

Annexure - I



The Minutes of the First meeting of Agri Biotechnology Industry Platform held on 9.1.2009 in Hyderabad

The first meeting of the Industry Platform on Agri biotechnology was organized on 9th January 2009 at Hyderabad to decide the further course of action for the role of the Platform. The list of participants is at Annexure- I.

2. The participants were briefed by the representatives of the DBT and FICCI about the objectives of the industry platform and the deliberations that have taken place in the earlier meetings held on July 09, 2007, April 3, 2008 and July 15, 2008. It was indicated that the knowledge-based economy requires focus on scientific research, technological development and innovation. Research, which is becoming more and more expensive owing to increasing complexity, requires integration of research efforts from all the stakeholders like industry, academia, R&D institutions, Government policy planners, etc. Considering the vital role that the agriculture sector plays in the socio-economic development of the country, Agri Biotechnology Industry Platform has been identified as one of the important platforms that need to be made operational. The participants deliberated at length and expressed the view that the platform would provide an opportunity to resolve various issues that have hampered growth of the agriculture sector. They also stressed that the participation in the platform has to be voluntary and needs to be driven by the industry. The Government could facilitate the platform by extending the support towards appropriate policies and funding of the suitable programmes under the public private partnership mode.

3. It was also agreed that all nominees shall complete membership formalities at the earliest and share the concept of the industry platform with other industry members to encourage participation. The members identified priority areas with focus on biotic, abiotic stresses of crops and vegetables as well as the policy issues, the infrastructure and the capacity building measures required for agriculture. It was realized that intellectual property issues would need to be viewed seriously during the course of product development in partnerships as also the IPR sharing and free access to germplasm for research purposes. It was felt that the industry - academia as well as industry-industry partnerships would evolve through the efforts of the Industry Platform and gain the required momentum.

4. The members agreed that four Working Groups be constituted in the initial state. Each Working Group would prepare a strategic research planning paper covering all aspects and would present the same in the next meeting. The Working Groups and their composition are as under:

- (i) Working Group on Abiotic Stress
- (ii) Working Group on Biotic Stresses
- (iii) Working Group on Infrastructure requirement
- (iv) Working Group on Seed Production

Working Group on Abiotic Stress

The group shall identify areas for research on abiotic stresses of crops and vegetables and suggest applied research approach for the same.

Chairman: Dr. Govind Garg, Krishidhan Seeds

Members

Dr. Sanjay K. Katiyar, Advanta India Limited
Mr. Ajay Parida, M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation
Dr. Subramanian, Rasi Seeds (P) Ltd.
Dr. H E Shashidhar, Barwale foundation
Dr. Bharat Char, Mahyco
Mr. Bipin Solani, Devgen
Dr. M. Ravindran, TNAU

Working Group on Biotic Stresses

The group will identify and prioritize the biotic stresses of crops and vegetables and suggest the strategy for applied research on the same.

Chairman: Dr. P. Balasubramanian, TNAU

Members

Dr. Rao, Krishidhaan Seeds
Dr. Govind Garg, Krishidhaan Seeds
Dr. Prasad, Advanta India Limited
Dr. Sanjay K. Katiyar, Advanta India Limited
Dr. Radha, Mahyco
Mr. Chandrashekhar Chaporkar, Mahyco
Mr. Sameer Agrawal, Director, Bejo Sheetal Seeds

Working Group on Infrastructure requirement

The group will identify infrastructure needs including manpower capacity building

Chairman: Dr. Bharat Char, Mahyco

Members

Dr. Ramavana Gururaja, Camson Biotechnologies
Dr. Subramanian, Rasi seeds
Dr. Sajiv Anand, NSAI
Dr. Ajay Parida, MSSRF
Dr. P. Balasubramanian, TNAU
Dr. H E Shashidhar, Barwale Foundation
Prof. O.P. Govila, Former Professor of Genetics, Indian Agricultural Research Institute
Dr. K. S. Charak, DBT

Working Group on Seed Production

The group will identify strategies for improving seed production.

Chairman: Dr. Zaman, Krishidhan Seeds

Members

Dr. Govind Garg, Krishidhan Seeds

Mr. Chandrashekhhar Chaporkar, Mahyco

Dr. H L Nadaf, UAS – Dharwad

Dr. Subramanian, Rasi Seeds

Dr. Virupaxagouda Patil, Indian Foundation Seed and Services Association (IFSSA)

5. FICCI will provide emails ID's of all participants to the members of the working groups. Each Working Group shall be ready with the first draft of the Strategic Research Plan latest by March 26, 2009. This draft shall be circulated amongst all members for a feedback by FICCI. The final draft after suitable modifications etc. shall be collated by FICCI and circulated to all the participants.

6. It was decided to organize the next meeting on the 9th and 10th of April, 2009 at Hyderabad. The venue and agenda would be communicated in due course.

7. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to all participants. A special vote of thanks was extended to the Barwale foundation for extending their hospitality.

List of Attendees

Dr. Sanjay K. Katiyar, Global Biotech Lead, Advanta India Limited
Dr. Sajiv Anand, Director, National Seed Association of India (NSAI)
Mr. Kamal O. Zunzunwala, Director, Bejo Sheetal Seeds Pvt. Ltd.
Dr. Ramavana Gururaja, President - R&D, Camson Biotechnologies Ltd.
Mr. Rahul Menon, National Marketing Head, DevGen Seeds and Crop Technology Pvt. Ltd
Dr. Govind Garg , Krishidhan Seeds Ltd
Dr. F.U. Zaman, Chief - R & D (Rice), Krishidhan Seeds Ltd.
Mr. Ajay Parida, Director (Biotechnology), M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation
Mr. Chandrashekar Chaporkar, Head - Cotton, Oil Seeds and Okra Research, Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co. Ltd
Dr. Bharat Char, Lead - Biotechnology Research, Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co. Ltd
Dr. H E Shashidhar, Director, Barwale foundation
Dr. Subramanian, VP – Biotechnology, Rasi Seeds (P) Ltd.
Dr. P. Balasubramanian, Director - Centre for Plant Molecular Biology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
Dr. H. K. Deshmukh, Director – R & D, Safal (Bejo Sheetal) Seeds Biotech Ltd.
Mr. P. Veera Reddy, Managing Director, AG Biotech Laboratory (I) Ltd.
Mr. Sanjit Aradhya, Manager - Biotechnology, Seed Works India Pvt. Ltd.
Mr. Dinesh C. Joshi, Executive Director, Barwale Foundation
Mr. N S Samant, Joint Secretary, Department of Biotechnology
Ms. Prachi Saroop, Director, Department of Biotechnology
Dr. K. S. Charak, Scientist 'G; Department of Biotechnology
Mr. V K Topa, Advisor to Secretary General, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry
Ms. Bishakha Bhattacharya, Additional Director, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry