



PRRI statement on Synthetic Biology

Thank you Mme Chair,

I speak on behalf of PRRI, a worldwide organisation of public sector researchers involved in developing modern biotechnology for the common good.

Synthetic Biology (SynBio), as many technological advances, is inspired by nature to help solving our needs. Synthetic Biology has great potential to provide solutions from old to emerging concerns, to the most compelling health, energy, food and environmental challenges, including its use to protect the conservation of biological diversity.

Synthetic Biology has arisen within the continuum of technological developments spanning over more than three decades. Current and foreseeable applications of Synthetic Biology are similar to LMOs and not a single example of a product of Synthetic Biology was identified that would pose special challenge for risk assessment and management. Current and foreseeable applications of Synthetic Biology are sufficiently covered by existing biosafety systems on a case-by-case approach.

PRRI supports further consideration of criteria for the decision of what consists “New and Emerging Issues”.

Thank you Mme Chair