



Biosafety of forest transgenic trees

improving the scientific basis for safe tree development and implementation of EU policy directives

Second Meeting of the Management Committee of COST ACTION FP0905

**Biosafety of transgenic trees: improving the
scientific basis for safe tree development and
implementation of EU policy directives**



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0. Welcome to participants

1. Adoption of agenda

2. Minutes of last meeting

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4. Report from COST Office:

- News from COST Office**
- Status of Action, including participants countries**
- Budget status, budget planning and allocation process**



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E-mail from Ms Melae Langbein: due to the DC meeting (Forests, their Products and Services) being held at the same time it is not possible for anyone to attend.

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Status of ACTION

Action details	Parties		
	Country	Date	Status
MoU : 266/09	Austria	15/03/2010	Confirmed
CSO Approval date : 02/12/2009	Belgium	03/02/2010	Confirmed
Entry into force : 13/01/2010	Bosnia and Herzegovina	17/08/2010	Confirmed
End of Action : 11/04/2014	Bulgaria	04/03/2010	Confirmed
	Croatia	21/06/2010	Confirmed
	Denmark	11/06/2010	Confirmed
	Estonia	08/02/2010	Confirmed
	Finland	10/03/2010	Confirmed
	France	10/02/2010	Confirmed
	Germany	25/01/2010	Confirmed
	Greece	26/01/2010	Confirmed
	Israel	13/01/2010	Confirmed
	Italy	13/01/2010	Confirmed
	Latvia	26/07/2010	Confirmed
	Netherlands	03/02/2010	Confirmed
	Norway	17/02/2010	Confirmed
	Romania	03/02/2010	Confirmed
	Serbia	13/01/2010	Confirmed
	Slovak Republic	08/03/2010	Confirmed
	Slovenia	17/03/2010	Confirmed
	Spain	13/01/2010	Confirmed
	Sweden	10/05/2010	Confirmed
	United Kingdom	13/01/2010	Confirmed
	Total	23	

Intentions to accept the MoU		
Country		Status
Total	0	



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-Budget status, budget planning and allocation process
Grant Holder agreement signed:

Omissis



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5. Action Budget status:

Omissis

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Budget modification:

-It was planned 2000 Euro for dissemination: publications (posters printing and web site)

-Participation (Chair and Vice Chair) to Argentina meeting

-Combine Malaga meeting with Florence meeting adding some participants from WGs



11th International Symposium on the Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms (ISBGMO)
The role of Biosafety Research in the decision-making process



Centro Cultural Borges - Galerías Pacifico
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Monday 15 November - Saturday 20 November 2010

- Welcome
- Programme**
- Destination & Venue
- Registration
- Call for papers

Welcome to the 11th International Symposium on the Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms (ISBGMO)

The role of biosafety research in the decision making process
Organized by the International Society for Biosafety Research (ISBR)

The International Society for Biosafety Research in conjunction with the local organizing committee in Argentina is pleased to announce the 11th International Symposium on the Biosafety of GMOs to be held in Buenos Aires, Centro Cultural Borges - Galerías Pacifico.

The theme of ISBGMO 11 is "The role of biosafety research in the decision making process". This symposium will bring together scientists interested in sharing results and learning from other experts in the area of biosafety research and its application to regulatory decision-making. As such, a program of workshops and talks is being developed that will encourage the exchange of scientific experiences and ideas with a focus on how biosafety research supports regulatory processes especially risk assessments and ultimately science-based decisions.

Who should come?

This symposium affords an opportunity for those involved in the research, development, testing, regulation, assessment and management of GMOs worldwide to share experiences with colleagues from around the globe.

