

From: [REDACTED] - FAS, Washington, DC [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@usda.gov>
Sent: samedi 1 août 2020 02:26
To: [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE)
Cc: [REDACTED]@vt.edu); [REDACTED], [REDACTED] - FAS, Washington, DC; [REDACTED] - FAS, BRUSSELS - USEU, BELGIUM; [REDACTED] (SANTE)
Subject: ANNOUNCEMENT: Series of virtual activities for animal biotech regulatory approaches planned

Dear [REDACTED] and [REDACTED],

I got an out of office response from [REDACTED] when I emailed her this invitation. Her out of office message did not indicate when she would return and listed your email addresses.

I wish to extend an invitation to interested members of the Biotechnology Unit of DG SANTE to participate in virtual activities associated with the International Workshops for the Regulation of Animal Biotechnologies that have been taking place since 2011. We had originally planned for the *Fourth International Workshop on Regulatory Approaches for Animal Biotechnology* to take place in Brazil in September 2020, however the COVID situation caused us to postpone the in-person activity until 2021.

In order to advance the international dialog on animal biotechnologies in the meantime, the international workshop organizing committee is planning a series of virtual webinars and regional engagements with regulatory and policy officials on animal biotechnology. The previous in-person workshops brought regulators from around the world together with animal biotechnology developers and representatives of the livestock industry. The virtual activities will seek to do the same, while hopefully building a virtual community for information exchange and support. The objectives of the international workshop and these supporting activities include: sharing information on regulatory approaches and experiences, enhancing regulatory cooperation and promoting capacity building initiatives, as well as increasing engagement between regulatory, scientific and industry sectors on animal biotechnology regulatory and development challenges.

I invite your participation and the participation of others in the Biotechnology Unit who may be interested in this series of virtual activities focused on regulatory approaches for products of animal biotechnology.

The details and times of the series have not yet been finalized, but I can share some additional information. The initial sessions will be composed of two 2-hour meetings on two days within a given week; sessions are planned to be two weeks apart through early December. The first meeting for the initial sessions will be a series of short presentations and the second will have one or two overview talks followed by a long question and answer period with discussion focused on the talks from both days. Presentations will be posted online and the discussion period will be live.

The topics and expected dates for the first 4 sessions are:

- Session I: Sept 8, 9 - Food safety aspects of regulations for genetically engineered/modified animals
- Session II: Sept 23, 24 - Genome editing regulatory approaches

- Session III: Oct 6, 7 - Environmental safety aspects of regulations for genetically engineered/modified animals
- Session IV: Oct 20, 21 - breakout sessions “ regulatory harmonization and cooperation
- Topics for other Sessions still under discussion

Additional information on the virtual activities and on the 2021 International Workshop will be posted on the Virginia Tech animal biotech website as it becomes available, as will supporting documentation and podcasts for the virtual activities (<https://sites.google.com/a/vt.edu/animalbiotechresources/2020-4th-intl-workshop>).

I hope that you and your colleagues will be interested in participating in the series. Please let us know whether you are interested. If you and your colleagues are interested, please send us a list of potential participants and their emails so that we can provide you all with more details on how to participate. Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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