting.</p> <p>(ii) The EC deliberated and concluded that an engagement will be held with permit holders to discuss the seed production field trial approval</p>	<p>EC Chairperson</p> <p>EC</p>

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		timeframe/conditions as well as to explore the trial and general release options.	
6.	Compliance/Non-compliance	<p>a. <u>Inspections</u> (i) The OoR informed the EC that there one compliance destruction inspection was conducted.</p> <p>b. <u>Annual Reports</u> (i) The OoR informed the EC that several annual reports were received and are in the process of being assessed.</p> <p><u>Bayer's request to plant 2024/25 maize and soybean trials using seeds imported in 2023</u> (i) The OoR informed the EC that a request to plant the 2024/25 maize and soybean trials with seeds imported in 2023 was received from Bayer.</p> <p>(ii) The EC deliberated and approved Bayer's request to plant the following 2024/25 maize and soybean trials with seeds imported in 2023.</p>	<p>OoR</p> <p>OoR</p> <p>OoR</p> <p>EC</p>
7.	APPLICATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY EC (REGISTRAR)		Registrar
	Commodity clearance		
7.1	Syngenta-24/241: Commodity clearance of Bt11xMIR162xTC1507x NK603 maize	The EC approved Syngenta-24/241: Commodity clearance application of Bt11xMIR162xTC1507x NK603 maize.	EC
	General release		
7.2	Bioceres-24/005: General release of IND-ØØ41Ø-5xMON-Ø4Ø32-6 soybean	The EC's decision for Bioceres-24/005: General release of IND-ØØ41Ø-5xMON-Ø4Ø32-6 soybean is pending submission of additional information by the applicant.	EC
	Request for additional trial sites		
7.3	Bayer's request for an additional site for an approved trial release: Bayer - 24/261 - Import and trial release extension of MON87751 x MON87701 x MON87708 x MON89788 soybean	The EC approved Bayer's request for an additional site for an approved trial release: Bayer - 24/261 - Import and trial release extension of MON87751 x MON87701 x MON87708 x MON89788 soybean.	EC
	Trial release and import and /or export	None	
	Contained use and import and/or	None	

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	export		
	Time extensions, amendments to (existing) permits, import and exports	None	
8.	APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED BY EC DURING THE INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD BETWEEN JULY AND AUGUST 2024		
	<u>General release</u>		
8.1	Applicants' responses: Bioceres–24/004: General release of HB4 (IND-ØØ41Ø-5) soybean	The EC's decision for Bioceres–24/004: General release of HB4 (IND-ØØ41Ø-5) soybean is pending submission of additional information by the applicant.	EC
	<u>Time extensions</u>		
8.2	Applicants' responses: Bayer 24/262: Import and trial release extension of MON87427 x MON89034 x MIR162 maize	The EC approved Bayer 24/262: Import and trial release extension application of MON87427 x MON89034 x MIR162 maize.	EC
	<u>Request for additional trial sites</u>		
8.3	Applicants' responses: Bayer request for additional trial sites for an approved trial release - Bayer - 20/118: Import and trial release for MON87427xMON89034xMIR162 maize (seed production)	The EC approved Bayer's request for additional trial sites for an approved trial release: Bayer - 20/118: Import and trial release for MON87427xMON89034xMIR162 maize.	EC
	<u>Trial release and import and/or export</u>		
8.4	Applicants' responses: Corteva - 24/237: Import & Trial Release of DP202216 maize	The EC approved Corteva - 24/237: Import & Trial Release application of DP202216 maize.	EC
8.5	Applicants' responses: Corteva – 24/238 Import and trial release of DP910521 maize	The EC approved Corteva – 24/238 Import and trial release application of DP910521 maize.	EC
8.6	Applicants' response: Syngenta–24/244: 2x Import & 1x Trial release	The EC approved Syngenta–24/244: 2x Import & 1x Trial release application of Bt11 x MIR162 x NK603 maize.	EC

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	of Bt11 x MIR162 x NK603 maize		
8.7	Applicants' response: Syngenta–24/245: 2x Import & 1x Trial release of Bt11 x MIR162 x MON89034 x NK603 maize	The EC approved Syngenta–24/245: 2x Import & 1x Trial release application of Bt11 x MIR162 x MON89034 x NK603 maize.	EC
9	Standing matters		
9.1	Regulatory and policy developments (All)	None	
9.2	Cartagena Protocol (All)	(i) The DFFE gave a presentation on the biosafety related agenda items for COP 16 and COP-MOP 11 and an update on the national targets for target 17 and the biosafety project under the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund. (ii) The EC noted the presentation and requested the DFFE to circulate the presentation. The EC requested DFFE to clarify the process to be followed regarding the submission of the biosafety project application. In response, the DFFE indicated that they will populate and submit the draft template in due course for EC's consideration.	DFFE EC DFFE
9.3	Appointment/reappointment of AC members (OoR)	None	
9.4	Acting Registrar (All)	(i) The EC noted that COP-MOP-11 is scheduled for 21 October to 01 November 2024 and that the Registrar might not be available during this period. The EC further noted that 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 Dr Julian Jaftha as acting Registrar for the period of 21 October to 01 November 2024.	EC
10.	General		
10.1	Syngenta's request to delay MIR162 insect monitoring trials	(i) The OoR informed the EC that a request was received from Syngenta to delay the commencement of MIR162 maize event general release permit condition 7. (ii) The EC deliberated and approved Syngenta's request to delay the commencement of permit condition 7 for MIR162 general release till such time that the variety containing MIR162 is ready to be launched for commercial release in South Africa.	OoR EC
10.2	Corteva's proposal for seed	(i) The OoR informed the EC that a proposal was received from Corteva to	OoR

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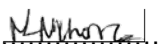
	production general release application	submit a general release application for seed production maize event TC1507 x NK603 maize event. (ii) The EC deliberated and supported Corteva's proposal.	EC
10.3	Proposed EC meeting dates for 2025/26	The EC noted the meeting dates for 2025/26 financial year.	EC
11.	Date of the next meeting	The EC noted that the next EC meeting is scheduled for 05 November 2024.	All
12.	Closure	The meeting was concluded at 11:30am.	All

Approved by EC Chairperson
Dr J Jaftha



 Signature

Approved by Registrar
Ms NL Mkhonza



 Signature