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Monday 15	Tuesday 16	Wednesday 17	Thursday 18	Friday 19	Saturday 20
Pre-Symposium Workshops and Training	Conference Opening Session	Session 3	Session 5	Post-Symposium Workshops and Activities	Field Visit
	Session 1		Session 6		
	Session 2	Session 4			
Welcome Reception	ISBR Members Meeting	Symposium Dinner	Free for Networking	Free for Networking	Free for Networking

Workshops & Training Sessions

Workshops before and after the symposium are designed to cover specific topics related to biosafety and GMOs in an informal and participatory manner. These will be moderated by experts, and allow in depth discussions of the issues. Additionally, training sessions on specific topics will be organized to allow participants with less experience to interact with colleagues more experienced in the subject under discussion. In this way, global perspectives and experiences will be shared among participants. [Click here to view all offered workshops.](#)





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Sessions

Session 1: Biosafety research challenges and experiences in Latin America

The Latin American region is rich in experience with the development and research with GMOs. Many countries have diverse crops of interest and are known to be centers of origin for these crops. Researchers and regulators from around the world can benefit from learning about the challenges and experiences related to decision making and biosafety research in countries in the region. This session will include talks about the different approaches taken within centers of origin and "other" crops undergoing genetic modification that are regionally and globally important like potato or sugar cane.

Session 2: Problem Formulation - improving the quality of an environmental risk assessment

Risk assessors are continually challenged to ensure that the outcomes of an environmental risk assessment are relevant for decision making. Also, basic researchers may be interested learning more about constructing hypotheses that are relevant in a regulatory context. This session provides an introduction to problem formulation, how it can be used to improve the quality of environmental risk assessments and the challenges of applying this approach under existing regulatory regimes.

Session 3: Biosafety considerations for crops for non-food/feed uses, biofuels and energy crops

Many plants are being proposed for use as biofuels and other sources of energy in Latin America and around the world. Some of these plants will be genetically modified to enhance their properties for this use. In addition, many of these plants have never been grown at the scales that are needed for their use in the production of energy. This session will look broadly at the research underway with these crops and how this research may support regulatory decisions concerning release on large scales. The talks will not be limited to genetically modified plants since this topic has broader biosafety considerations.



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Session 4: GM insect developments and biosafety

Animals, specifically insects, are an area of intense interest for applications of genetic modification. Applications include biological control and control of various diseases such as malaria. While there is much experience with biological control from a research perspective and exotic species perspective, the experience with regulatory considerations for arthropods to be genetically modified is evolving. This session affords an opportunity for researchers in this field to share their experiences and ideas on how this information should guide the regulation of GM insects.

Session 5: Biosafety aspects of GM-based agronomic traits protecting against yield reduction due to abiotic stress

Biotechnology-based solutions to the challenges arising in agriculture from abiotic stress (drought, cold, nitrogen, salt, etc) are rapidly developing. Consequently, there is also rapid growth in both research and regulatory review associated with these traits. This session will bring together a rich discussion of the research results to date and the regulatory issues associated with protecting crops from abiotic stress. This session will also recognize that conventional breeding is a rich source of information on this subject since breeders have been selecting plants based on their ability to tolerate abiotic stress.

Session 6: New applications of biotechnologies and their associated risk assessment issues

The 11th ISB GMO will recognize that one of the important roles of research is to develop new technologies. Advances in the area of RNAi, synthetic biology, artificial chromosomes, cisgenics will lead to new GMOs that may pose challenges for risk assessment and regulation. This session will also present some key papers that will describe developments in "omics" technologies with a goal to inform risk assessors about potential future applications.





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**In Malaga: WG meeting (limited) (1st day) + Steering board meeting (with attendance of the next organiser) (2° day)
MARCH? WHICH DAYS?**



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WG MEETINGS

Participants	Limited to: Chair, Vice-Chair, WGs L and VL, TG; and Action secretary?
Date	February 2011? (1-day-meeting) 10-11 MARCH? 2 nights reimbursed
Place	Spain (Malaga)
Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• preparation of Steering Board Meeting• evaluation of WG activities• dissemination activities• web activities• Other business?

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SB MEETINGS

Participants	SB: Chair, Vice-Chair, WGs L, and Action secretary
Date	March or April 2011?
Place	Italy (Florence) NO, but in Malaga
Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• preparation of activities of 2nd year• discussion of WG activities• evaluation of internal report of WGs• dissemination activities• web activities• Other business?

