

PUBLIC FORUM

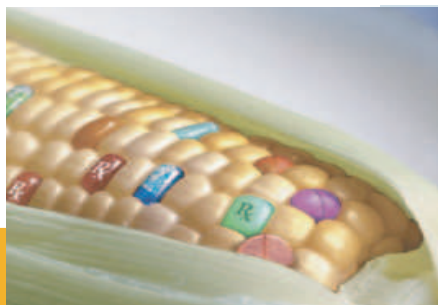
GENETIC ENGINEERING

OF RICE AND OTHER CROPS

rice . banana . chili pepper . eggplant . mangosteen
senduduk . sweet potato . oil palm . papaya . pegaga
pineapple . soybean . corn



- *Is genetically engineered food safe for consumption?*
- *Will it harm our environment and our future generation?*
- *Is genetically engineered food or crops the answer to food security, hunger, malnutrition and poverty?*
- *Do you feel that more open and transparent communication and labelling of genetically engineered food and agricultural products is needed for consumers and farmers to be more informed in deciding on what they eat or grow?*



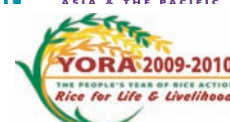
OUR DISTINGUISHED PANEL OF EXPERTS...

- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rosli Omar (Artificial Intelligence, Faculty of Engineering, University Malaya)
- Dr. Michael Hansen (Consumers Union, USA)
- Nor Kumala Bt. Awang (Institut Kefahaman Islam Malaysia)
- Professor Dr. Rofina Yasmin (CEBAR, Univ. Malaya)
- Lim Li Ching (Third World Network)

Date: 5th October 2009
Time: 9 a.m. - 2p.m.
Venue: TNB Sports Complex
Tenaga Nasional Berhad,
Jalan Bangsar, Kuala Lumpur

Free Admission. Limited seats available.
For more information and registration,
please log on to www.fomca.org.my or www.seacouncil.org or call, 03-78774741
or email siewhui@eraconsumer.org, annie@seacouncil.org

Organized by:





**GABUNGAN PERSATUAN-PERSATUAN PENGGUNA-PENGGUNA MALAYSIA
FEDERATION OF MALAYSIAN CONSUMERS ASSOCIATIONS (FOMCA)**

No 1D-1 Bangunan SKPPK, Jalan SS 9A/17, 47300 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.

Tel: 03-7876 2009 / 7875 6370 Fax: 03-7877 1076

Email: fomca@fomca.org.my Homepage: www.fomca.org.my

Invitation to Attend Public Forum on Genetic Engineering of Rice and Other Crops, 5th October 2009, Kuala Lumpur

The Federation of Malaysian Consumers Associations, FOMCA and the Southeast Asian Council for Food Security and Fair Trade (SEACON) are pleased to jointly organize a half day Public Forum on "Genetic Engineering of Rice and Other Crops" on 5th October 2009.

Rice is the life of Asia. One of the calls of the People's Year of Rice Action 2009-2010 is protection of Asia's rice heritage. YORA thus addresses the issue of GE rice and other crops in Asia and its impacts on small rice farmers and rice consumers.

This Public Forum addresses one of the most debated issues in the agricultural community on genetically engineered foods and agricultural produce. Some agricultural experts feel foods and agricultural produce derived from genetic engineering technology will help bring an end to the current agricultural challenges and food security. Meanwhile, there are others who believe these so-called "frankenfoods" have no advantage over traditional, natural foods and our research efforts are better served elsewhere.

We hope that the Forum will be interesting, constructive and beneficial through an active interaction with the participants and that it will help steer policy in the right direction on the matter of GE in food and agriculture.

Looking at Malaysian context, the Public Forum will reflect on the experiences on genetic engineering technologies in the crop, forestry, livestock, fisheries/aquaculture and agro-industry sectors, and reflect on lessons learned or experienced from other countries, particularly, developed countries shown to have engaged extensively on genetically engineered food and agriculture.

Programme details are as follows:

Public Forum on "Genetic Engineering of Rice and Other Crops"

Date: 5th October 2009 (Monday)

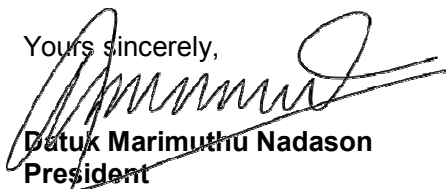
Duration: 9am – 2pm

Venue : TNB Sports Complex,
Tenaga Nasional Berhad,
129, Jalan Bangsar, 50732, Kuala Lumpur.

We are pleased to extend an invitation to you and your colleagues to be part of this forum. The programme is attached for your information. A reply slip is also attached to be faxed (Fax No. **03-7873 0636**) to us on or before **October 2, 2009** to confirm your organization's participation. Please contact **Ms. Siew Hui** at **03-7877 4648** or email siewhui@eraconsumer.org or annie@seacouncil.org for further information.

Thank you once again and looking forward to your favourable reply soon.

Yours sincerely,



Datuk Marimuthu Nadason
President

Public Forum
“The Genetic Engineering of Rice and Other Crops”
October 5, 2009 (Monday)
TNB Sports Complex, Jalan Bangsar, Kuala Lumpur

TIME	AGENDA
8:15	Registration
9:00 – 9:10	Welcome & Opening Address Datuk Marimuthu Nadason <i>President of FOMCA</i>
9:10 – 9:30	PLENARY SESSION Plenary Address Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rosli Omar <i>Artificial Intelligence, Faculty of Engineering, University Malaya</i> The Implications of Genetic Engineering in the World Today: Local to Global Dimensions
9:30 – 10:20	Plenary Presentation Dr. Michael Hansen <i>Consumers Union, USA</i> The Role and Impacts of GE in Food and Agriculture and the Potential Impacts of the Commercialization of GE rice on Asia. The genetic engineering of rice and crops – fact versus fiction. Types of GE rice/crops; claims versus facts; the scientific, social, political, health, economic, legal and other impacts and implications of GE in food and agriculture. What should Malaysia consider in developing its policy on GE in food and agriculture?
10:20 – 10:50	Q & A
10:50 – 11:00	Tea break
11:00 – 12:00	Session 1 Sustainability, Biodiversity and Biosafety <i>Moderator:</i> Prof Fatimah Mohamed Arshad <i>Institute of Agricultural and Food Policy Studies, UPM</i> Speakers: 1. Prof Dr Rofina Yasmin Current work on a code of practice for biotechnology in Malaysia (15 min) 2. Dr. Michael Hansen Biosafety Issues and practices in other countries (15 min) 3. Lim Li Ching <i>Third World Network</i> Sustainability Issues of GE Food and Agriculture (15 min) Q & A (15 min)

12:00 – 13:15 **Session 2**
Good Governance and Regulations, Risk Assessment, Monitoring and Communication

Moderator:

Dr. Norida Mazlan

Jabatan Teknologi Pertanian, Universiti Putra Malaysia

Speakers:

1. Shamsinar Bt. Abdul Talib
Deputy Director, Food Safety and Quality Division, Ministry of Health
The Need to Label GMF - Information Sharing (15 min)

2. Suraiza Abdullah
Industry Groups Management Division, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers
Industry Groups Management Division, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (15 min)

3. Nor Kumala Bt. Awang
Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia
Public Perception, Risk Communication And Tolerance (15 min)

4. Ratna Devi Nadarajan
Federation of Malaysian Consumers Associations, FOMCA
Public Perception, Risk Communication And Consumers' Attitude (15 min)

Q & A

13:15 -13:30 **Way Forward and Close**

13:30 **Lunch & Adjourn**

REPLY SLIP

**RE: Invitation to Attend Public Forum on Genetic Engineering of Rice and Other Crops,
5th October 2009, Kuala Lumpur.**

Please submit by **2nd October 2009** to:

FAX: 03 – 78730636

Email: siewhui@eraconsumer.org

(Free admission. Limited to 150 seats.)

We confirm the Participation of the following persons (max. 3 participants)

Organisation Details

Organisation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Person-in-charge: _____

Position: _____

Tel: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Participant Details

Name:

Position:

Department:

Tel:

Fax:

Email:

Vegetarian yes no

Participant Details

Name:

Position:

Department:

Tel:

Fax:

Email:

Vegetarian yes no

Participant Details

Name:

Position:

Department:

Tel:

Fax:

Email:

Vegetarian yes no