



30 August 2013

Mr JD Thibedi, MP  
Chairperson: Portfolio Committee on Rural Development and Land Reform

**Attention:** Ms P Nyamza  
Committee Secretary: Portfolio Committee on Rural Development and Land Reform

Dear Mr Thibedi

**Briefing by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Trade and Industry Health, Rural Development and Land Reform and the Department of Science and Technology on the status of genetically modified (GM) food in South Africa.**

The Portfolio Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries would like to have a joint sitting with the above-mentioned Portfolio Committees to be briefed by the relevant Departments on the status of genetically modified (GM) food in South Africa.

The Committee has invited all five Departments (i.e. Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; Health; Trade and Industry; Rural Development and Land Reform, Science and Technology) that are overseen by the five respective Portfolio Committees to brief the Portfolio Committees on the status of GM food in the country.

The Committee therefore invites the Portfolio Committee on Rural Development to be part of the presentation and discussions.

The details of the meeting are as follows:

**Date:** Friday, 13 September 2013

**Time:** 09h00

**Venue:** Committee Room V227, Second Floor Old Assembly Wing

**Agenda:**

Joint meeting with the Portfolio Committees: Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Health, Trade and Industry, Rural Development and Land Reform, Science and Technology.

- Briefing by relevant Departments on their roles in the administration, utilisation and management of genetically modified (GM) food in South Africa
- Briefing by DAFF to include a decision making process for GMO permits in South Africa including the Dow Chemical's GM maize variety DAS-40278-9.
- Presentation by the Agricultural Research Council on research activities on GM food crops.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact Committee Secretary Ms Albertina Kakaza at 021-403 3765 or 083 709 8391 or [akakaza@parliament.gov.za](mailto:akakaza@parliament.gov.za).

Yours faithfully,

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**Mr M Johnson, MP**  
Chairperson: Portfolio Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries