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**Report Name:** Agricultural Biotechnology Annual

**Country:** Angola

**Post:** Luanda

**Report Category:** Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies

**Prepared By:** Ricardo Dias

**Approved By:** Laura Geller

**Report Highlights:**

Angola currently does not allow the use of agricultural biotechnology in production, and imports containing genetically engineered (GE) components are limited to food aid. In December 2004, the Council of Ministers approved Decree No. 92/04 restricting the use of biotechnology in Angola as a provisional measure pending the establishment of a comprehensive National Biosafety System capable of properly controlling the importation, entry, use, and eventual production of GE organisms in the country.

## **Executive Summary**

Agriculture accounts for 11 percent of Angola's USD 94.6 billion gross domestic product according to 2019 IMF estimates. With the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent decrease in oil prices, the Angolan government is trying to diversify the economy, implementing measure to protect national production. The agricultural sector accounts for 46 percent of the total employed of the economy, mainly at subsistence levels. Prior to the 1975-2002 civil war, Angola was a major exporter of coffee, sisal, sugar cane, banana and cotton, and was self-sufficient in all food crops except wheat. The civil war disrupted agricultural production and displaced millions of people. Angola currently imports more than half of its food. In 2019, Angola was the United States' sixth largest market, by value (\$150 million), for chicken meat in the world.

Angola has the resources to be one of the leading agricultural countries in Africa, as its diverse and fertile ecology can host a variety of crops and livestock. However, the country only cultivates 10 percent of its 58 million hectares of available agricultural land. An estimated 90 percent of farms in Angola are small to medium in size and are used mainly in communal ways for subsistence farming. The agricultural commodities produced include cassava, bananas, potatoes, corn, sweet potatoes, citrus, and pineapples.

In December 2004, the Council of Ministers approved Decree No. 92/04, limiting the use of biotechnology products to food aid, and restricting any production of GE products in Angola. This Decree stated that it would serve as a provisional measure until the establishment of a comprehensive National Biosafety System capable of properly controlling the importation, entry, use, and eventual production of genetically engineered organisms in the country.

## **Table of Contents**

Chapter 1: Plant Biotechnology

Part A: Production and Trade

Part B: Policy

Part C: Marketing

Chapter 2: Animal Biotechnology

Part D: Production and Trade

Part E: Policy

Part F: Marketing

Chapter 3: Microbial Biotechnology

Part G: Production and Trade

Part H: Policy

Part I: Marketing

## **Chapter 1: Plant Biotechnology**

### **Part A: Production and Trade**

#### **(a) PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT**

There is no development of GE products taking place in Angola.

#### **(b) COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION**

There is no commercial production of GE products in Angola.

#### **(c) EXPORTS**

Not applicable.

#### **(d) IMPORTS**

Angola does not allow imports of GE seeds and food/feed products except for in the use of food aid.

#### **(e) FOOD AID**

Imports of GE grains for food aid must comply with the following rules, based on the recommendations of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC):

Before shipment of the GE product, the importing company must obtain a written authorization from the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries;

All imports of GE food aid in the form of grain or seeds must be milled before distribution to beneficiaries, in order to avoid contamination of local varieties with GE events.

Angola has not needed to receive food assistance since this policy has been in place.

#### **(f) TRADE BARRIERS**

Other than the blanket prohibition on commercial GE imports, Post FAS/Luanda has not identified any additional biotechnology-related trade barriers that may negatively affect U.S. exports, nor the potential to do so.

## **Part B: POLICY**

### **(a) REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**

In December 2004, the Council of Ministers approved Decree No. 92/04, limiting the use of biotechnology products to food aid usage, and restricting any production of GE products in Angola. This Decree stated that it would serve as a provisional measure until the establishment of a comprehensive National Biosafety System capable of properly controlling the importation, entry, use, and eventual production of GE organisms in the country. To date, the government of Angola has not taken any steps toward developing a national biosafety framework.

### **(b) APPROVALS**

No plants or crops have been approved or registered in Angola for cultivation, imports, or exports.

### **(c) STACKED or PYRAMIDED EVENT APPROVALS**

Not Applicable.

### **(d) FIELD TESTING**

GE seeds can be received for scientific research, as is mentioned on the Decree No. 92/04, article 6. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries created a regulation based on the article 6 named as “Regulation for testing genetically modified organisms for the purpose of research and scientific experimentation” and regulates any field trial that could be made for research or scientific research.

### **(e) INNOVATIVE BIOTECHNOLOGIES**

Not Applicable.

