



## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform the public that the National Biosafety Board (NBB) is now assessing an IMR application for the 'limited release of male *Aedes aegypti* mosquito and to conduct mark-release-recapture experiment involving a wild type strain and a living modified strain (OX513A)' (Reference Number NRE(S) 609-2/1).

Since 2006, the Institute for Medical Research (IMR) under the Ministry of Health has successfully evaluated a new *Aedes aegypti* mosquito control technology under laboratory and semi-field conditions.

The Living Modified Organism (LMO) proposed for release contains a fluorescent molecular marker and a self-limiting construct. When female *Aedes aegypti* mosquito mate with OX513A male mosquitoes, any offspring will die hence prevents the emergence of the next generation.

If approved, the experiment will involve a limited release of 2,000-3,000 non-biting male mosquitoes from the OX513A strain (and a similar number from the wild type strain) on two consecutive days in Pahang and Melaka. The two consecutive days will be dependent on weather conditions during the second week of October or November 2010.

The proposed release will be conducted in strict adherence to requirements by the NBB under the Biosafety Act 2007 and may be repeated for scientific rigour. The National Biosafety Board welcomes written submissions of opinions/comments from the public regarding the application. More information on the application can be obtained from [www.biosafety.nre.gov.my](http://www.biosafety.nre.gov.my) under Public Consultation. Please quote reference number NRE(S) 609-2/1 for correspondence.

Submissions must be addressed to: **The Director General, Department of Biosafety, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Level 1, Podium 2, Wisma Sumber Asli, No. 25, Persiaran Perdana, Precint 4, 62574 Putrajaya, MALAYSIA. Email: [biosafety@nre.gov.my](mailto:biosafety@nre.gov.my). Fax No.: 03-88904935.**

The closing date for submissions is **September 4, 2010**.

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