MINUTES OF THE 173rd MEETING OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON GENETIC MANIPULATION (RCGM) HELD ON 01.07.2019 IN THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

The Chairman, RCGM extended a formal welcome to the members of the RCGM for the 173rd meeting and initiated the process of the meeting. The list of participants is given as Annexure-I.

2. The Committee adopted the minutes and recommendations of the 172nd meeting of the RCGM held on 16.05.2019.

3. On action taken report, the Member-Secretary informed that during 172nd meeting of the RCGM, a total of 100 applications including information items were considered and the Secretariat is in the process of issuing permit letters based on the recommendations of the RCGM.

4. Proposals considered:

4.1 Applications in the area of Pharmaceuticals

The Committee considered applications to import CHO cell lines expressing Bevacizumab, genetically engineered Drosophila fly stock, genetically engineered Drosophila melanogaster, Master Cell bank of recombinant CHO cell lines expressing Adalimumab, Working Cell bank of recombinant CHO cell lines expressing Erythropoietin, recombinant Bovine Herpes Virus strain, C. elegans, genetically engineered Drosophila, serum samples that may contain GMO, transgenic Zebrafish lines; recombinant plasmids, eggs of genetically engineered Anopheles stephensi line, eggs of a Recoded kh SWAP gene drive Anopheles stephensi line, recombinant human Insulin, recombinant Insulin Lispro, recombinant plasmids, empty vector pH21, (humanized MDCK) cell lines for generation of high yield influenza A virus strains, recombinant plasmids for generation of high yield influenza B virus strains, applications for Drosophila melanogaster (fruit flies); to transfer master cell bank and working cell bank of Vibrio cholera strains, recombinant Pichia pastoris strain, recombinant strains of dengue virus serotypes; to receive recombinant strains of Dengue virus serotypes, recombinant Pichia pastoris strain; preclinical toxicity study reports on recombinant Insulin Lispro; to conduct preclinical toxicity study on recombinant Ranibizumab. After deliberation on each application including information items, appropriate decision was taken by the RCGM.

4.2 Applications in the area of Agriculture

The Committee considered applications to import recombinant E. coli DH5alpha stab culture, recombinant E. coli strain, mutant and transgenic lines of Arabidopsis thaliana. After deliberation on each application including information items, appropriate decision was taken by the RCGM.

4.3 Other items

The Committee deliberated further on the following: Site visit Committee on GE silkworm to conduct multi location trials; draft ‘General principles and Framework for Regulation and principles of Risk assessment of Genome Edited (GEd) Products/Organisms’; annual update of the list of infective microorganisms corresponding to different risk groups; “Guidance Document on Genetically Engineered Plants Containing Stacked Events, 2018”; “Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) of Genetically Engineered Microorganisms (GEM) for Environmental
Release Purposes; CRTs on Genetically Engineered (GE) Mosquitoes; “National containment/quarantine facility for transgenic planting material”; revised application to conduct preclinical toxicity study on Centrin knockout live attenuated Leishmania clinical grade parasite vaccine and appropriate decision was taken by the RCGM.

The next meeting of the RCGM was scheduled on 13.08.2019.

No other transaction took place and the meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

The minutes are approved.

(Dr. B. Sesikeran)
Chairman, RCGM
Annexure-1

List of Participants:

1. Dr. B. Sesikaran, Former Director, NIN Hyderabad - Chairman
2. Dr. Shailaja Hittalmani, Emeritus Scientist, UAS, Bangalore - Member
3. Dr. Vanga Siva Reddy, CSO, BSU, New Delhi - Member
4. Dr. Gururaj Katti, Principal Scientist, IIRR, Hyderabad - Member
5. Dr. S.K. Rath, Principal Scientist, CSIR-CDRI, Lucknow - Member
6. Dr. Deependra K. Sahoo, IMTECH, Chandigarh - Member
7. Dr. Amita Aggarwal, SGPIMS, Lucknow - Member
8. Dr. Ambikanandan Misra, MS University, Vadodara, Gujarat - Member
9. Dr. Rajesh Rastogi, MoEF&CC, New Delhi - Nominee, MoEF&CC
10. Dr. Jayant Gangashankar, ADGI, CDSCO - Nominee-DCG(l)
11. Dr. Gurinderjit Randhawa, NBPG, New Delhi - Nominee, NBPG
12. Dr. Alka Sharma Scientist-G, DBT - Member Secretary
13. Dr. A.K. Rawat, Scientist-G, DBT - Member
14. Dr. Rajalakshmi Muralidharan, Scientist-F, DBT - Member
15. Dr. Nitin Jain, Scientist-E, DBT - Member

Biosafety Support Unit:

16. Dr. Sangeeta Agarwal, Chief (Agriculture)
17. Dr. Poonam Vishwakarma, Scientist
18. Dr. Pranjali Vishwakarma, Scientist

Other Representatives:

19. Dr. Amar Srivastava, M/s. Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd., Pune
20. Dr. R. Jayachandran, M/s. Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd., Pune
21. Dr. Narendra Deshmukh, M/s. Intox Pvt. Ltd., Pune
22. Dr. YogeshMurkunde, M/s. GeneSys BioLogics Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad, Telangana
24. Mr. Tulasi Ram, M/s. GeneSys BioLogics Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad, Telangana
25. Mr. Sarvanam, M/s. Viprangen Biosciences Pvt. Ltd., Mysore, Karnataka
26. Dr. R. Seeneivas, M/s. Clonz Biotech Private Limited., Telangana
27. Dr. Muralidhar Reddy, M/s. Clonz Biotech Private Limited., Telangana
28. Dr. G. Vepprasad, M/s. Clonz Biotech Private Limited., Telangana