

Comments on Genetically Modified Organisms Amendment Bill**Submitted by: Tholakele Manzini**

Kwa-Ngwanase Farmers Union, herein to as KFU is an Union of small farmers operating in the area of North Region of KwaZulu Natal under Umkhanyakude District Municipality under local Umhlabuyalingana KZ 17 Municipality. Its membership consist of eleven (11) farming association with a total of two hundred and twenty five (225) people. In addition there are also eleven (11) individual farmers that are members of KFU. This gives a total membership of two hundred and thirty six (236) are directly beneficial of this organization.

The overall of Union is to promote the seed bank and food security in the community. In order to promote organic and protect our local environment and improve our community health. Particularly by proving community with indigenous food, organic farming and sustainable agricultural.

KFU her aimed is to strengthening food and seed security for the local farmers of Kwa-Ngwanase, seeds like sorghum, finger millet, pearl millet, cow peas, maize, groundnuts and etc. We collect these seed from our beneficial farmers, by give them a cup of seed and she will bring back to us a liter of seed, then we store it into our existing seed bank. The other company they benefit to us by buying these seed from us.

We have seen that the younger generation have an interest of going back to traditional foods. The main point is that while some of them may enjoy eating traditional foods they do not like way of having prepare these traditional foods, sometimes they don't have a time because it need a lot of time to prepare. If the government can provide us with the machines of grading this indigenous food, definitely every one will appreciate this indigenous food.

When they are implementing the law they have to remember of the consumers, come to them and telling about genetic modified organism (GMO) because people don't know about it. People they have seen fresh and cheapest vegetables than others. If all of us can plant organic, we can sell it with a less price. Others the buy GMOs because it is so cheaper than organic and they don't know why is it costing a less price. Lf we can make some awareness about this GMO, so that they can choose for themselves to take or leave it.

Although it is critical to monitor the ongoing of GMOs but it affect the rights of consumers and the farmers, and its affect people's health, environment and even the economy. The best way the have to label the GMO, in order to be clear to every one. Nor matter its hard to avoid the. GMO because of cross-pollination that occurs on it, potentially it may affect our seeds

The other main problem is that the government because he is providing people with chemicals and teaching them to plant an inorganic. Instead of teaching an organic way because it is so cheap. That chemical may affect the environment and people. May be if the government can stop to provide farmers with these chemicals it will be much better than before. The government can even use her facilitators to teach people about this GMOs.

GOALS

- GMOs must be labeled
- Making an awareness with GMOs in community
- The government must committee herself in organic, indigenous seeds and crops and also sustainable agriculture

CONCLUSION

Kwa-Ngwanase Farmers Union are so willing to request the opportunity to address their issue to the director of comments on genetically modified organization amendment bill.