

MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE GMO ACT, 1997 HELD ON
25 OCTOBER 2011, HARVEST HOUSE, ROOM 332, PRETORIA

PRESENT

Dr J Jaffha (Chairperson)	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)
Mr B Durham	Department of Science and Technology (DST)
Ms W P Mandivenyi	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
Dr G Bouwer	Chairperson of the Advisory Committee (AC) under the GMO Act, 1997
Mr A Pretorius	Department of Health (DoH)

APOLOGIES

Ms J Mhlophe	Department of Labour (DoL)
Ms E Koekemoer	Department of Trade and Industry (the dti)

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms N L Mkhonza	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)
Ms T Mogapi	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)
Ms I Muedi	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (secretariat) (DAFF)
Mr M D Matlala	Department of Health (DoH)
Ms L Nkgadime	Department of Science and Technology (DST)
Ms T Tshinomola	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
Ms G Komane	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
Ms K C Malakalaka	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)

NO.	SUBJECT	RESOLUTION	FOR ATTENTION
1.	OPENING AND WELCOME	The Chairperson welcomed those present at the EC meeting.	EC Chairperson
2.	ATTENDANCE REGISTER AND APOLOGIES	The attendance register was circulated to everyone present for signature.	EC Chairperson
3.	ADDITIONS TO AND	The agenda was adopted with no additions.	

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NO.	SUBJECT	RESOLUTION	FOR ATTENTION
	ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA		
4.	APPROVAL OF THE RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF 19 JULY 2011	The record of proceedings of the meeting held on 19 July 2011 was amended and approved.	
5.	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PROCEEDINGS		
5.1	Feedback on appeals lodged under the GMO Act (DAFF)	<p>(i) The EC members were informed the OoR is still awaiting feedback on the consolidated report. The EC agreed that the Minister should be requested to formally request the Chairperson of the appeal board to give an update on the consolidated report.</p> <p>(ii) The EC noted that the matter regarding African Centre for Biosafety's (ACB) PAIA request to access the appeal document of the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) has been resolved.</p>	DAFF
5.2	Commodities (Registrar) (a) SABS standard	(i) This item was discussed under 6.6	OoR DAFF
	(b) Asynchronous approvals	(i) There was no discussion	DAFF

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	(c) Permit conditions		OoR
5.3	GM threshold and adventitious presence (DAFF)	(i) The EC was informed about the GM threshold and adventitious presence meeting held on the 30 September 2011. The discussion focused on the draft risk management matrix for low level presence of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs). The actual document that should correspond to the draft risk matrix will be finalised and it will be circulated amongst members early next year.	DAFF
5.5	Pioneer 17/3/1-Pioneer - 09/383.Commodity clearance of maize 98140	(i) The EC noted that the OoR is still awaiting additional information from the applicant As soon as a response is received from the applicant, the application will be reviewed.	OoR
5.7	Departmental representation(DAFF)	(i) The EC noted that work regarding the departmental representation is ongoing.	DAFF and DEA
5.8	Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committee (DAFF)	(i) The EC noted the importance of having the terms of reference for future AC members and that the current TOR should be reviewed thoroughly and clearly structured. (ii) The EC noted that a discussion will be scheduled to discuss the TOR.	DAFF
5.9	General release application form (AC Chair)	(i) The EC members were requested to give inputs on the general release application document by the end of November.	AC Chair
6.	APPLICATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY EC (REGISTRAR) TIME EXTENSIONS,		

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NO.	SUBJECT	RESOLUTION	FOR ATTENTION
	AMENDMENTS TO (EXISTING) PERMITS, IMPORT AND EXPORTS		
	New Applications		
	Extension of trial release, contained use (and import and/or export)		
	Contained use (and import and /or export)	(i) None	
	Trial release and import and /or export		
6.1	Pioneer -11/513:Import & Trial Release of Soybean (356043x40-30-2)	(i) The EC approved Pioneer's import and trial release of Soybean event 356043x40-30-2.	EC
6.2	Triclinium-11/051:Import & Trial Release of AERAS 402 TB	(i) The EC approved Triclinium's import and trial release of TB vaccine AERAS 402 subject to MCC approval.	EC
6.3	Monsanto-11/956:Import & Trial Release of Maize (MON87460)	(i) The EC approved Monsanto's import and trial release of maize MON87460.	EC
	General release	(i) None	
	Commodity Clearance	(i) None	

