

## 4.2 Bangladesh



### 4.2.1 Biosafety Guidelines of Bangladesh (2005)

The Guidelines is applicable to all research and development activities of modern biotechnology conducted in laboratories of the government research institutes, state enterprises, universities, international organizations private companies or non-governmental organizations located in Bangladesh,. The Guidelines cover laboratory and field trials, trans-boundary movement, transit, handling and use of all GMOs with potential for adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risk to human health. They also cover aspects of risk assessment and safety requirements needed for undertaking laboratory work, field trial and commercial use, involving microorganisms, plants and animals.

The Guidelines categorizes the laboratory experiments based on different biosafety levels like work bearing minimal risk, low risk, considerable risk and high risk and the precautionary measures to be taken to avert such risks. They also proposes a decision-making framework that allows experimental field testing based on (a) the testing agency's familiarity with plant and genetic modification, (b) the ability to confine the bioengineered plant, and (c) the perceived environmental impact, should the plant escape confinement.

### 4.2.2 National Biosafety Framework (2006) (Draft)

The draft of National Biosafety Framework provides the basis for future regulation for the management of biotechnology products in Bangladesh. The objectives of the NBF are two fold – provide oversight of the existing systems, and identification of future needs for an effective and transparent legislation and administrative system.

#### **Sources:**

1. [http://www.doe-bd.org/biosafety\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www.doe-bd.org/biosafety_Guidelines.pdf); accessed on 17 September 2007
2. USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, GAIN Report No. BG6005 Bangladesh Biotechnology Annual 2006. (Available on <http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200607/146208489.pdf>; accessed on 17 September 2007)
3. Mohammed Solaiman Haider, Assistant Director (Technical) & Project Director, Development of the National Biosafety Framework Project, Department of Environment, Dhaka-Bangladesh, email: [haider@doe-bd.org](mailto:haider@doe-bd.org) (Personal Communication)