



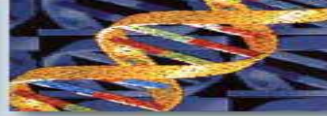
DEALING WITH GMO'S IN EUROPE

The Austrian GMO-Law at a glance

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Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering





The Gene Technology Act of the Republic of Austria

- in force since 1995
- amended in 1998, 2002 and 2004
- to protect humans and the environment of adverse effects of genetically modified organisms
- to encourage the applications of genetic engineering for the benefit of humans

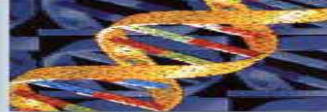




Principles of the Act

- **precautionary principle**
- **step-by-step principle**
- **public principle**
- **ethical principle**
- **future principle**

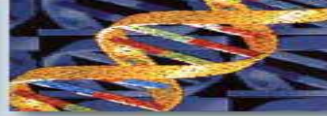




The Act Covers

- contained use of GMO
- deliberate release of GMO
- placing on the market of GMO (includes in Austria the regulations for import of GMO)
- Advisory Board on Biotechnology
- liability for damages due to genetic engineering and punishment for violating the law
 - genetic testing and gene therapy on humans





Accompanying Regulations

- **Ordinance on Work with GMOs in Contained Use (1996; amended 2002)**
- **Ordinance on Deliberate Release of GMOs (1997)**
- **Ordinance on Public Hearings (1997; amended 1998)**
- **Ordinance to protect employees from adverse effects of biological agents (1998)**
- **Ordinance on Labelling of Genetically Modified Seed (1999)**
- **Ordinance on Labelling of Products that contain GMOs (1998)**
- **Ordinance regulating the limitation for emissions in waste water resulting from work with GMO in containment (1997)**

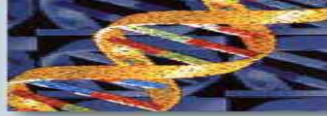




Prohibitions in Austria

- **Ordinance on prohibition of placing on the market of genetically modified maize with the combination of Bt-endotoxine and resistance against glufosinateammonium (1997)**
- **Ordinance on prohibition of placing on the market of genetically modified maize Ciba-Geigy T25 (1997)**
- **Ordinance on prohibition of placing on the market of genetically modified maize MON 810 (1999)**

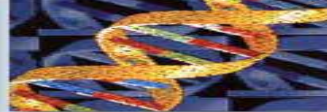




"Book of Biotechnology"

- **by the Advisory Board on Biotechnology**
- **present "state of the art" biotechnology and genetic engineering**
- **legal status of an objectified expert opinion**
- **chapters can be published as an ordinance and thus enter into force like a law**





GMO register

"Register of Products Containing GMOs"

- continuously lists up those products that have been approved under Directive 90/220/EC following the procedures of Article 13
- public

Competent Authorities

- Federal Ministry of Health and Women (for all applications from the private sector, and for applications concerning genetic testing and gene therapy)
- Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture (for all applications from Universities, excluding genetic testing and gene therapy)

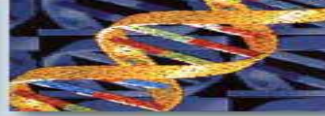




Supporting Agencies

- **The Federal Environmental Agency supports the two competent authorities with their advisory opinion concerning deliberate release and placing on the market.**
- **Ordinances are enacted by the two competent authorities together with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Water Management and Landscape and with the Federal Ministry of Economics and Labour**

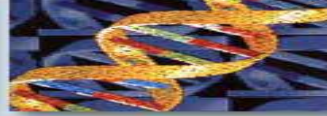




Advisory Board

- **Advisory Board on Gene Technology**
 - **Scientific Committee for Contained Use**
 - **Scientific Committee for Deliberated Release and Placing on the Market**
 - **Scientific Committee for Genetic Testing and Gene Therapy**





Internal Biosafety Officials

- **Biological Safety Officer (BSO)**
- **Deputy of the BSO**
- **Project Manager (only above BSL-1)**
- **Biological Safety Committee (BSC)**

