

**Canadian Biotechnology Advisory Committee
Twenty-Second Meeting – October 6, 2004
Summary**

PARTICIPANTS

CBAC Members

Dr. Arnold Naimark (Chair), Gloria Bishop, Pete Desai, Barry Glickman, Pavel Hamet, Lyne Létourneau, Linda Lusby, Anne Mitchell, Peter Phillips, David Punter

Special Guests

Neil Yeates, Assistant Deputy Minister, Industry Sector, Industry Canada
Ron Yamada, Co-Chair, CBAC Expert Working Party on Human Genetic Materials, Intellectual Property and the Health Sector

CBAC Staff

Kim Elmslie (Executive Director), Lidia Guerra, Eileen Inrig, Marnie McCall, Stephanie Wilson

Regrets

Timothy Caulfield, Pierre Coulombe, Mary Alton Mackey, Denny Warner

Sector and Project Reports and Discussion

1. Neil Yeates, Assistant Deputy Minister, Industry Sector, Industry Canada, attended the morning session of the CBAC meeting to learn more about CBAC's activities and to discuss CBAC's future activities.
2. Dr. Naimark advised the Committee that its Biotechnology and Health Innovation Report (*Biotechnology and the Health of Canadians*) was in production and would be published in the late fall.
3. Dr. Naimark advised members that a competitive process was underway to identify a contractor to undertake CBAC's Biotechnology, Sustainable Development and Canada's Future Economy project.
4. CBAC members had a discussion of possible opportunities to engage the public on biotechnology issues (e.g., additional public opinion research, CBAC participation in the Gee! in Genome Exhibit, a national travelling exhibition sponsored by the Canadian Museum of Nature, Genome Canada, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research).
5. In light of the release of the report of the External Advisory Committee on Smart Regulations (*SMART Regulation: A Regulatory Strategy for Canada*) (which contained a chapter which specifically addressed biotechnology issues), CBAC members engaged in a discussion of ways in which it could further assist the government in addressing biotechnology regulatory issues.

6. Eileen Inrig advised CBAC members that its Dialogue Tool on Genetically Modified Foods and Feeds would be available in electronic and print format in the late fall. This tool was developed to assist in framing constructive debate on contentious issues raised by agricultural biotechnology. Eileen also received CBAC approval to proceed with developing a short paper for dissemination to stakeholders around how the Committee used the Tool and to suggest ways in which it might be used and adapted by others for their own use.
7. CBAC members engaged in a discussion of its project on human genetic materials, intellectual property and the health sector from three perspectives: economic, clinical and legal/ethical. Each perspective was introduced by a CBAC member acting as lead discussant. A number of observations were identified to be brought to the attention of CBAC's Expert Working Party (which is guiding this project) for its consideration in developing the report on the GIPH Project.
8. Eileen Inrig led a discussion on CBAC's communications strategy to the end of fiscal year 2004-2005.

Routine Matters

1. The minutes of the June 9, 2004 meeting were approved.
2. CBAC members had a mid-year review of CBAC's 2004-2005 financial statement.

Next Meeting

1. The next meeting, to be held in Toronto, is scheduled for February 9-10, 2005.