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Synthetic Biology Workshop: From Science to Governance

Sofitel Brussels-Europe Hotel, Brussels

18-19 March 2010

PROGRAMME

	Topic	Speaker	Organisation
DAY 1			
08:30-09:00	Registration		
09:00-09:15	Welcome	Mr. Eric Pondelet , Director, Safety of the Food Chain Directorate, DG SANCO, European Commission	
09:15-10:00	Keynote speech: Synthetic Biology – State, Importance and Development	Prof. Richard Kitney	Imperial College, UK
Session 1	SynBio: present and future (definition, current status, forecasts)	Chairs: Prof. Richard Kitney , Imperial College, UK (for sub-sessions A and B) and Dr. Ing. Bernardo Delogu , Risk Assessment Unit, DG SANCO, European Commission (for sub-session C)	
Sub-session A	EU overview		
10:00-10:20	EU SynBio research strategy	Dr. Ioannis Economidis	European Commission, Biotechnologies unit, DG RTD
10:20-10:40	Foundations for a European SynBio	Dr. Thomas Reiss	Fraunhofer institute for Systems and Innovation, DE
10:40-11:00	Coffee break		
Sub-session B	Industry perspectives		
11:00-11:20	Applications in SynBio: Present and Future	Dr. Hubert Bernauer	International Association Synthetic Biology (IASB)
11:20-11:40	Synthetic Biology present and future: a view from Genopole	Dr. Françoise Russo-Marie; Dr. François Képès	Genopole
11:40-12:00	SynBio tools in health and energy (malaria and biofuels)	Dr. Joel Cherry	Amyris
12:00-12:20	SynBio applications in biofuel productions	Dr. Paul Willems	Energy Biosciences Institute / BP
12:20-13:00	Questions on subsessions A and B		



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13:00-14:00	Lunch		
Sub-session C	Academic / basic research		
14:00-14:20	Synbio: streamlining and re-programming microbial behaviour	Prof. Vítor Martins dos Santos	Wagenigen University, the Netherlands
14:20-14:40	SynBio Environmental applications	Prof. Victor de Lorenzo	Centro Nacional de Biotecnología (CSIC) Madrid, ES
14:40-15:00	SynBio in drug discovery and combating drug resistance	Prof. Dr. Wilfrid Weber	Bioss centre, Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg, DE
15:00-15:20	Coffee break		
15:20-15:45	SynBio in pharmaceuticals and update on Nanomot project	Prof. Sven Panke	ETH, Swiss
15:45-16:05	4th Generation of Nanomaterials	Prof. Ken Dawson	Dublin University, IE
16:05-16:25	SynBio projects at RIKEN (and India)	Dr. Pawan K. Dhar	RIKEN, Yokohama, Japan
16:25-16:40	Questions on subsession C		
16:40-17:40	Discussion session on definitions (what is included/excluded from SynBio), current status and future applications. Coordinator: Mr. B. Delogu , Risk Assessment Unit, DG SANCO, European Commission.		
17:40-17:45	Logistics for dinner / Day 2		
19:30 - 22:00 Dinner by invitation			
DAY 2			
09:00-09:15	Welcome and introduction for Day 2	Dr. Philippe Martin	European Commission, Risk Assessment unit, DG SANCO.
09:15-10:00	Keynote speech: Ethics and governance of SynBio: concerns and challenges	Prof. Göran Hermerén	European Group of Ethics (EGE)
Session 2:	SynBio: main (governance) challenges	Chair: Prof. Göran Hermerén , European Group of Ethics (EGE)	
10:00-10:20	EU Risk Assessment structure and the role of SCENIHR	Prof. James Bridges	Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks (SCENIHR)
10:20-10:40	Biosafety and Public Outreach in Synthetic Biology	Dr. Markus Schmidt	Organisation for International Dialogue and Conflict Management, IDC, Austria



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10:40-11:00	Coffee break		
11:00-11:20	Why secure SynBio?	Dr. Piers Millett	United Nations Office, Geneva (Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit)
11:20-11:40	Public perception on SynBio	Ms Eleonore Pauwels	Woodrow Wilson centre, Washington, USA
11:40-12:00	Patent issues in SynBio applications	Dr. Berthold Rutz	European Patent Office (EPO), Munich
12:00-12:20	Risk Governance of SynBio (IRGC paper)	Prof. Joyce Tait	University of Edinburgh, UK
12:20-12:40	Synbio concerns: a bottom up process driven by VivAgora	Ms. Dorothee Benoit-Browaeys	VivAgora, FR
12:40(45)-13:45	Lunch		
Session 3:	SynBio: setting the base for concrete governance approaches	Chair: Prof. Alain Pompidou , President of the Academy of Technologies, France	
13:45-14:05	European Commission's initiatives on governance and SynBio	Dr. Peteris Zilgalvis	European Commission, Governance and ethics unit, DG RTD
14:05-14:25	SynBio governance approaches: lessons from nanotechnology	Dr. Françoise Roure	French High Council for Industry, Energy and Technologies
14:25-14:45	U.S. Initiative: Screening Framework Guidance for Synthetic Double-Stranded DNA Providers	Dr. Jessica Tucker	Private Contractor, supporting the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
14:45-15:05	Governance of the social and ethical impacts of SynBio	Dr. Dirk Stemerding	Rathenau Institute, the Netherlands
15:05-15:25	Synthetic Genomics: Options for Governance	Dr. Michele Garfinkel	J. Craig Venter Institute, USA
15:25-15:45	Coffee break		
Session 4:	Roundtable debate	Chair: Ms Paola Testori-Coggi , Deputy Director General, DG SANCO, European Commission	
15:45-17:15	Roundtable debate on main governance approaches and challenges for SynBio: Presentations from Chairs (10 min each) and open discussion with participants.		
17:15-17:30	Closing remarks: Ms Paola Testori-Coggi and end of workshop		