

Welcome to the 9th MEACB

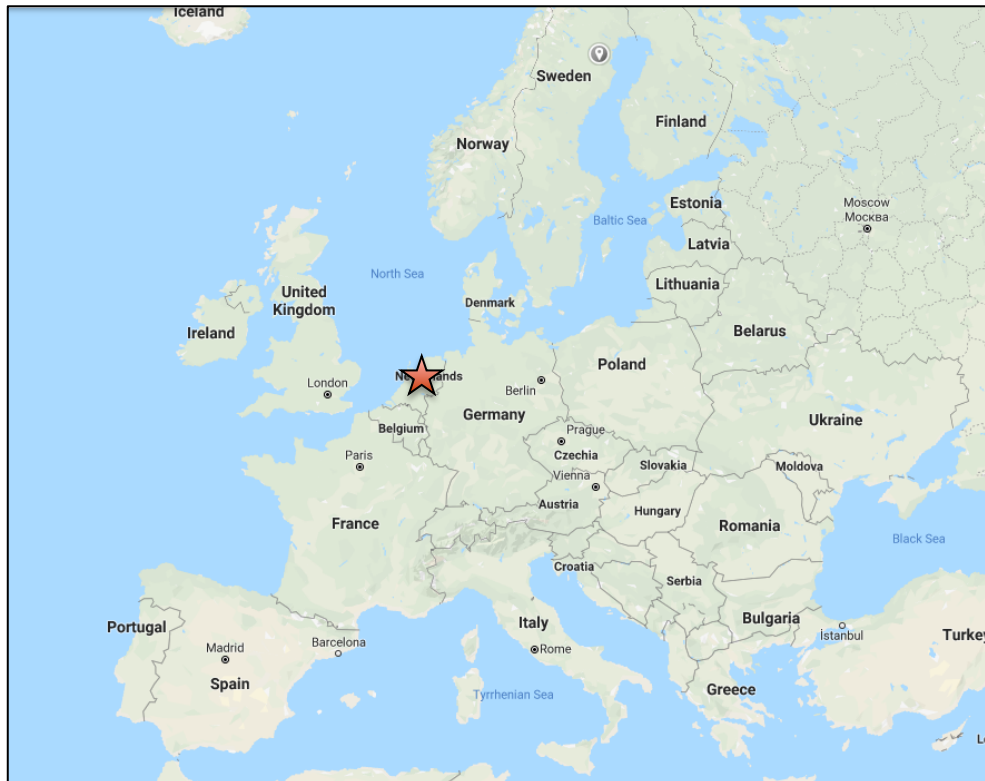
6th & 7th November, Berlin

*Prof. Dr. Sigrun Smola
Head of the German Central Committee
on Biological Safety (ZKBS)*



History of meetings

1st MEACB 2006 (COGEM, SECB) Amsterdam, Netherlands



- Deliberate release of GM plants
- Novel plant breeding technologies at the edge of the European GMO Regulation

History of meetings

1st MEACB 2006 (COGEM, SECB) Amsterdam, Netherlands

2nd MEACB 2007 (SCDR) Ljubljana, Slovenia

3rd MEACB 2007/8 (ZKBS, BVL)
Berlin, Germany

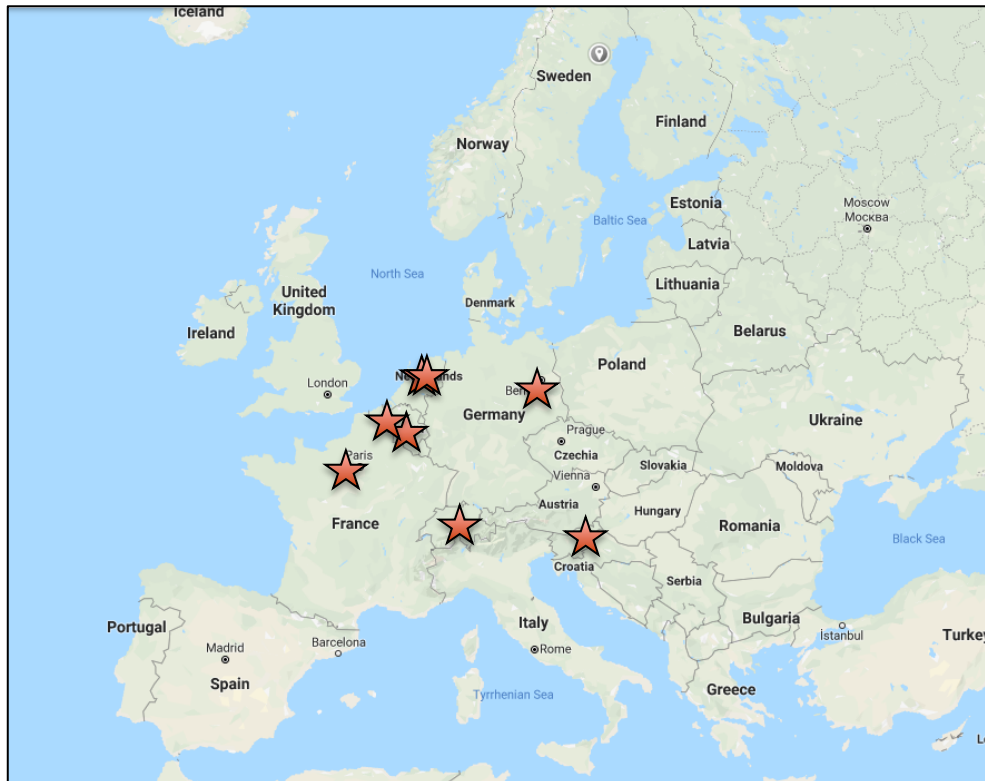
4th MEACB 2009 (BAC, SBB)
Brussels, Belgium

5th MEACB 2011 (SECB)
Bern, Swiss

6th MEACB 2012 (HCB)
Paris, France

7th MEACB 2014 (COGEM)
Amsterdam, Netherlands

8th MEACB 2017 (BAC, SBB)
Liège, Belgium



Cutting edge topics

Main topics

- Challenges for risk assessment and regulation of GMOs
 - Highly pathogenic avian influenza A viruses
 - Genome Editing
 - Synthetic Biology
 - Gene Drive Systems
 - Safety measures in containment

