

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 <u>15 March 2010</u>
- Department of Biosafety established on <u>24 May 2010</u>
- GMAC members were appointed on <u>25 May 2010</u>

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.



| PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform the public that the National Biosafety Board (NBB) is now assessing an Institute for Medical Research (IMR) application for the 'limited release of male *Aedes aegypti* mosquito to conduct mark-release-recapture experiment involving a wild type strain and a living modified strain (OX513A)' (Reference Number NRE(S) 609-2/1).

Since 2006, the IMR under the Ministry of Health has successfully evaluated a new Aedes aegypti mosquito control technology (for dengue control) under laboratory and semi-field conditions. The IMR has proposed this limited release experiment as the next step in its research and evaluation.

The Living Modified Organism (LMO) proposed for release contains a fluorescent molecular marker and a self-limiting construct. When female *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes mate with OX513A male mosquitoes, any resulting offspring will die, hence preventing the emergence of the next generation adult mosquitoes.

If approved, the experiment will involve a limited release of 2,000-3,000 non-biting male mosquitoes from the OX513A strain (and a similar number from the wild type strain) on two consecutive days in Pahang and Melaka. The days will be chosen dependent on weather conditions during the second week of October or November 2010.

The proposed release will be conducted in strict adherence to requirements by the NBB under the Biosafety Act 2007 and may be repeated for scientific rigour. The NBB welcomes written submissions of opinions/comments from the public regarding the application. More information on the application can be obtained from www.biosafety.nre.gov.my under Public Consultation. Please quote reference number NRE(S) 609-2/1 for correspondence.

Submissions must be addressed to: The Director General, Department of Biosafety, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Level 1, Podium 2, Wisma Sumber Asli, No. 25, Persiaran Perdana, Precint 4, 62574 Putrajaya, MALAYSIA. Email: biosafety@nre.gov.my. Fax No.: 03-88904935.

The closing date for submissions is **September 4, 2010.**







STAKEHOLDERS' PERCEPTION TOWARDS MODERN BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOSAFETY IN MALAYSIA

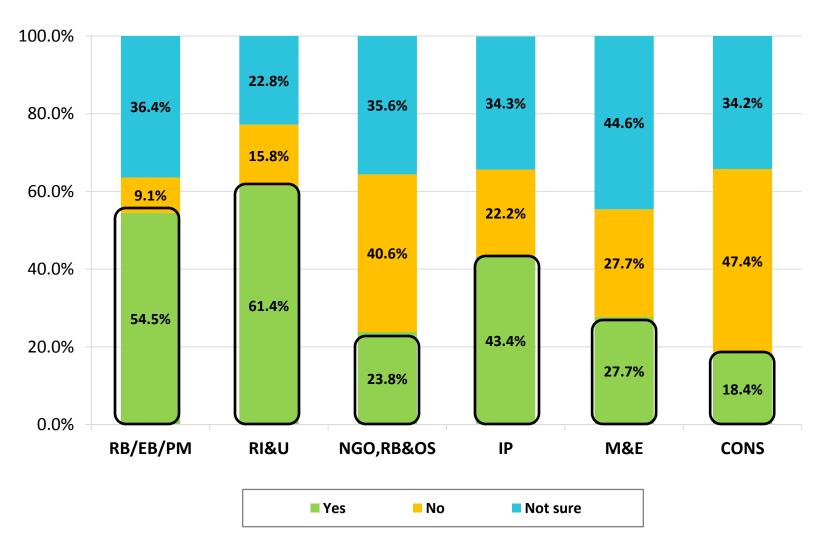
- ▶ 1,047 respondents from six stakeholder groups
 - □ Regulatory bodies/enforcement bodies/ policy makers (RB/EB/PM)
 - Research institutions & universities (RI&U)
 - □ NGOs, religious bodies & organic shops (NGO,RB&OS)
 - Industry players (IP)
 - Media & educators (M&E)
 - □ Consumers (CONS)

Survey carried out on Consumers



Question:

