

## 4.24 Pakistan



### 4.24.1 National Biosafety Guidelines (2005)

The Guidelines includes regulation of all GM materials (DNA and RNA preparations, viroids, viruses, cells and organisms, modified or constructed through genetic engineering), derivatives thereof and wastes or by-products of genetic engineering practices (containing viable organisms or otherwise).

The scope of these Guidelines embraces all works related to gene manipulation employing recombinant DNA technology for all purposes including the development of transgenic plants, animals and microorganisms; production of vaccines; industrial manufacturing of GMOs and products thereof, and their release into the environment for field trials as well as for commercial uses.

The Guidelines consist of two parts; the first part relates to regulated work in laboratory research and field trials; and the second part deals with procedures for approvals which must be obtained to deregulate the regulated materials to allow their free movement and commercial uses.

Enforcement of various clauses of the National Biosafety Guidelines will be administered by the three monitoring implementation bodies, as per legal authority of the Pakistan Environment Protection Act 1997.

### 4.24. Pakistan Biosafety Rules (2005)

These rules are applicable to the:

- (a) Manufacture, import and storage of microorganisms and gene technological products for research whether conducted in laboratories for teaching and research, research and development institutes or private companies involved in the use and application of (GMOs) and products thereof.
- (b) All work involved in the field trial of genetically manipulated plants, animals (including poultry and marine life), microorganisms and cells.
- (c) Import, export, sale and purchase of LMOs, substances or cells and products thereof for commercial purposes.

The rules also detail the various Committees constituted viz., National Biosafety Committee, Technical Advisory Committee, Institutional Biosafety Committee, their functions, approvals required for various categories of material, etc.

**Source:**

1. *National Biosafety Guidelines Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency, Government of Pakistan, Ministry of Environment), Notification No. F.2(7)95-Bio (available at <http://www.environment.gov.pk/act-rules/BiosftyGlines2005.pdf>; accessed on 3 October 2007)*
2. *Pakistan Biosafety Rules notified under SRO (I) 336(I)/2005 Pakistan Environmental Protection Act 1997. (Available at <http://www.environment.gov.pk/act-rules/Biosftyrules.pdf>; accessed on 3 October 2007)*