- GMO medicinal products for human or veterinary use

- Influence of scientific advice on regulatory bodies

- New technologies and developments regarding GMOs

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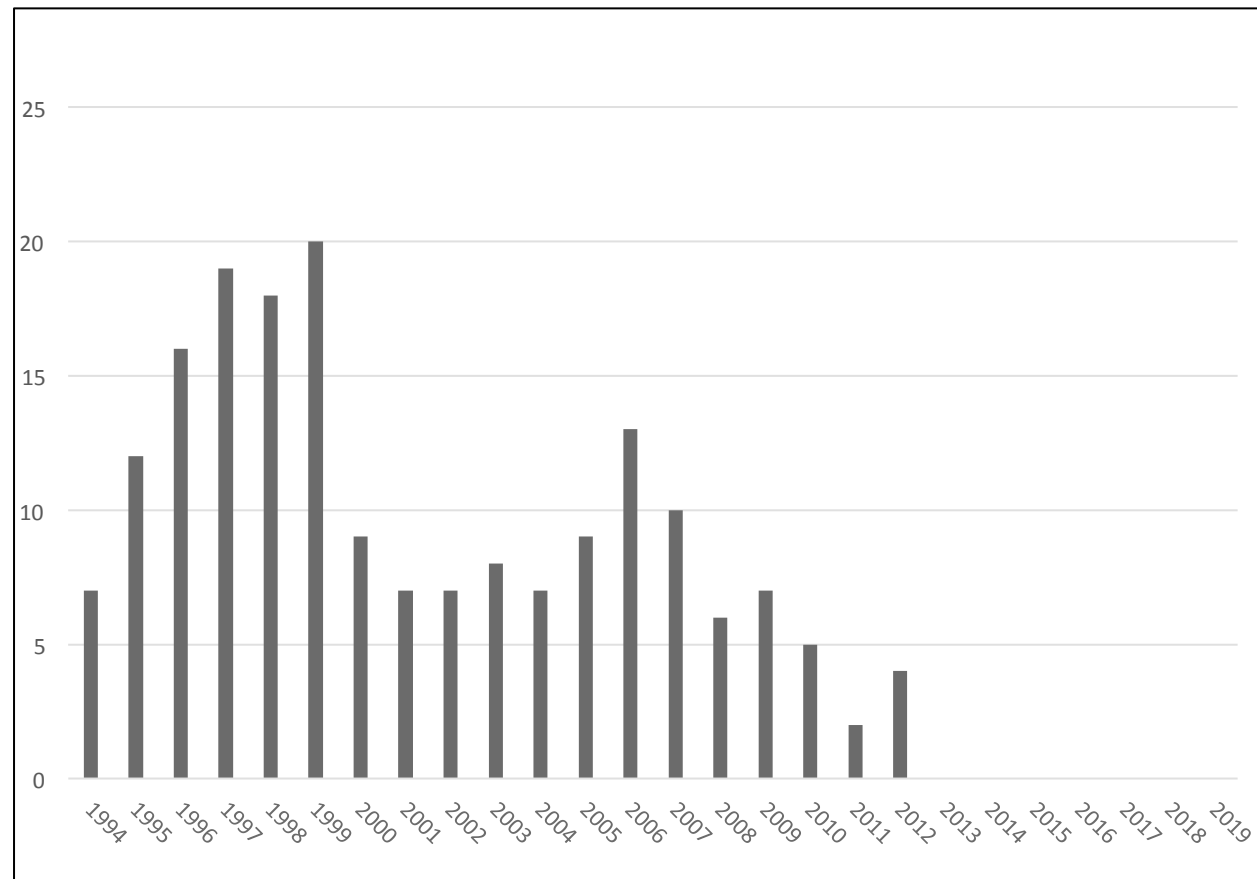
- Influence of scientific advices on regulatory bodies

- New technologies and developments regarding GMOs
 - European Court of Justice Ruling on *New mutagenesis techniques in plant breeding*

Issues of ZKBS

Deliberate release and placing on the market

Decrease of applications/approvals in Germany



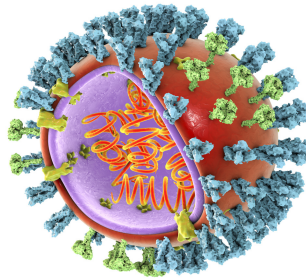
Issues of ZKBS

Risk assessment of (micro-)organisms, generated and used in contained facilities



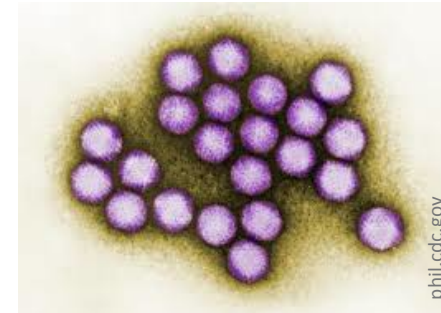
**Recombinant
bacteria**

Viruses and viral vector-based vaccines



© Kateryna_Kon / fotolia.com

**Influenza A
viruses**

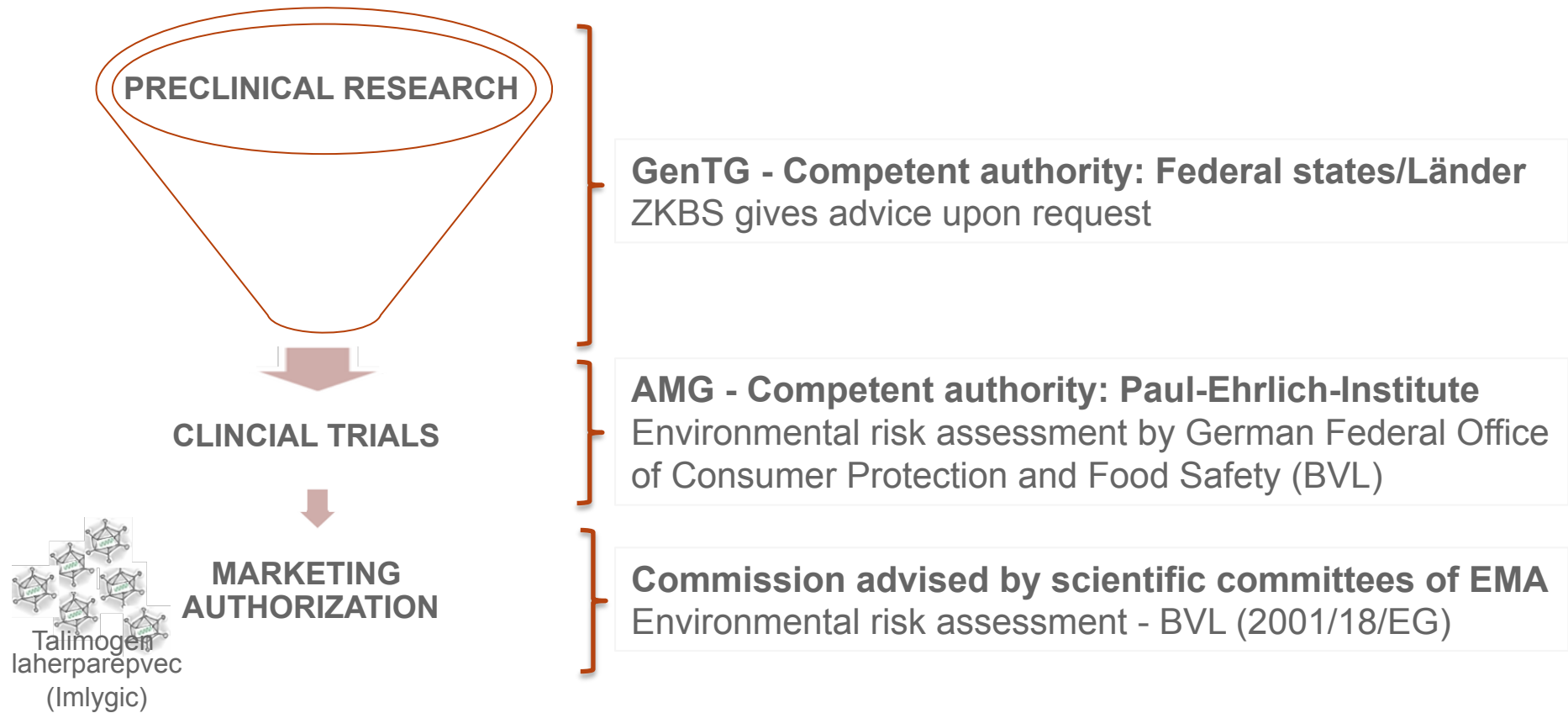


phil.cdc.gov

**Oncolytic
viruses**

Issues of ZKBS

German authorities and competences in risk assessment of GMOs for clinical use



Issues of ZKBS

Safety measures – Genetic Engineering Facilities



Foto: Hans-Günter Bredow/RKI

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Ein kritischer Blick auf den Schutzanzug von RKI-Mitarbeiter Fran Siejak: Bundeskanzlerin Angela Merkel bei der Eröffnung des neuen S-4-Hochsicherheitslabors im Robert Koch-Institut in Berlin.