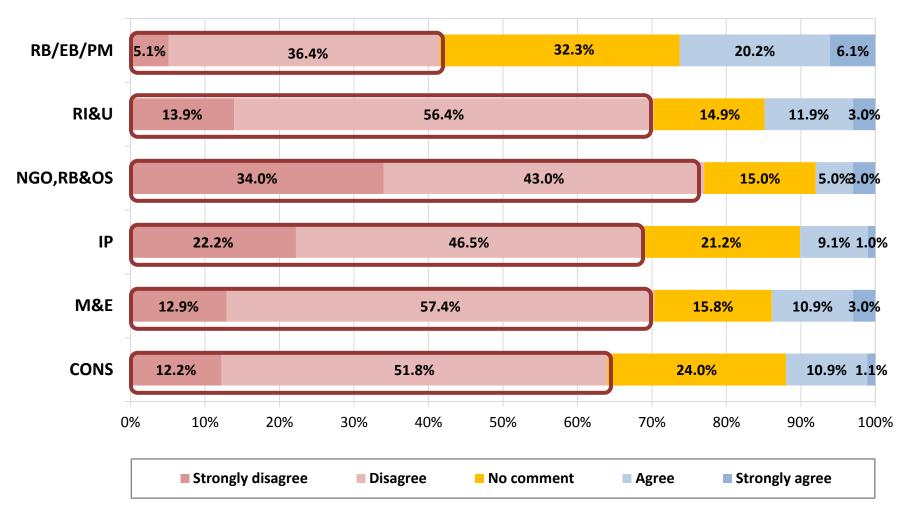
Are you aware of any laws or regulations in Malaysia to regulate the dealings of GMO?

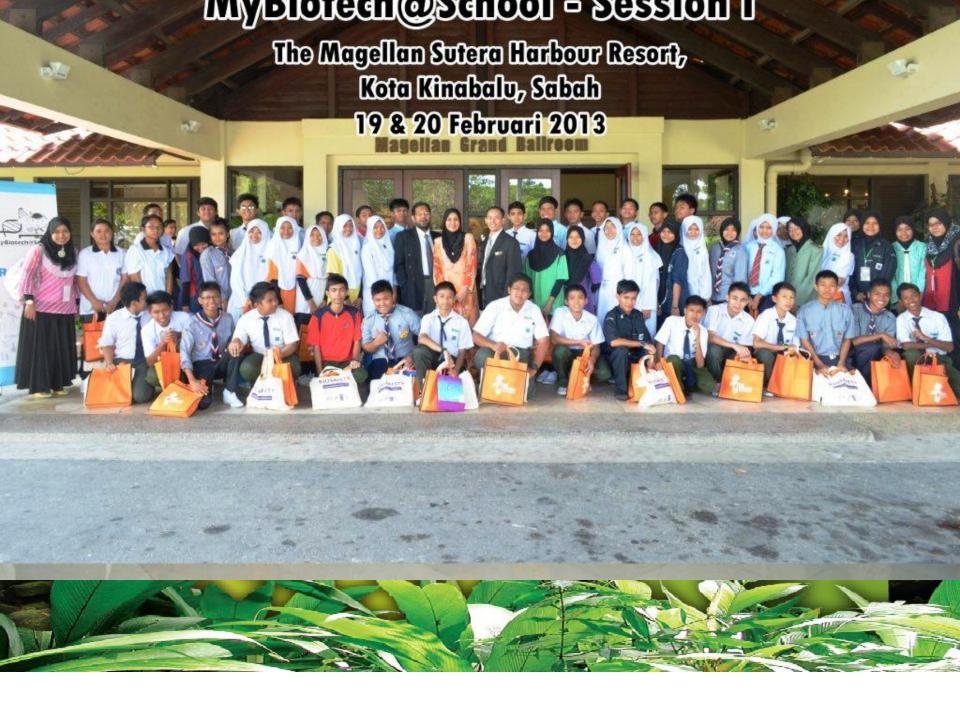


Perceptions on the government in relation to GMO matters

Question:

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





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 intergrated public awareness programmes- eg "Friends of the Environment"
- Seeking funding under RMK-10 & GEF

