

**ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE
JOINT MEETING OF THE CHEMICALS COMMITTEE AND THE WORKING PARTY
ON CHEMICALS, PESTICIDES AND BIOTECHNOLOGY**

Working Group on the Harmonisation of Regulatory Oversight in Biotechnology

**DRAFT AGENDA: Kick-off meeting of the Ad-hoc Expert Group for developing
the Consensus Document on the Biology of Mosquito *Anopheles gambiae***

**14-15 March 2019
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

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Draft Agenda: Kick-off meeting of the Ad-hoc Expert Group for developing the Consensus Document on the Biology of Mosquito *Anopheles gambiae*

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BACKGROUND

1. In a previous project initiated in 2013, the Working Group on the Harmonisation of Regulatory Oversight in Biotechnology (WG-HROB) developed the “Consensus Document on the Biology of Mosquito *Aedes aegypti*”. Under the co-leadership of Mexico, Brazil and the ILSI Research Foundation, an Ad hoc group (with experts from co-lead delegations and from Australia, India, France, Kenya, United States and the industry) ensured the successive drafting of the document. A kick-off meeting was hosted by Mexico in May 2014. The final document, issued in June 2018, was the first publication of the OECD biosafety Series to deal with an insect species.
2. In 2016, on the proposal of the African Biosafety Network of Expertise (NEPAD-ABNE) and the ILSI Research Foundation, the WG-HROB agreed to develop a similar document on mosquito *Anopheles gambiae*. At its 31st meeting in 2017, the WG-HROB discussed the operational plan [[ENV/JM/BIO\(2017\)7](#)] presented by the project co-leads and agreed to set up an Ad hoc drafting group. Nominations of experts were received in 2017, 2018 and early 2019 from the delegations of Australia, Brazil, France, FNIH (the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health - United States), while NEPAD-ABNE and the ILSI Research Foundation identified a group of experts from several African and European countries. The provisional list of experts constituting the Ad hoc drafting group is available on the [WG-HROB protected website](#).
3. At the 32nd WG-HROB meeting held in June 2018, the project co-leads offered to organise a kick-off meeting for the Ad hoc drafting group, contemplated to be held in an African country in the following months. Following exchanges and preparation work involving the co-leads, Australia, FNIH and the OECD Secretariat, a 2-day event was set up to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 14-15 March 2019.

ACTIONS REQUIRED:

WG-HROB delegates are invited to:

- i) **take note of the project developments**, including the establishment of the Ad hoc drafting group and the draft agenda for the kick-off meeting;
- ii) **contemplate participation in the kick-off meeting**, as possibly wished in addition to the group of 12 experts. Interested delegates should contact the OECD Secretariat for registration.

1. THURSDAY 14 MARCH 2019

		OPENING OF THE MEETING	
1.	08:30	Opening Remarks	by John Teem, ILSI-RF
2.	08:45	The Foundation for the National Institutes of Health – The role of the FNIH in supporting programs directed towards malaria control in Africa	Remarks by Willy Tonui, FNIH
3.		Adoption of the Draft Agenda	ENV/JM/BIO/A(2019)2 <i>For adoption (as possibly amended)</i>
		Session 1: Background to OECD Biology Documents	
4.	9:00	The New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) - Advancing the Knowledge Base for <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> NEPAD initiates the effort to produce an <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> Consensus Document.	Presentation by Moussa Savadogo/ Woldeyesus Sinebo, NEPAD
5.	9:20	Background to the OECD biosafety programme and Biology Consensus Documents – Historical context of OECD biosafety work, main achievements of the WG-HROB, development of biology documents for plants/ animals/ micro-organisms species of interest to the biotechnology community.	Presentation by Bertrand Dagallier, OECD
6.	9:40	WG-HROB biology Consensus Documents for genetically-engineered plants How the OECD plant biology Consensus Documents are structured to provide information to assist risk assessors. On-going development of the ‘Environmental Considerations’ guidance.	Presentation by Ryudai Oshima, OECD
	10:00	Tea break	
7.	10:30	OECD biology Consensus Documents for animal species The Consensus Document on the biology of Atlantic Salmon as a precedent for other animal consensus documents	Presentation by Andrew Roberts, ILSI-RF

8.	11:00	The <i>Aedes aegypti</i> biology Consensus Document The first insect Consensus Document and the template for the <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> biology Consensus Document	Presentation by John Teem, ILSI-RF
9.	11:30	Status of the <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> biology Consensus Document The draft outline based upon the <i>Aedes aegypti</i> biology Consensus Document, text contributed to date	Presentation by John Teem, ILSI-RF
	12:00	Lunch break	
		Session 2: Brainstorming on Content for the <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> Biology Consensus Document	
10.	13:00	The group will identify topic areas and biology information content that would be useful to risk assessors and should be included in the document. This will include content that is unique to <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> and its role in transmission of the <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> parasite. The group will further discuss the exact scope of the document with regard to inclusion of other members of the <i>An. gambiae</i> complex as well as other parasites of human and animal significance that can be vectored by <i>An. gambiae</i> . One of the goals of this session is to encourage participants to be the “champion” of specific topic areas and create a vision for a final quality product that will have value in future efforts to control malaria.	<i>For discussion</i>
	15:30	Tea break	
		Session 3: Integrating New Content to the Draft <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> Outline	
11.	16:00	Participants will review in detail the draft outline for the future document. Based upon the results of discussion in Session 2, modifications will be made to incorporate content that is of particular relevance to <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> .	<i>For discussion</i>
	17:30	Adjourn Day 1	

2. FRIDAY 15 MARCH 2019

12.	8:00	Welcome and Review of Day 1	Remarks by John Teem, ILSI-RF
		Session 4: Integrating New Content to the Draft <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> Outline	
	8:15	Work Groups Participants will identify the portions of the future draft document to which they could contribute. A list of potential co-authors will be established for each section.	<i>For discussion</i>
	10:00	Tea break	
14.	10:30	Work Groups (continued) Co-authors will meet in four groups based upon their respective sections of interest. Authors will populate a reference database that includes all documentation seen as required for writing their section.	<i>For discussion</i>
15.	11:30	Discussion	<i>For discussion</i>
	12:00	Lunch break	
16.	13:30	Work Groups (continued) Abstracts from relevant references will be viewed for summary information that may be the basis for scientific text content of sections.	<i>For discussion</i>
	15:30	Tea break	
17.	16:00	Final Discussion A schedule will be elaborated for generating a first draft of the <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> biology Consensus Document, with a timeline set for progress review and completion.	<i>For discussion</i>
		WRAP-UP	
18.	16:45	Closing Remarks	by John Teem, ILSI-RF
	17:00	CLOSURE OF THE MEETING	