

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Date: 8/31/2012

GAIN Report Number: ID1226

Indonesia

Post: Jakarta

Declaration of the Indonesia Coalition for Ag. Biotechnology

Report Categories:

Biotechnology and Other New Production
Technologies

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Report Highlights:

The Indonesia Coalition for Agricultural Biotechnology (ICAB), a new pro-biotech advocacy association, was inaugurated on July 4, 2012 during the 5th Indonesia Biotechnology Conference in Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara.

General Information:

The Indonesian Coalition for Agricultural Biotechnology (ICAB) was established on July 4, 2012 in Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara during the 5th Indonesia Biotechnology Conference. ICAB is a nonprofit advocacy organization which will support the safe use of agricultural biotechnology for increasing food production and raising farmers' incomes. ICAB members include farmer groups, scientists, regional and central government officials, nongovernmental organizations, journalists, consumer advocacy groups, think tanks, professional associations, religious groups, and individuals. However, as of the date of publication the ICAB Chairman has not been announced.

ICAB was formed in an effort to confront serious challenges which continue to confront the use of biotechnology in Indonesia. The most notable of these challenges includes: a shifting and opaque approval process for environmental safety; and a recent of focus on the religious, ethical, socio-cultural, and esthetical aspects of agricultural biotechnology in Indonesia. Additionally, the Indonesian delegation of farmer leaders that visited the Philippines in September 2011 (see [GAIN ID1140](#)) conveyed that Indonesia needs an advocacy organization, similar to the Biotech Coalition of the Philippines, to which they were introduced during their trip.

The ICAB Declaration is noted below:

Declaration
Indonesia Coalition for Agricultural Biotechnology (ICAB)

Herewith, we are from various organizations, institutions and individuals engaged in biotechnology and agriculture, gathered in Jakarta on July 2, 2012 to agree as follows:

1. that in an effort to improve the welfare of farmers and the fulfillment of national food security, agricultural technology required a innovative include agricultural biotechnology.
2. that is necessary to promote and encourage national potential and human resources in Indonesia in developing agricultural biotechnology
3. that in order for the development of agricultural biotechnology can be heard and understood by the various groups ranging from policy makers, farmers and the general public nationwide that is based on scientific information is needed voicing efforts together in a coalition.

Indonesia Coalition for Agricultural Biotechnology will bring together the movement of organizations, institutions and individuals to come together to voice the importance of the use of biotechnology in ways that are safe and environmentally friendly.

The main purposes of the coalition are:

1. Maintain and accelerate a positive climate in Indonesia to support a conducive regulatory and policy for biotechnology application that is consistent with national food security goals and adaptation to climate change
2. Raising Awareness for the benefit of the biotechnology application to the society throughout community outreach to the media, politicians and policy makers.

It is expected the Indonesia Coalition for Agricultural Biotechnology movement will improve the social and economic life of farmers and public.

The next step will be done is to develop the management and annual programs and determined that the Coalition secretariat based in Jakarta.

The declaration is made in Lombok on July 4, 2012, hereinafter referred to as the Declaration of Lombok.

Declarators:

1. Biotechnology Study Center, Universitas Gadjah Mada
2. Research Center for Bioresource and Biotechnology, Bogor Agriculture University(IPB)
3. National Outstanding Farmer and Fisherman Association (KTNA)
4. Indonesian Society for Agricultural Biotechnology (PBPI)
5. Indonesian Farmers and Fisher Society (WAMTI)
6. Asian Farmers Regional Network (ASFARNET) - Indonesia
7. Program for Biosafety Systems (PBS)
8. Indonesian Biotechnology Student Forum (IBSF)
9. Prof. Dr. Bambang Prasetya
10. Dr. Karden Mulya
11. Dr. Suharsono
12. Prof. Dr. Antonius Suwanto
13. Prof. Dr. Bahagiawati Amirhusin
14. Prof. Dr. Bambang Sugiharto
15. Prof. Dr. Setyo Dwi Utomo
16. Prof. Dr. Andi Trisyono
17. Dr. M. Herman
18. Dr. Satya Nugroho
19. Dr. Hayati Minarsih
20. Dr. Widodo Hadisaputro
21. Ir. Syarifuddin Musa, M.Si
22. Hindarwati, M.Si
23. Dr. Machmud Tohari, DEA
24. Dr. Saptowo J. Pardal
25. Ricky Gunawan
26. Zulharman
27. H. Solahuddin

Declaration

Time of Declaration : July 4th, 2012 at the The 5th Indonesia Biotechnology Conference,
Lombok – West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia