



Biosafety and biosecurity is high on governments' agendas and public fora. The European regulatory framework is complex, covering all aspects of the utilization of biological material and its transboundary movement. While European Community regulations apply to all countries of the Community, directives need to be transcribed by Member States into national legislation, creating variation from country to country. Countries that belong to the European Economic Community have their own regulatory requirements although they have adopted regulations similar to those of the European Community.

To address this environment, **EBSA aims to:**

- enhance the knowledge and understanding of biosafety issues and information on legislation throughout Europe;
- promote continuous professional development;
- establish and communicate best practices amongst its members;
- encourage dialogue and discussions on developing issues;
- influence emerging legislation and standards in the areas of biosafety, biosecurity, biotechnology, transport and associated activities and act as a focal point for the consolidation of views on these issues;
- represent the interests of its members in all biosafety-related areas, with the objective of ensuring the prevention of harm to man and the environment from biological materials.

EBSA's website (www.ebsaweb.eu) is a resource of biosafety information. Through its annual conference with workshops in different European countries and its working and task groups, EBSA provides a forum for discussion on biosafety and biosecurity issues.

EBSA has **working relationships with international and European organizations** and is involved in several projects in collaboration with different groups.

EBSA encourages **regional biosafety organisations** to liaise with EBSA and thereby broadening the representation of the biosafety professionals within Europe. The Belgian Biosafety Professionals is such an example using space at the EBSA website and having the financial administration done by the EBSA Administration Office.

Four major projects are ongoing:

1. Biosafety Europe, an European Union funded project providing contact information on BSL 3 and 4 laboratories;
2. International Laboratory Biosafety Management Standard to be developed in collaboration with ABSA, DNV and others;
3. Promoting the biosafety professional by identifying the tasks and skills and incorporating these in a curriculum to be used;
4. Promoting awareness of biosafety through members from all European countries and to encourage them to organize biosafety around the biosafety professional.

11th Annual Conference 2 – 4 April 2008 Florence, Italy



Preconference Workshops

- A. Biorisk assessment
- B. Decontamination
- C. Biorisk management, biosafety programmes and institutional management systems
- D. Management of a BSL3 facility
- E. Biosafety audits and inspections a basic course

Conference Sessions

- Current and future issues in high containment (BSL3 & BSL4)
- Animal biosafety
- Break out discussion groups
 - A. Biosafety Europe
 - B. Molecular tools for the surveillance of mandatory biosafety requirements
 - C. Laboratory registers of GMOs / pathogens / biological materials: what is good practice?
 - D. Validation of inactivation – what latent risk is acceptable?
 - E. Training of facility support personnel by BSP
 - F. EC Biopreparedness Green paper – consultation results and next steps
- Facility engineering for Biosafety professionals
- Laboratory biosecurity
- Biorisk management
- Risk assessment

<http://www.ebsaweb.eu>

EBSA Administration Office:

DECHEMA e.V.: Theodor Heuss Allee 25, D-60486 Frankfurt (Main),

Phone: +49 69 7564 381 ■ Fax: +49 69 7564 299

e-Mail: ebsa-office@ebsaweb.eu