

Rapporteur IBC Annual Seminar 2013

Topic	Topic of Lecture	Questions by Participant	JBK's Responses
1	Guidance on Filling Up Form E a) General Guidance	Dr. Kavitha Mohandas (IMU) - When can IBC members start using the form??	The reviewed forms will be uploaded on our website and IBC members can start using the form by 1 July 2013
2	Guidance on Filling Up Form E b) IBC Assessment Report	Dr. E. Sunderasan (LGM) – What is the difference between approval and notification?	For Approval, you can start the activity only after receiving the certificate of approval. For Notification, you can start the activity once you received the acknowledgement letter from Department of Biosafety.
3	Guidance on developing Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)	Dr. E. Sunderasan (LGM) – Give some cases whereby NBB did not approve notification after applicant has received the acknowledgement letter.	Currently there are no such cases. NBB will normally approve the project together with term and condition.
4	Biosafety Guideline -Risk Assessment on Genetically Modified Microorganisms	Dr. Norzihan Abdullah (MARDI) – Is there any form for storage of LMO?	There is no specific form for storage of LMO. Storage of LMO can be reported in the IBC Annual Report.
5	Biosafety Guideline - Risk Assessment on Confined Field Trial of Living Modified Plants in Malaysia	Dr Sobri Hussein (Nuclear Malaysia) - Is breeding and mutation technique regulated by the Biosafety Act	In the Biosafety Act 2007, breeding and mutagenesis are not regulated under the Biosafety Act 2007. Canada regulates it based on novelty.
6	Procedure and Guideline in Grant Application Related to Modern Biotechnology Research Activities	Dr. Nazlina Ibrahim (UKM) – Is there a standard format for the IBC evaluation form	Each institute need to create their own IBC evaluation form to be submitted to MOSTI If it is an exempted activity, IBC need to mention to MOSTI that the project is exempted according to the Biosafety act.
		Can MOSTI explain how to submit the form?	Since-science fund is done online, IBC need to send the form manually attach together with science fund form.
		-	MOSTI suggested that IBC inform the RMC about this so that the RMC are aware about the grant application process involved for LMO/GMO work.
		Dr. Lim Yang Moi (UTAR) – Can we apply a fund for plant research (research not funding by MOA)?	Fund (MOSTI) is applicable to all research involving herb/plant.

		Dr. Sobri (Nuclear) - Why is there a delay in the 2 nd round fund from MOSTI?	MOSTI pays thru Academy of Sciences. Now the process is improved. Payment can be received within 40 days.
7	Guidance on IBC Guidelines a) IBC Annual Report	Dr. Rahizzan Issa (GMAC) – What actions do you take on IBCs that fail to submit their IBC report how?	We still encourage the IBC to submit their report.
8	Guidance on IBC Guidelines b) IBC Inspection Report	Dr. Kavitha Mohandas (IMU) – When should we carry out the inspection frequent	It depends on the institution We suggest to do it at least once a year.
		Dr. Sobri Hussein (Nuclear) - Have an unwanted incident occurred and reported so far since JBK established? Are there any incidents in other countries involving GMO research?	So far no reported incidents. There were some incidents being reported during the Emory Biorisk Management Training in Universiti Malaya recently.
		Dr. Kavitha Mohandas (IMU) - Suggested that all work involving modern biotechnology should be sent to JBK.	-
		Dr. Abdul Rahim Harun (Nuclear) - Who should make the Emergency Response Assessment?	Principal Investigator
		Dr. Abdul Rahim Harun (Nuclear) – Kindly include the emergency response plan module in the next IBC seminar.	-
9	Biosafety Guideline - Environmental Risk Assessment of Genetically Modified Plants in Malaysia	For conducting a field trial, is there any buffer zone required?	It depends on what plant and how far the pollen travels. For example transgenic papaya, buffer zone is around 500 meter.
10	Session 1 -Success and Challenges in Setting Up an IBC – Prof Dr Raha (UPM)	Dr. Nazlina Ibrahim (UKM) – Have problems in terms of getting the cooperation with the researchers because if we ask for the information needed, the feedback received disappointing.	Prof. Dr. Raha (UPM) - Any specified / directed by the Chairman of the IBC will be followed and should be followed for these positions are appointed by the Vice-Chancellor. Prof. Dr. Raha Abdul Rahim personally meet with the Director of the RMC for review a research involving the application of modern biotechnology.

