

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UNDER GMO ACT, 1997 HELD ON 4 OCTOBER 2006, AGRICULTURE PLACE, ROOM O-07, PRETORIA

PRESENT

Dr SR Moephuli (Chairperson)	Department of Agriculture (DoA)
Prof. MM Sibara	Advisory Committee Chairperson (AC Chairperson)
Mr B Durham	Department of Science and Technology (DST)
Ms L Sello	Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT)
Ms M Vosges	Department of Agriculture (Registrar)
Ms E L Marshall (Secretariat)	Department of Agriculture

ABSENT

With apologies:

Ms E Koekemoer	Department of Trade and Industry (dti)
Mr D Pretorius	Department of Health (DoH)
Mr L Motshelanoka	Department of Labour (DoL)

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms WP Mandivenyi	Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism
Mr MD Matlala	Department of Agriculture
Ms E Jantjies	Department of Agriculture

NO.	SUBJECT	RESOLUTION	FOR ATTENTION
1.	OPENING AND WELCOME	The Chairperson welcomed everyone present at the meeting and announced that the GMO Amendment Act has been forwarded to the Presidency and that	

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NO.	SUBJECT	RESOLUTION	FOR ATTENTION
		there is the potential that the President may not sign it.	
2.	ATTENDANCE REGISTER	<p>(i) The attendance register was circulated to everyone present for signature.</p> <p>(ii) Apologies were noted from Mr D Pretorius and Ms E Koekemoer was noted.</p> <p>(iii) Concern was again raised at the non-attendance of the Council meetings by Mr L Motshelanoka from the Department of Labour.</p> <p>The Chairperson ruled that the matter will now be reported to the Minister for Agriculture and Land Affairs to take up with the Minister of Labour.</p>	
3.	ADDITION TO AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA	The agenda was adopted as is.	
4.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES	The minutes of the meeting of 17 August 2006 were approved.	
5.	MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS		

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NO.	SUBJECT	RESOLUTION	FOR ATTENTION
5.1	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>Syngenta-06/081: Field Trials with stacked maize, event Bt11xGA21</p>	<p>(i) Council decided to approve the application subject to the applicant addressing a number of specific questions which shall be tabled in writing that deal with governmental risk assessments and the interaction of multiple gene inserts. DEAT and the Registrar will draft the questions and include them as part and parcel of the conditions of a trial.</p> <p>(ii) Council decided that the results of this trail must be communicated to the Registrar as part of the final report and will include the responses to the questions.</p>	<p>DEAT and Registrar</p> <p>Registrar</p>
5.2	<p>Monsanto-06/312: Extended permit for Field trials with cotton BGIIxRR-Flex</p>	<p>(i) Council indicated that the application for bulking up of seed is a separate issue and is not part of this particular application and should not form part and parcel of the field trial.</p> <p>(ii) There is a danger that seed could be commercially produced and marketed under the disguise of a field trial.</p> <p>(iii) Council indicated that the applicant cannot combine a field trial and a trial for seed bulking for commercial purposes. This issue must also be addressed in the Regulations by developing a table which indicates the maximum plot size/crop for field trails.</p> <p>(iv) Council decided to approve the application for an extended permit for a field trial and not for bulking up of seed. Any bulking up will be considered as a general release application.</p>	<p>Registrar</p> <p>Registrar</p>
6.	<p>EXTENDED PERMIT APPLICATIONS TO BE</p>		

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NO.	SUBJECT	RESOLUTION	FOR ATTENTION
CONSIDERED BY EC			
6.1	D&PL-06/100: Trial release with RR flex cotton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Council requested that the Registrar put together specific minimal requirements for anyone who wishes to conduct a field trial. (ii) Council considers the environmental-, human health- and socio-impact when considering applications and requested that DST circulate as presentation on Ethics in Bio-technology Research, to Council members for consideration and discussion at the meeting scheduled for 1 November 2006. (iii) Council resolved that the Registrar must approach Prof Ames Dhai and request that she develops guidelines on ethics for bio-technology research that could be applicable within the framework of The GMO Act, 1997. (iv) Council decided to approve the application and that as part of the permit conditions the applicant must obtain and ensure informed consent from the farmer and that the farmer participates in gathering the data and is able to report on the performance of the particular event. 	<p>Registrar</p> <p>DST</p> <p>Registrar & DST</p> <p>Registrar</p>
6.2	D&PL-06/101: Trial release with BGIIxRR flex cotton	Council decided that the application is approved , provided that the same conditions apply as was minuted under 5.2 above in the application of Monsanto-06/312: Extended permit for Field trials with cotton BGIIxRR-Flex.	Registrar
6.3	Monsanto-06/322: Trial release with MON89034; MON89034xNK603	(iii) Council decided to approve the application and that the same conditions set for 5.1 Syngenta-06/081: Field Trials with stacked maize, event Bt11xGA21 and 5.2 Monsanto-06/312: Extended permit for Field trials with cotton BGIIxRR-Flex above will apply and	Registrar

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NO.	SUBJECT	RESOLUTION	FOR ATTENTION
6.4	Monsanto-06/321: Trial release with stacked MON810xNK603	<p>that the applicant should submit progress reports on activities at all sites.</p> <p>(i) Council understood that the applicant wants to produce the seed in anticipation of the general release application, so that as soon as they receive approval, they have the seed to market.</p> <p>(ii) Council concluded that this trial will not provide information to assist with the general release application, and that any seed production request is viewed as a commercial release application and not a field trial. This application is not approved.</p>	Registrar
7.	Date of next meeting	The next meeting for the Executive Council is scheduled for 1 November 2006.	
8.	Closure	<p>Dr Moephuli announced that he will not longer be available to chair the Executive Council meetings as he has been appointed as the new President and CEO of the Agricultural Research Council.</p> <p>He indicated that the Department of Agriculture has requested Dr J Jaftha to submit his documents to the Minister for possible appointment as member of the Executive Council.</p> <p>The Minister will also decide from which Department the new Chairperson of the Council will be appointed.</p> <p>The meeting was concluded at 09:55.</p>	

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Approved by Chairperson

Dr S Moephuli

Name

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Signature

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Date

Approved by Registrar

Ms M Vosges

Name

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Signature

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Date

Draft considered by Registrar