

**Asia Pacific Regional Training Workshop On Public Awareness, Education, Participation
Concerning The Safe Transfer, Handling & Use Of LMOs
25 -29 Mac 2013, Hanoi, Vietnam**




STATUS AND INITIATIVES IN PROMOTING PUBLIC AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION CONCERNING LMOs IN MALAYSIA



**DEPARTMENT OF BIOSAFETY (DOB)
MALAYSIA**



OUTLINE

-  **Current Status of Implementation of Biosafety**
-  **Initiatives in Promoting Public Awareness, Education & Participation with Regard to LMOs**
-  **Challenges and Way Forward**



Current Status of Implementation of Biosafety

CURRENT STATUS

Regulatory Instruments

- Biosafety Act was enforced on 1 December 2009
- Biosafety (Approval and Notification) Regulations 2010 was enforced on 1 November 2010

Institutional Development

- NBB was formed on 15 March 2010
- Department of Biosafety established on 24 May 2010
- GMAC members were appointed on 25 May 2010

CURRENT STATUS

Approval for Release

- ❖ 11 applications for release for food, feed and processing
- ❖ 2 applications for release for placing in the market
- ❖ 1 application for field release

CURRENT STATUS

Notification for Contained Use

- ❖ 4 applications for import for contained use of LMO/GMO
- ❖ 14 applications for contained use



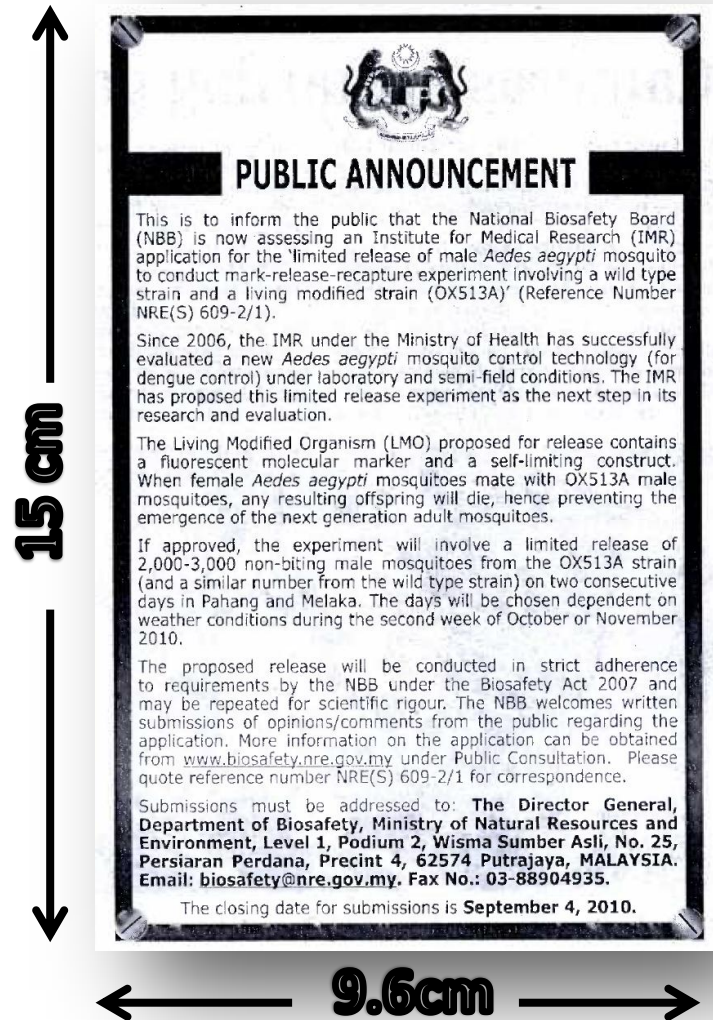
Initiatives in Promoting Public Awareness, Education & Participation with Regard to LMOs

Workshops and Seminars Held

Areas	Numbers of workshop/ training/seminar held
1. Risk assessment/ risk communication/risk management	9
2. GMO detection	8
3. Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)	1
4. Identification and documentation of LMO	3
5. Biosafety Clearing House (BCH)	6
6. Biosafety awareness campaign/seminar	14
7. Stakeholders' workshop	2
8. Road show	1
9. Biosafety training workshop	10
10. Low Level Presence	1
TOTAL	55

Public Participation for Approval for Release Applications

- 2 national newspapers (Malay and English)/2 announcements in each newspaper;
- Upload information about application to biosafety website;
- Input received for a period of 30 days;
- Other concerns/issues raised reviewed and given to Board to make decision.



STAKEHOLDERS' PERCEPTION TOWARDS MODERN BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOSAFETY IN MALAYSIA

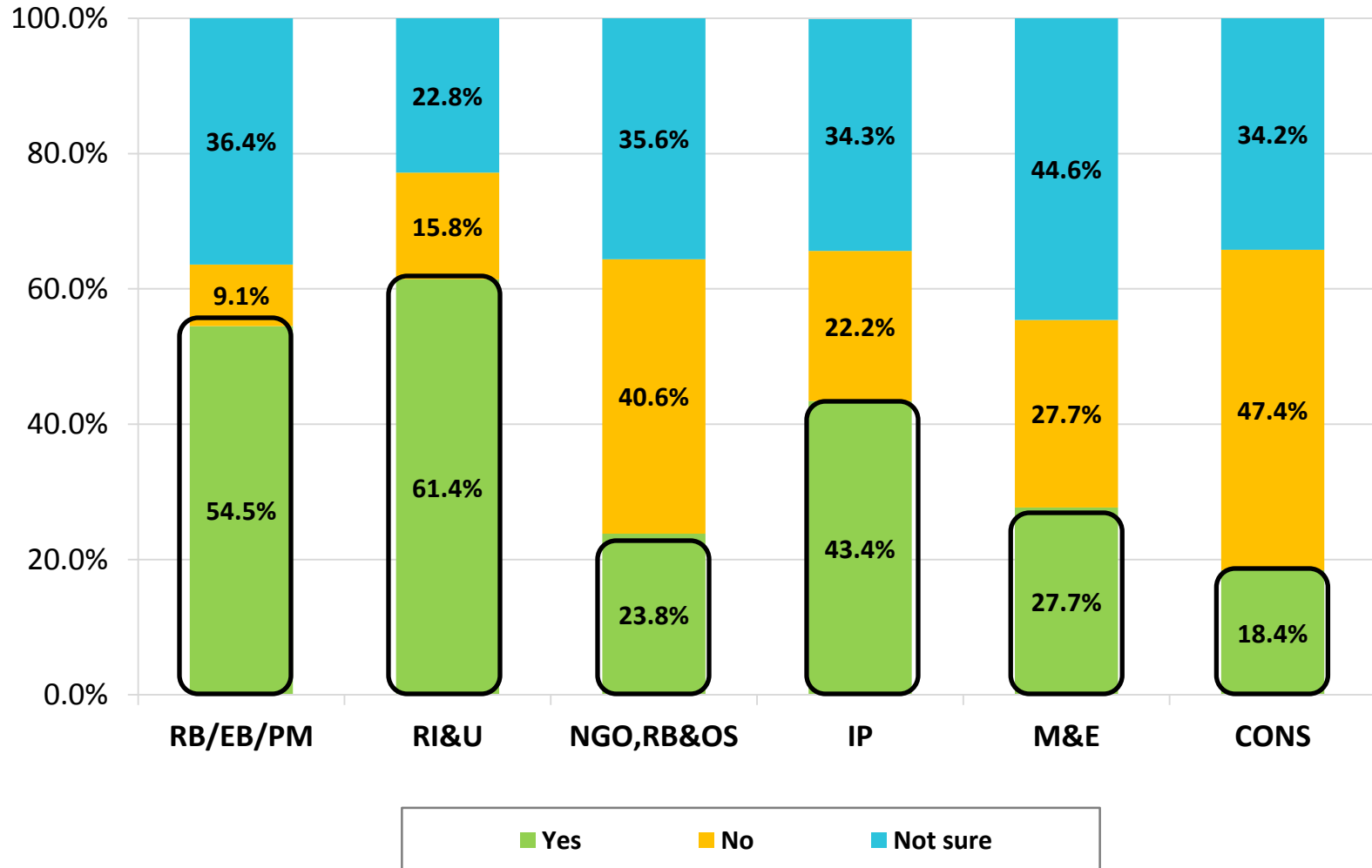
- ▶ **1,047** respondents from **six** stakeholder groups
 - ❑ Regulatory bodies/enforcement bodies/ policy makers (**RB/EB/PM**)
 - ❑ Research institutions & universities (**RI&U**)
 - ❑ NGOs, religious bodies & organic shops (**NGO,RB&OS**)
 - ❑ Industry players (**IP**)
 - ❑ Media & educators (**M&E**)
 - ❑ Consumers (**CONS**)