11	Session 2 - Success and Challenges in Setting Up an IBC – Pn Haslina (Sime Darby Technology Center)	-	-
12	IBC Open Forum / Discussion Moderator – Dr Anita (JBK) Panels – Ms Sharifah (JBK), Dr Rahizzan (GMAC), Dr Tan (GMAC) and Dr Sim (GMAC)	Dr. Tan Swee Lian (Panel) – Commented on one of the questions in the notification form “Briefly describe the project using non-technical terms” – the answer by the applicant (PI) is too brief sometimes only one sentence provided. Please elaborate more on this.	-
		Dr. Rahizan Issa (Panel) – Commented on Standard operating procedure which should be more detail.	-
		Ms. Suzita (UPM) – What will happen if the PI didn’t provide additional information within 10 days or the time requested by JBK/GMAC?	We can negotiate or apply for suspension. But this will slow the assessment process by the GMAC at the expense of the PI. Try to meet time line even though we can negotiate. We can revoke the acknowledgement letter.
		Dr. Lim Yang Mooi (UTAR) – Do we need to stop our activities when GMAC request additional information?	No need to stop research activities. Only stop when JBK revoke the acknowledgement letter.
		Dr. Sim Soon Liang (panel) – Commented that GMAC like to see the (IBC) flowchart of activity indicating time line and facility involved.	-
		Dr. Kavitha Mohandas (IMU) – List of exemptions have not been updated since last year. Are there no changes so far?	Will be revised. If you feel any of the activities should be included, please inform us so that JBK can add it into the exemption list.
		Dr. Kavitha Mohandas (IMU) - If we use teaching kit, do we still need to go thru notification?	We plan to exempt it from notification. Still in the process.
		Mr. Sivaganesh (ABI) - ABI already have a more thorough evaluation form. How do you suggest the PI is competent or not/ qualified to perform research activities?	Under the personnel file it should have a record of seven days training a year for competence purposes. Suggestion is to refer with the Institution training records. Can request from JBK for advice on appropriate

			training for GMO activities.
		Dr. Kan Mun Seng (Nottingham) - How to make sure research institute who are not registered yet follow this Act?	We encourage them to register by sending reminders but some Institutes did not respond.
		Dr. Kavitha Mohandas (IMU) - Please specify to us how many times to conduct inspection? Example once per six month, once per year. Give some guidelines.	JBK suggest once a year at least.
		Ms. Noor Huda Daud (Biovalence) – Sharing experience: about the compliance. Learned many things, no need much money to comply, JBK check the validity of SOP. GMAC satisfy with the corrective action made.	-
		Ms. Siti Zulaiha (UTM) - Suggestion about inspection report, give time line.	Need to submit IBC Annual Report before 31 st March each year.
		Dr. Kavitha Mohandas (IMU) - Do you differentiate how to inspect the facility that done the normal research and lab that done research with manipulated organisms.	No difference, we just inspect the technical part of the lab.
		Ms. Sharifah Hanisah (panel) – Commented that JBK requested that IBCs sent their BSOs for this seminar but some have failed to do so. One of the purposes for this workshop is to build networking among BSO. Any updates JBK has, we will pass the knowledge to BSO/IBC members. If participant have any suggestion on exemption activities or others, or anything to add, just inform JBK so that we can take on board your suggestion. Any changes on IBC information, please update JBK. Any suggestions on what IBCs want JBK to cover in their next annual seminar, please E-mail Farhan.	-
		Dr. Lim Yang Mooi (UTAR) – UTAR is in the process to submit their IBC registration. Even though not registered, we carry on inspection on the lab, do risk assessment, do peer monitoring system, we also	-

		leave it to post graduate student and lab officer to make SOP.	
		Dr. Nazlina Ibrahim (UKM) – We went to a BCH workshop last year, very informative workshop, so we did the same workshop at UKM. It take one day. Email all UKM staff for coming, but unfortunately only 15 people attended, including science officer, lecturer, student and researcher. There are not interested to know. After workshop, we share the information on BCH in Google drive.	-
		Dr. Sim Soon Liang (panel) – Proposed that in the next IBC seminar, everyone will participate until the end of the seminar or else they will miss some important lectures and discussion.	-
		Ms. Sharifah Hanisah (panel) – Requested attendees whose BSO are not present to brief them on the outcome of the seminar.	-
		Dr. Lim Yang Mooi (UTAR) – UTAR will submit the IBC registration form to NRE.	-