



MINISTRY OF WATER, LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Biodiversity and Forestry Management Division
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Ref : KATS 600-2/11/43 ()
Date : 18 February 2019

Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity,
413, Saint Jacques Street, Suite 800,
Montreal QC H2Y 1N9
CANADA

Dear Dr. Palmer,

**NOMINATION FOR;
CBD NOTIFICATION 2018-103: SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION ON SYNTHETIC
BIOLOGY AND NOMINATION OF EXPERTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OPEN-
ENDED ONLINE FORUM ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY**

I wish to refer to the above-mentioned subject.


2. The Ministry of Water, Land and Natural Resources (KATS) Malaysia is pleased to submit the **information on synthetic biology** (as enclosed with a letter) and the **nomination of the following officials** as our country representative in participating the Open – ended Online Forum on Synthetic Biology:

Dr. Anita Anthonysamy	Department of Biosafety, Ministry of Water, Land and Natural Resources, Malaysia.	anita@kats.gov.my
Prof. Dr. Rofina Yasmin Binti Othman	Institute of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, University of Malaya, Malaysia.	yasmin@um.edu.my
Associate Prof. Dr. Chan Kok Gan	Institute of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, University of Malaya, Malaysia.	kokgan@um.edu.my

Mohamad Faiz Foong Abdullah	Faculty of Applied Sciences Pharmaceutical and Life Sciences, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia.	mohdf184@salam.uitm.edu.my
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Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



(DATO' WAN MAZLAN BIN WAN MAHMOOD)

CBD Focal Point

Undersecretary

Biodiversity and Forestry Management Division

Ministry of Water, Land and Natural Resources, Malaysia

ENCLOSED

**SUBMISSION ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY FOLLOWING THE REQUEST OF
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF CBD THROUGH NOTIFICATION 2018-103**

**LIASON GROUP OF CARTAGENA ON THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL
ON BIOSAFETY IN MALAYSIA**

No.	ITEM	INPUT
(a)	The relationship between synthetic biology and the criteria set out in decision IX/29, paragraph 12, in order to contribute to the completion of the assessment requested in decision XII/24, paragraph 2, building on the preliminary analysis prepared by the Executive Secretary in document SBSTTA/22/INF/17;	Synthetic Biology is considered a new and emerging issue in Malaysia therefore more comprehensive information is needed as well as capacity building to enhance the regulatory body's competency in monitoring this issue.
(b)	New technological developments in synthetic biology since the last meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group in December 2017, including the consideration, among other things, of concrete applications of genome editing if they relate to synthetic biology, in order to support a broad and regular horizon scanning process;	None
(c)	The current state of knowledge by analysing information, including but not limited to peer-reviewed published literature, on the potential positive and negative environmental impacts, taking into account human health, cultural and socioeconomic impacts, especially with regard to the value of biodiversity to indigenous peoples and local communities, of current and near-future applications of synthetic biology, including those applications that involve organisms containing engineered gene drives, taking into account the traits and species potentially subject to release and the dynamics of their dissemination; and	None
(d)	Living organisms developed thus far through new developments in synthetic biology that may fall outside the definition of living modified organisms as per the Cartagena Protocol.	None