

4.28 Republic of Korea



4.28.1 Regulation on the Genetic Recombination Experiment (1997)

The regulation was the first to notify safe treatment procedures for genetic recombination experiments. It gives the basics for the categorization of experiments, containment methods, treatment of genetic recombinant etc.

4.28.2 Regulation on the Test and Treatment of Genetically Recombined Organisms related with Agricultural Research (1999)

The regulation notified the safe treatment and safety test methods of genetically re-combined organisms related to agriculture research. It gives the duties and composition of the various safety committees, safety assessment etc.

4.28.3 The Inspection Guidelines on Risk Assessment Documents for GM Foods and Additives (1999)

The Guidelines detail the procedures for the safety assessment of GM foods. The contents include details of risk assessment, food additives etc.

4.28.4 Mandatory Labeling of GM Agricultural Products and GM Foods (2000)

The regulation provides details of identification items, identification standards and the methods of labeling of LMOs.

4.28.5 The Standard on Marking for GM Foods (2000)

The Standard was developed with a purpose of ensuring awareness amongst consumers that they have the right to choose in respect of GM foods, to verify GM food marking and related documents on importation of GM foods and to trace and monitor the stage of domestic distribution.

It requires that the "genetic recombined food", "genetic recombined contained", "genetic recombination" or "genetic recombined" be put next to the names of the ingredients in the labels on food packets having such products.

4.28.6 Regulation on the Quality Control of Fishery Products (2001)

The regulation notifies quality control procedures and provides details of the identification of GM fish, quality control items, inspection of fisheries processed products and processed foods.

4.28.7 Regulation on the Sampling and Testing Methods of Transgenic Crops (2001)

The regulation details the sampling and testing procedures of transgenic crops including, duties of sample testing authority, and judgement (analysis, interpretation) of test results.

4.28.8 Biotechnology Support Act (2001)

The Act having the purpose to support and promote biotechnological research covers procedures for collection and release of technical information, biotechnological support Guidelines, Guidelines on experiments, etc.

4.28.9 Guidelines for the Environmental Risk Assessment of GM Agricultural Products ("GMAPs") (2002)

The Guidelines are meant to protect the agricultural environment and to facilitate safe marketing of GM Agricultural Products produced domestically or abroad.

The Guidelines give details of procedures for the environmental risk assessment of GM Agricultural Products and the risk assessment requirements.

4.28.10 The Notice on Marking Items and Methods for Genetically Modified Fisheries Products (2002)

The purpose of the regulation is to notify the identification method for transgenic fishery products so as to give accurate information on GM fishery products to the consumers. It also gives details of the standards and methods of identification of fisheries transgenic products.

4.28.11 Food Sanitation Act (2002.8) (as amended) and the Enforcement Ordinance to the said Act (2003.4) (2002)

The Act requires that the risk assessment of GM foods will be mandatory with effect from 27 February 2004.

4.28.12 The Act on Transboundary Movements of Living Modified Organisms (2003)

The Act covers all functions pursuant to The Protocol including animals, fishes, microorganisms, plants and human health.

The objective of this Act is to prevent in advance the risk of LMOs to national health and their adverse effects on the conservation and

sustainable use of biological diversity, thereby promoting international cooperation and assuring the safety of the development, production, import, export and distribution of LMOs.

This Act applies to development, production, import, export, and distribution of LMOs that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health.

4.28.13 The Enforcement Ordinance of the Act on Transboundary Movements of Living Modified Organisms (2003)

The enforcement ordinance stipulates matters necessary for the enforcement of the Act on Transboundary Movements of LMOs.

This regulation applies to development, production, import, export, and distribution of LMOs that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health.

4.28.14 National Biosafety Framework of Republic of Korea (2004)

The NBF establishes a more reasonable and efficient national biosafety system. The NBF in Korea include the development of legal and administrative systems as well as risk assessment and management systems.

4.28.15 Bioethics and Biosafety Act (2005)

The Act, mainly concerned with human safety, is aimed to enhance the health of human beings and the quality of human life by creating conditions that allow for the development of life sciences and biotechnologies that can be used to prevent or cure human diseases.

Additionally, this Act aims to protect human dignity and to prevent harm to human beings by ensuring that these life sciences and biotechnologies are developed safely and in accordance with the principles of bioethics.

Source:

- 1. National Biosafety Framework (NBF) of Republic of Korea (2004) Ministry of Environment, Republic of Korea, National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER). (Available on <http://www.unep.ch/biosafety/development/countryreports/KRNBFrep.pdf>; accessed on 3 October 2007).*
- 2. USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, GAIN Report No. KS7050 Republic of Korea Biotechnology, Agricultural Biotechnology Report 2007. (Available on*

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200707/146291775.pdf>;
accessed on 3 October 2007).