### **(f) COEXISTENCE**

Not Applicable.

### **(g) LABELING and TRACEABILITY**

Currently, no compulsory labeling of GE products or food containing GE products is necessary.

### **(h) MONITORING AND TESTING**

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries received laboratory to test GE products. However it has not been installed, as the COVID-19 pandemic has delayed project implementation.

### **(i) LOW LEVEL PRESENCE POLICY**

There is currently no low level presence policy in Angola.

**(j) ADDITIONAL REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS**

Not Applicable.

**(k) INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR)**

Not Applicable.

**(l) CARTAGENA PROTOCOL RATIFICATION**

The National Assembly of Angola ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in 2002, based on the precautionary principle in relation to the introduction, release, and use of living modified organisms.

**(m) INTERNATIONAL TREATIES and FORUMS**

Angola is a signatory member inter alia of:

The Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization (WTO-SPS)

Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex)

Angola also works with the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO).

However, Angola has not taken an active role in discussions related to biotechnology in these fora.

**(n) RELATED ISSUES**

There are no other issues related to plant biotechnology that are not captured under the current headings.

**PART C: MARKETING**

**(a) PUBLIC/PRIVATE OPINIONS**

Most consumers in Angola are not aware of biotechnology. However, there is a wide variety of opinions on this matter among scientists, researchers, and the government. Commercial farmers are aware of the benefits of biotechnology and would like it to be available to them.

**(b) MARKET ACCEPTANCE/STUDIES**

If any GE crop seed becomes available, Post FAS/Luanda does not foresee any rejection from commercial farmers, as they have requested this technology for a long time. Post FAS/Luanda is not aware of any marketing studies on GE products conducted in Angola.

## **Chapter 2: ANIMAL Biotechnology**

### **Part D: Production and Trade**

#### **(a) PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT**

There is no GE animal development or commercial production in Angola. Angola also does not have any regulations regarding the importation of GE animals, livestock clones, or animal products.

#### **(b) COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION**

There is no commercial production of GE products in Angola.

#### **(c) EXPORTS**

Not applicable.

#### **(d) IMPORTS**

Angola does not allow imports of GE animals.

#### **(e) TRADE BARRIERS**

Not applicable

### **Part E: POLICY**

#### **(a) REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**

Ministerial Decree No. 92/04, limiting the use of biotechnology in Angola, refers specifically to plants and does not mention animals or other organisms.

#### **(b) APPROVALS**

Not applicable

#### **(c) INNOVATIVE BIOTECHNOLOGIES**

Not Applicable.

#### **(d) LABELING AND TRACEABILITY**

Currently, no compulsory labeling of GE products or food containing GE products is necessary.

#### **(e) INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR)**

Not Applicable.

## **(f) INTERNATIONAL TREATIES and FORUMS**

Angola is a member of the International Organization for Animal Health (OIE). However, Angola has not taken an active role in discussions related to biotechnology in these fora.

## **(g) RELATED ISSUES**

There are no other issues related to animal biotechnology that are not captured under the current headings.

## **PART F: MARKETING**

### **(a) PUBLIC/PRIVATE OPINIONS**

Same as plant biotech.

### **(b) MARKET ACCEPTANCE/ STUDIES**

If any GE animal becomes available, Post FAS/Luanda does not foresee any rejection from commercial farmers, as they have requested this technology for a long time. Post FAS/Luanda is not aware of any marketing studies on GE products conducted in Angola.

## **Chapter 3: Microbial Biotechnology**

### **Part G: Production and Trade**

#### **(a) COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION**

Not applicable

#### **(b) EXPORTS**

Angola does not export alcoholic beverages, dairy products, and processed products which may contain microbial biotech-derived food ingredients.

#### **(c) IMPORTS**

Angola imports alcoholic beverages, dairy products, and processed products which may contain microbial biotech-derived food ingredients.

#### **(d) TRADE BARRIERS**

Not applicable

**Part H: Policy**

**(a) REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**

Not applicable

**(b) APPROVALS**

Not applicable

**(c) LABELING AND TRACEABILITY**

Currently, no compulsory labeling of GE products or food containing GE products is necessary.

**(d) MONITORING AND TESTING**

Not applicable

**(e) ADDITIONAL REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS**

Not applicable

**(f) INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR)**

Not applicable

**(g) RELATED ISSUES**

**Part I: Marketing**

**(a) PUBLIC/PRIVATE OPINIONS**

Not applicable

**(b) MARKET ACCEPTANCE/ STUDIES**

Not applicable



**Attachments:**

No Attachments