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6. Action Budget status:

We have planned 6 STSMs

The application is open and available on the web site

7. Publications, annual report:

Annual Progress Conference (early March 2011?):

- Monitoring Progress report (see template):
approval 6 weeks in advance (by Steering Board?)**
- Presentation (see template)**
- Action brochure (see template) (photo of our web site)**

8. Evaluation:

NOT applicable (as it is the feedback from the most recent Annual Progress Conference) and we are at the 1° year

9. Request for new members: NO

10. Promotion of gender balance and of Early Stage Researchers (ESR)

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11. Non-COST country participants:

The 1° MC approved the following requests from non-COST countries to participate in the Action:

Involved in FP0905 proposal

- University of Melbourne, Australia;
- University of Ottawa, Canada;
- Queen's University Kingston, Canada;
- Natural Resources Canada, Canada;
- Chinese Academy of Forestry, China;
- Agricultural University of Hebei, China;
- Plant and Food Research Institute, New Zealand;
- Scion, New Zealand;
- AgResearch, New Zealand;
- University of California, Davis, USA;
- New York University, USA;
- Oregon State University, USA.

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Not involved in FP0905 proposal

- **Agricultural University of Tirana, Albania;**
- **Unidad de Genética Forestal, INTA Bariloche, Patagonia, Argentina**
- **Cenargen, Brazil;**
- **Ministry for Agriculture, Brazil;**
- **University of Concepcion, Chile;**
- **FAO, international organisation;**
- **ARC Infruitec-Nietvoorbij, South Africa;**
- **Stellenbosch University, South Africa.**

DC approval this week, and then the JAF (executive group of the CSO) approval in early November

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12. WEB news

13. Progress report of working groups: we have had the summary. Please, send me a note

14. Long-term planning:

we have to plan the activity for the 2° year of the Action:

3° and 4° MC committee jointly with WGs
meeting/workshop

1 Training school

6 STSMs

DISSEMINATION: TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Training School

Number	1 per year
Duration	•Min. 3 days/Max 2 weeks
Procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Approval of MC •Request to be sent to the Grant Holder (see 5.4 COST Vademecum)
Date	???
Local organiser	???
Place	???
Scientific Management Team	Chair, Vice Chair and MC organiser 4 MC experts to be nominated at the MC :
Trainers	Local experts + external experts (max 5 reimbursements)
Trainees	10/15 ESRs (preferentially)

DISSEMINATION: TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Training School: Role of green biotech research, ethical aspect and the dissemination of the scientific results through the media

Duration	•3 days ?
Date	April 2011-April 2012 ????
Local organiser	Matthias???
Place	Hamburg???
Scientific Management Team	Chair, Vice Chair and MC organiser MC experts to be nominated at the MC : TODAY or can be done in Malaga
Trainers	Local experts + external experts (max 5 reimbursements)
Trainees	10/15 ESRs (preferentially) (Travel 300 €, daily allowance 60-90 €)

DISSEMINATION: TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Training School: Plant genomics, EU policy directive on forest plantation

Duration	•3 days ?
Date	2013 ????
Local organiser	???
Place	???
Scientific Management Team	Chair, Vice Chair and MC organiser MC experts o be nominated at the MC : ???
Trainers	Local experts + external experts (max 5 reimbursements)
Trainees	10/15 ESRs (preferentially) (Travel 300 €, daily allowance 60-90 €)

MEETINGS

3 rd MC MEETING	
Participants	Members MC committee, Action secretary Other WGs experts? (TOTAL 50 persons?)
Date	September 2011? Suggestion: 7(15pm) – 09 (12am): 2 day + 3 nights Organiser support: 1500 Euro
Place	Finland
Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparation of 2nd year MC meetings • planning of WG activities • STSM / Training School • dissemination activities • web activities • Other business?

MEETINGS

4 th MC MEETING	
Participants	Members MC committee, Action secretary Other WGs experts? (TOTAL 50 persons?)
Date	March 2012? Suggestion: ?? (15 pm) – ??(12am), 2days, 3 nights Organiser support: 1500 Euro
Place	France
Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparation of 2nd year MC meetings • planning of WG activities • STSM / Training School • dissemination activities • web activities • Other business?



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16. AOB

17. Closing

Thank you!