Survey carried out on Consumers

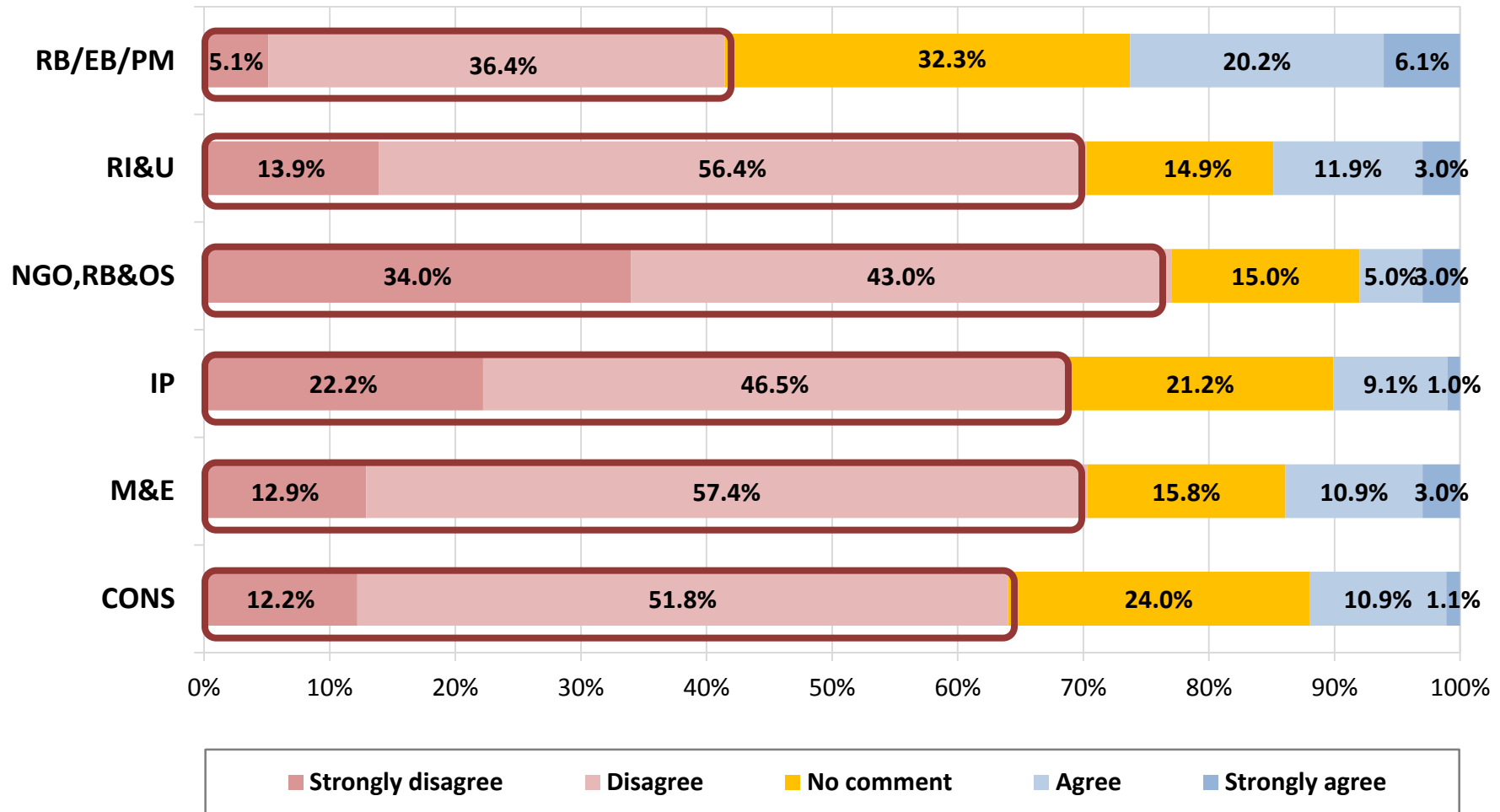


Question:

Are you aware of any laws or regulations in Malaysia to regulate the dealings of GMO?



Question:
The public awareness activities on GMO conducted by the government are sufficient.



MyBiotech@School - Session 1

The Magellan Sutura Harbour Resort,
Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

19 & 20 Februari 2013

Magellan Grand Ballroom



Public Awareness/Education & Participation Activities for 2013

Feb

- MyBiotech@school with Ministry of Science, East Malaysia

April

- MyBiotech@school with Ministry of Science, East Coast Zone

May

- Biosafety Training Workshop for IBC member Institute
- National Biosafety Seminar

June

- IBC Annual Seminar
- Media coverage (TV/Radio) on Biosafety

September

- Workshop On Biotechnology Commercialization and Trade in APEC Economies- Biosafety Regulatory Perspective, with Biotech Corp

November

- MyBiotech@school with Ministry of Science, Southern Zone

Challenges and Way Forward

Public Awareness/Education & Participation

Challenges

- Public awareness is low but some initial work has been done thru the GEF project
- Awareness level is reasonably good in regulatory bodies and research institutions group
- Awareness level has to be intensified in NGOs, industry players, media, educators and consumers group
- Resources are very limited

Way Forward

- Work with others - Malaysian Nature Society (NGO)
- Ministry of Science – MyBiotech@School
- Join Ministry's integrated public awareness programmes- eg "Friends of the Environment"
- Seeking funding – under RMK-10 & GEF

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Thank You



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