



**SCREENING CHAPTER 27
ENVIRONMENT**

AGENDA ITEM: GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

Directive 98/81/EC

Directive 2001/18/EC

Regulation (EC) 1946/2003

Regulation (EC) 1830/2003

**Country Session: The Republic of Turkey
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CONTENT

- Legislative Framework and Competent Authority
- Implementation
- Authorisation of GMOs
- Assessment Capacity
- Biosafety Information Exchange Mechanism



LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

- Law No 5488 on Agriculture
- Statutory Decree on establishment and mandate of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs UN Cartagena Biosafety Protocol (Ratification by Law No. 4898)
- Instruction on the Field Trials of Transgenic Culture (in line with Part B of Directive 2001/18/EC)

Competent Authority

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)



IMPLEMENTATION

Instruction on Field Trials of Transgenic Culture Crops

- All transgenic crops, developed through modern biotechnology either imported or locally developed, intended for deliberate release to environment subject to field trials under controlled conditions.
- The methods and procedures set down in the Instruction for environmental risk assessment are in parallel with the EU guidance notes for environmental risk assessment. (Commission Decision 2002/623/EC)



IMPLEMENTATION (CONT`D)

Instruction on Field Trials of Transgenic Culture Crops

Application of Field Trials

- General Directorate of Agricultural Research
- Checking Documents
- Scientific Evaluation of Application
- Designing Field Trials



IMPLEMENTATION (CONT`D)

Instruction on Field Trials of Transgenic Culture Crops

Implementation of Field Trials

- Field Tests
- Laboratory Tests
 - Tests for food and feed equivalence
 - Tests for toxicity and allergenicity
- Scientific Evaluation
- Decision Making



AUTHORISATION OF GMOs

- Specific legislation on experimental release
- Production and imports of GMOs, and those containing antibiotic resistance markers are not permitted/authorized

Since there is no authorisation for marketing, specific controls and inspections of GMOs have not started yet.



ASSESSMENT CAPACITY

- Four laboratories of MARA and five university laboratories have capacity to carry out analysis on GMOs
- MARA and its institutes carry out field trials on crops



BIOSAFETY INFORMATION EXCHANGE MECHANISM

- Biosafety Information Exchange Mechanism is under construction and will be connected to Biosafety Clearing House Mechanism under Cartagena Biosafety Protocol
- This mechanism will not only provide opportunity for public consultation and participation but, it will also be used for sharing any information available for GMOs



Thank You For Your Attention