

ABDC-10 Parallel Session

**National & Regional Biotechnology**

**POLICY COHERENCE**



Perspectives

# **CARICOM BIOTECHNOLOGY**

Policy, Regulations & Development

# Regional Biotechnology

## Current Status



## Regional Biotechnology R&D Characteristics:

- Early stages of development
- Mostly limited to cell biology and diagnostic techniques
- Limited commercial exploitation

# Regional Biotechnology

## Current Status



## Regional Biotechnology Research Initiatives

- new disease resistant anthurium varieties
- new anthurium flower colour
- transgenic papaya varieties resistant to devastating papaya ringspot virus
- molecular characterisation of animal breeds and plant species

# Regional Biotechnology

## Current Status



## Regional Biotechnology Research Initiatives

- natural products
- micropropagation protocols
- new biochemical compounds –  
biopesticides
- biosensors using enzyme technologies

# Regional Biotechnology

## Priorities



## Research parks centres of excellence Potential

- Energy
- Bio-pharmaceuticals
- Agricultural diagnostics



# Regional Biotechnology

## POLICY & STRATEGY



## Policies of relevance: e.g.

- Science, Technology & Innovation
- Intellectual Property
- Energy
- Biosafety
- Agriculture & Food Security
- Sustainable Development
- Biodiversity Management
- Biotechnology

# Regional Biotechnology

## POLICY & STRATEGY



## Regional Mandates:

### The Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas

Addressing:

- Industrial Policy
- Agricultural Policy
- Common Supportive Development



# Regional Biotechnology

## POLICY & STRATEGY



## Regional Mandates:

### CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME)

- Ongoing work among Member States to simplify procedures through harmonisation of legislation, regulations, applications, forms and processes

# Regional Biotechnology

## POLICY & STRATEGY



## CARICOM Initiatives

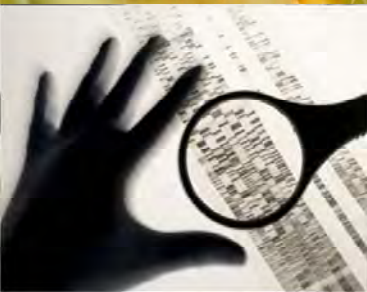
- CARICOM Working Group on Biotechnology/GMO
- Development of a Regional Biotechnology/ Biosafety Policy and Strategy
- Biosafety Framework project

# Regional Biotechnology

## POLICY & STRATEGY

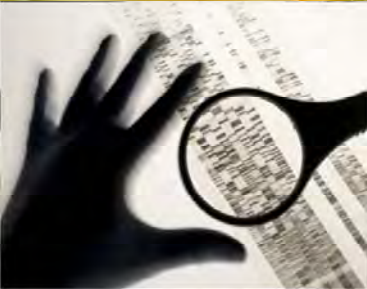
### The Process

- Stakeholder consultations in select Member States
- Development of draft policy/ strategy
- Presentation of draft at regional meeting of the regional Biosafety Framework implementation project



# Regional Biotechnology

## POLICY & STRATEGY



## The Process

- Regional consultations on Revised draft in all Member States
- Regional meeting of MS to discuss and sign off on the policy/ strategy document
- Final Biotechnology & Biosafety Policy submitted to Council on Trade and Economic Development (COTED) for approval
- Implementation at national and regional levels

# Regional Biotechnology

## POLICY & STRATEGY



### Policy Objectives & Interventions:

- Expanding applications of biotechnology in CARICOM Member States
- Development of legal, regulatory & institutional framework
- Human Capital Development
- Education, Training & Public Awareness



# Regional Biotechnology

## POLICY & STRATEGY



## Implementation Considerations:

### Several phases

- Establishment of an efficient operational framework to have oversight for the implementation of the regional biotechnology & biosafety strategic plan
- Laying the foundation framework for efficient and effective management of biotechnology and biosafety and related business development within the region



# Regional Biotechnology

## POLICY & STRATEGY



## Implementation Considerations:

several phases

- Policy review and the development of Biotechnology and biosafety centres of excellence within the region, and the regional innovation system with its requisite financial, administrative and human capital support systems.



Thank You for Your Attention

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Perspectives

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