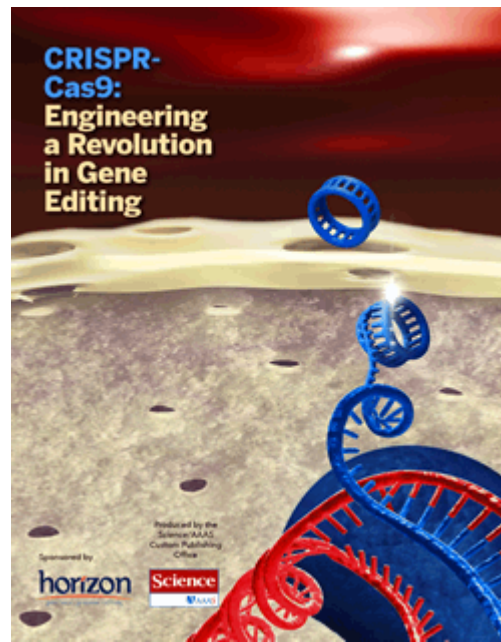
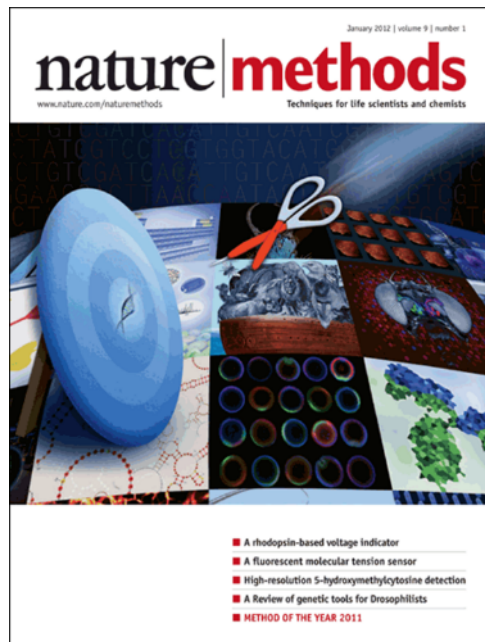
Foto: dpa Pool

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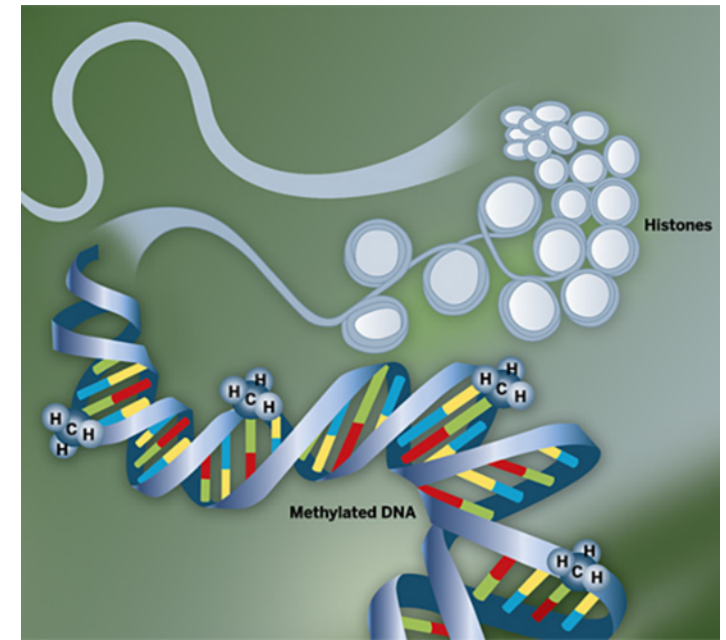
Issues of ZKBS

