

Seminar Resolution
"Raising the awareness and responsibility of scientists in the field of life sciences"
Dushanbe, Tajikistan, March 29 - 31, 2021

The difficult epidemiological situation in 2020, associated with the emergence and spread of COVID-19 in the world and in Tajikistan, in particular, showed that the country has an acute problem with a shortage of specialists in the field of life sciences. The leader of the nation, the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, respected Emomali Rahmon, in his message to the country's Parliament "On the main directions of domestic and foreign policy of the Republic of Tajikistan" dated January 26, 2021, set specific tasks: to establish mandatory courses in biosafety, biosecurity and bioethics on the basis of the Tajikistan National Academy of Sciences to obtain a master's degree and a doctor of natural sciences. Also, in the speech of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon at a meeting with health workers on August 18, 2020, it was noted that "the provision of highly qualified personnel to medical institutions is one of the main problems of health care, since their role is always decisive in difficult social situations to prevent disease and save lives. "

Life sciences are inherently inextricably linked to concerns about their dual use. Dual-use dilemmas arise when the same scientific work can be used for both peaceful purposes and for hostile purposes. Working with the scientific community and raising awareness is critical to the proper implementation of any technology oversight. In the international and expert community, concepts such as bioethics and biosafety are combined, it is necessary to raise awareness of the possibility of misuse and responsibility of scientists for solving problems related to materials, knowledge and technologies of dual use. These issues become especially relevant in connection with the possibility of uncontrolled transfer of information and publication of materials using modern means of information transfer.

The participants of the seminar, having heard and discussed the reports and presentations of experts, recognizing the relevance and significance of the issues discussed in terms of increasing the level of education and awareness of dual-use sciences, taking into account the recommendations of expert groups in areas, emphasizing the need to comply with international norms (instruments) and national legislative acts of the Republic of Tajikistan and other regulatory documents and principles of bioethics,

the resolution has been approved:

1. To recognize the work of the seminar as successful and meeting the modern level of knowledge in this area for teachers and specialists of universities of the Republic of Tajikistan (Tajik Agrarian University, Tajik State Medical University, Tajik State Pedagogical University) working in the field of life sciences.
2. Create a working group for the development and release of an educational program (textbook, syllabus, educational methodological and scientific

recommendations) on bioethics and biosafety in three languages - Tajik, Russian and English with the calculation - **1 credit (24 hours)**.

3. Accept as a basis the draft Code of Conduct for Scientists dealing with Dual-Purpose Sciences and, taking into account the additions, submit it for approval to the appropriate State body.

4. Consider the possibility of organizing an international exchange of experience in the field of life sciences in order to improve the qualifications of specialists with the assistance of donors.

5. Take measures to introduce a course on bioethics and biosafety in similar and specialized universities of the Republic of Tajikistan.

6. In the universities of Tajikistan, determine and appoint a responsible person for the implementation of the course on bioethics and biosafety and his supervision.

7. Prepare an appeal to the Central state authorities and departments of the Republic of Tajikistan on the results of work in the direction of improving state policy (regulatory and legal support, standardization, certification, licensing, advanced training) on dual-use sciences, bioethics and biosafety in the light of the decisions taken by the Government of the Republic Tajikistan.

8. Consider the possibility of organizing and conducting a final seminar and a round table on the results of the implementation of the course on bioethics and biosafety within the framework of the current project.

9. To apply to TNAS to consider the creation of the National Council for Bioethics.

10. Express gratitude to ISTC for help in organizing and facilitating the seminar.