

Public Research & Regulation

Foundation with the objective to involve the public research sector in regulations and international agreements relevant to modern biotechnology

MOP3 - PRRI STATEMENT ON THE ROSTER OF EXPERTS

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

I speak on behalf of the Foundation for Public Research and Regulation.

Mr. Chairman, we believe that the mechanism of the Roster of Experts is in principle a good idea, but it is obvious that the system hasn't worked to date.

In our view, this has in part to do with uncertainty about the type and level of expertise of the people to be included in the roster.

We therefore advise that the following be undertaken:

- Provide guidance on what constitutes an 'expert'; being an expert requires many years of actual hands-on experience in an area that is relevant to the interdisciplinary field of biosafety. It might therefore be useful to have an independent peer review mechanism to screen applications for inclusion in the roster of experts;
- Clearly identify the area of expertise of the experts involved, and provide a curriculum vitae;
- The results of the work of these experts should be placed on the BCH.

Mr. Chairman, the Foundation for Public Research and Regulation remains available if you wish to explore these issues further.

Thank you very much for your attention