New developments

Genome Editing

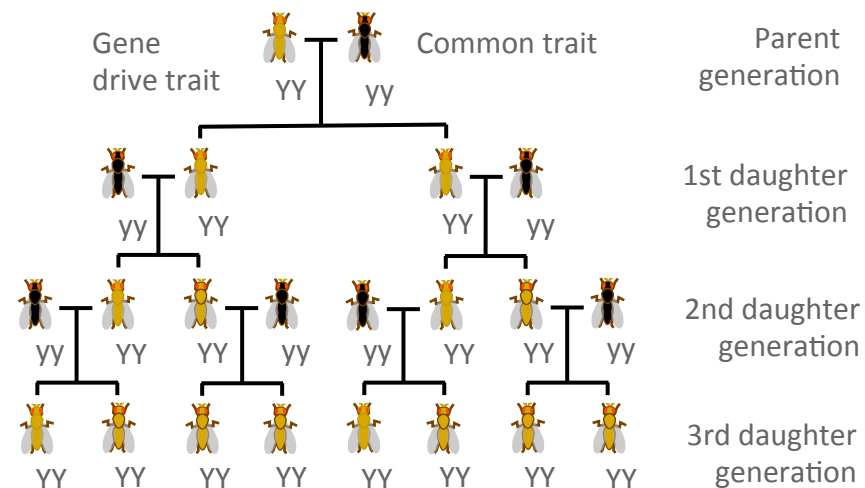


Epigenome Engineering



New developments

Gene Drive Systems



Recommendations of safety measures

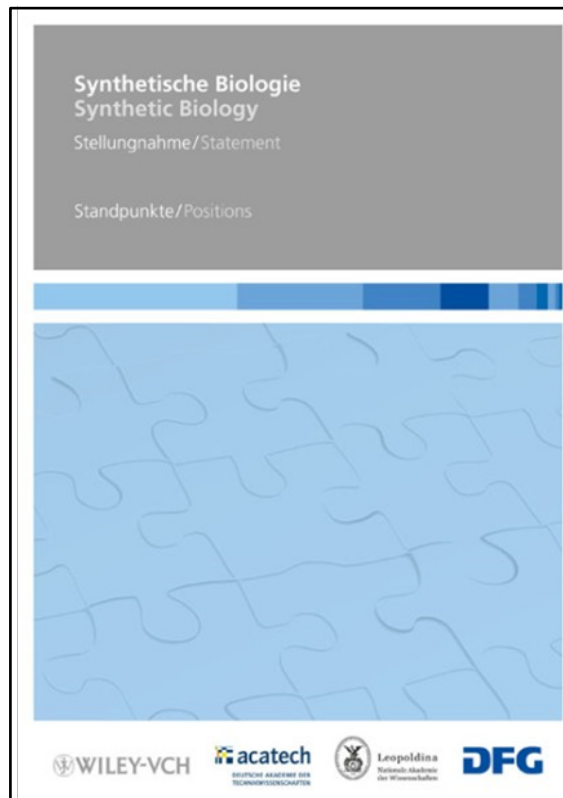
Case-by-case assessment based on

- Intended and possibly unintended consequences of a release into the environment
- Existence of suitable living or reproduction conditions in the environment