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NO.	SUBJECT	RESOLUTION	FOR ATTENTION
6.4	Pioneer's request to amend commodity clearance conditions 1.8, 1.10 and 2.1	<p>(i) The EC noted Pioneer's request to amend conditions 1.8, 1.10 and 2.1 of the commodity clearance permits.</p> <p>(ii) The EC amended the permit conditions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 1.8a: any information received from operators regarding their experience on the handling and use of the GM commodity ❖ 1.8b: The permit holder should enquire from the operators regarding any unanticipated adverse effects arising from handling and use of the GM commodity and report to the office of the registrar. ❖ 1.10: the permit holder and other users (importers and subsequent buyers) may be held responsible for any damage related to the use of this event. ❖ 2.1 remains the same 	EC
6.5	Information requirements for risk assessment of stacked events (general release and commodity clearance)-Syngenta (AC Chair)	<p>(i) The EC was reminded of their proposal of requesting the AC to provide inputs on the request from Syngenta regarding stacked events. The EC was informed about the AC Ad hoc meeting regarding risk assessment requirements for stacked events held on the 26 July 2011.</p> <p>(ii) The EC noted the recommendations from the AC and agreed to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Question 1a: A near isogenic non GM hybrid or a clearly justified alternative with a history of safe use (HOSU) can be used as comparison to the stacked event to show that they are substantial equivalent. ➤ Question 1b: A near isogenic non GM hybrid can be used for comparative studies. ➤ Question 1c: The applicant must ask for approval for the stacked event only (general release), and compare it to the near isogenic non GM hybrid or 	OoR

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NO.	SUBJECT	RESOLUTION	FOR ATTENTION
6.6	Commodity Clearance Permit conditions - SANSOR	<p>(i) The EC noted SANSOR's request to amend commodity clearance permit conditions. The EC recommended that the OoR send an acknowledgement of the request, but the EC will only respond to the requests submitted by the permit holders.</p> <p>conventional counterpart</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Question 2a: The applicant must apply for each stack event (commodity clearance), in separate applications. ➤ Question 2b: Products are not part of the GMO Act. 	EC
	Standing matters		
7.1	Regulatory and policy developments (All)	<p>(i) The EC was informed that DAFF had requested the food safety document from DoH. The EC was also informed about the CPA commissioner's meeting.</p> <p>(ii) The EC noted that office of the chairperson should request an update from the dti before engaging the CPA commissioner.</p>	DoH
			DST

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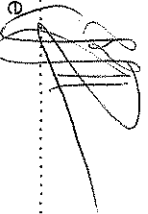
NO.	SUBJECT	RESOLUTION	FOR ATTENTION
7.2	Cartagena Protocol (DEA)	<p>(i) The EC was informed by DEA that the upcoming risk assessment session will be held in Ghana at the end of the year and Dr Hennie Groenewald and Ms T Tshimomola has been nominated to participate.</p> <p>(ii) The EC noted that there was a summary report from the online forum. DEA suggested that more EC members should be registered for the online forum and be able to participate. The risk assessment forum is ongoing and the annotated agenda will be circulated amongst members.</p>	DEA
7.3	Non-compliance	None	
	Other		
7.4	National report(DEA)	(i) The EC noted the deadline for submission of the national report by DEA is 31 October.	DEA,EC
7.5	Risk benefit analysis publication by Dr Jane Morris (AC Chair)	<p>(i) The EC was informed that the publication was looked at by the AC and it is more relevant to EC. EC suggested that the publication be deferred to the next meeting.</p>	
7.6	Pioneer's proposal on the regulation of the seed production process maintainer lines (DAFF)	<p>(i) The EC noted that a decision should be made on whether Seed Production Technology (SPT) should receive conditional general release approval or multi-year trial release approval.</p> <p>(ii) The EC suggested that the proposal be referred to the AC for scientific input. EC will request information on how it was dealt with in other countries such as Argentina and Canada.</p>	DAFF

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NO.	SUBJECT	RESOLUTION	FOR ATTENTION
7.7	AC appointment renewals	(i) The EC was informed about the AC members whose memberships should be renewed. The EC noted that the recommendation will be sent to the Minister.	OoR
8.	Date of the next meeting	(i) The date for the next meeting is scheduled for 24 January 2012.	All
9.	Closure	(i) The meeting was concluded at 12:45	

Approved by Chairperson

Dr J Jaffha

Signature 

Approved by Registrar

Ms NL Mkhonza

Signature 