Issues of ZKBS

New scientific fields - Synthetic Biology

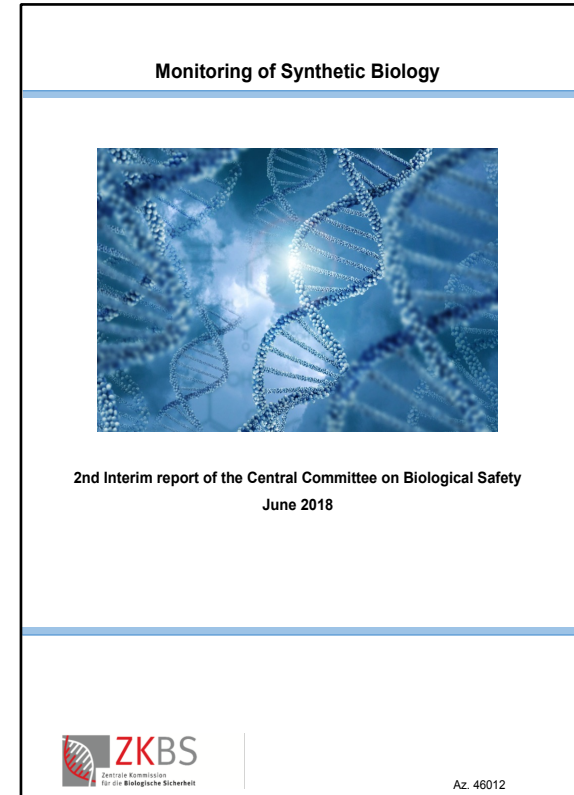
July 2009



November 2012



Summer 2018



Communication & Public Relation



The screenshot shows the ZKBS website interface. At the top left is the ZKBS logo with the text 'The Central Committee on Biological Safety'. To the right are links for 'Deutsch | Sitemap | Contact' and a search bar. Below the logo is the title 'Central Committee on Biological Safety'. A horizontal banner contains various biological images. Below the banner is a navigation menu with 'Central Committee on Biological Safety' and 'News'. The 'News' section is active, showing a list of news items. A red arrow points to the '9th MEACB' link in the left sidebar. The main content area displays the 'News' section with the following text:

News

On the Identifiability of Genome Editing in plants

About us

9th MEACB

Focus topics

General recommendations

Databases

Activity Reports

News

The [9th Meeting of the European Advisory Committees on Biosafety \(MEACB\)](#) in the field of contained use and deliberate release of [GMOs](#) will take place from 6-7 November 2019 in Berlin, Germany.

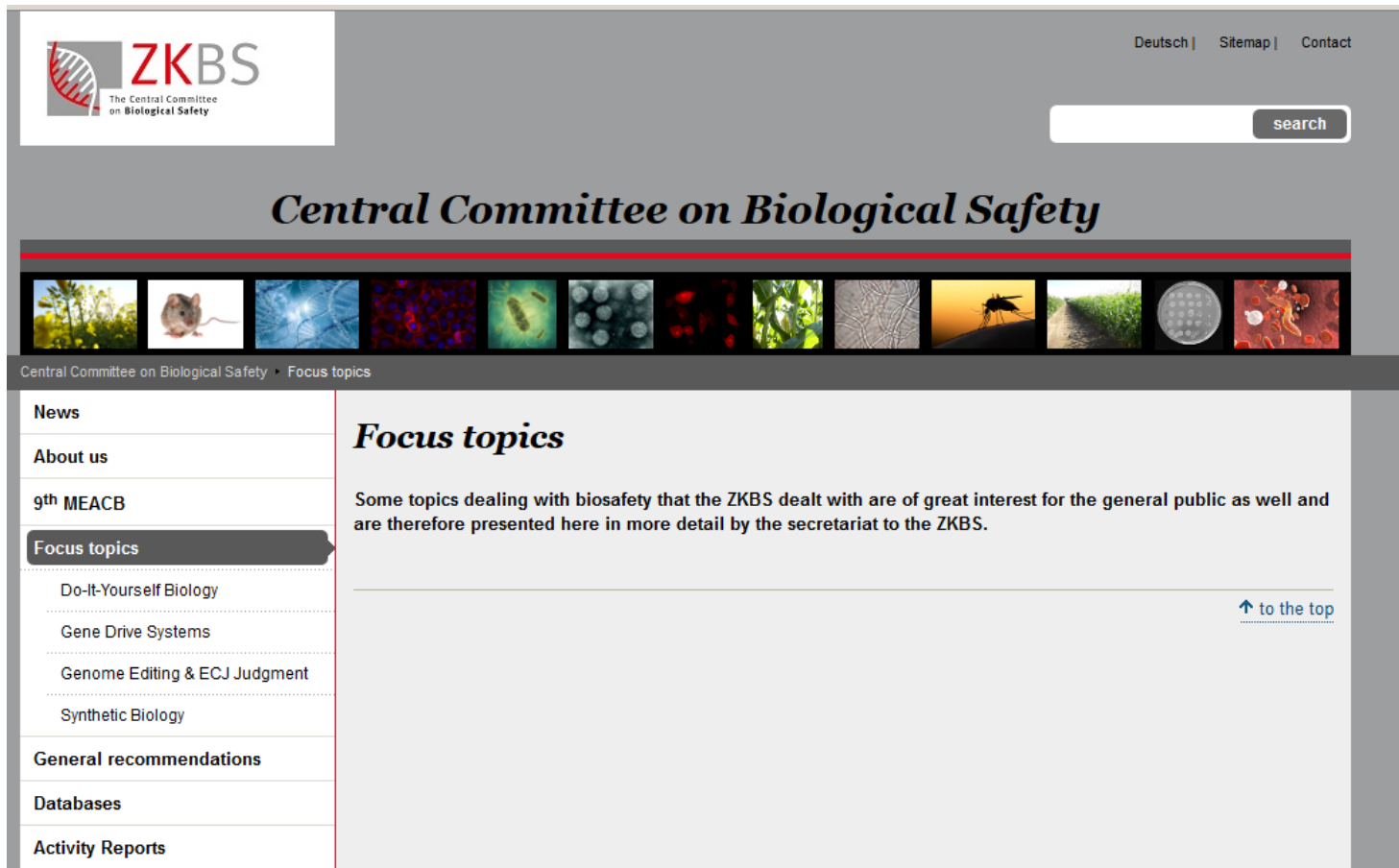
In September 2019 the [ZKBS](#) has published a [commentary on the identifiability of Genome Editing in plants](#).

In December 2018 the [ZKBS](#) has published a [statement concerning the judgment of the European Court of Justice \(ECJ\) on plant breeding](#) dated 25/07/2018 (case C-528).

The [2nd interim report of Synthetic Biology](#) of the [ZKBS](#) was published in June 2018. This report reviews and summarizes the international literature concerning research activities undertaken under the term of Synthetic Biology. The progress in the individual subfields is depicted and it is assessed whether these activities involve any risks to biological safety that are not covered by the German genetic engineering act or the European genetic engineering legislation.

[↑ to the top](#)

Communication & Public Relation



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Deutsch | Sitemap | Contact

search

Central Committee on Biological Safety

Central Committee on Biological Safety · Focus topics

News

About us

9th MEACB

Focus topics

- Do-It-Yourself Biology
- Gene Drive Systems
- Genome Editing & ECJ Judgment
- Synthetic Biology

General recommendations

Databases

Activity Reports

Focus topics

Some topics dealing with biosafety that the ZKBS dealt with are of great interest for the general public as well and are therefore presented here in more detail by the secretariat to the ZKBS.

[↑ to the top](#)

Day 1

SESSION I Tasks of advisory boards / special focusses

SESSION II Benchmarks for adjustments of risk assessment in contained use / need of further safety measures

SESSION III Gene drive systems – an update

SESSION IV Medical applications of GMO



Day 2

SESSION V New developments in plants

SESSION VI The ECJ ruling
Consequences and implications

SESSION VII Panel discussion



Enjoy the meeting!
Thank you!

Sigrun Smola
Central Committee on Biological Safety
Germany



Tasks of advisory boards / special focusses

Hilde Mellegård, Norwegian Biotechnology Advisory Board

Recent work of the Biotech Advisory Board in Norway on the future regulation of GMOs

Isabel Hunger-Glaser, Swiss Expert Committee for Biosafety

Is a Comparison and Prioritization of Different Biological Risks possible?

Anke Stein, BVL Germany

Establishment of an informative platform for supporting the value of scientific advice

