
Research Ethics Committee (REC): Biological and Environmental Safety (REC: BES) Meeting Minutes
9 April 2026

Venue: MS TEAMS Conference Call

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WELCOME: Prof SL Sampson

PRESENT: Prof V Mavumengwana, Ms SR Matukane, Mrs J De Kock, Dr NJD Verhoog, Mr FM October, Prof C De Beer, Dr D Rip, Prof SMJ Hemmings, Prof SL Sampson, Prof K Storbeck, Miss K Naicker, Mr WA Beukes

APOLOGIES: Dr JH Groenewald, Dr S Groenewald, Mrs N Sondag

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: 26 February 2026 – **approved**

1. **Disposal of Biological Waste – Mr WA Beukes.** Progress remains ongoing, with a meeting with stakeholders currently being arranged. Feedback will be provided following the outcome of the meeting.

GENERAL MATTERS:

2. **REC:BES Meeting Minutes – Mr WA Beukes.** The committee was informed that REC:BES meeting minutes from 1 June 2025 must be made publicly available on the REC:BES website, as required by the NIH for transparency on recombinant DNA work. A template was developed with guidance from Ms Sondag, aligned with the POPIA Act rather than NIH guidelines. It was agreed that a redacted version of the minutes will be published, including only the reference number, project title, and review outcome for NIH-funded projects. An email will be sent to the Vice-Deans of the Faculties of Medicine and Health Sciences, AgriSciences, and Science to share this information within their faculties before publication. Prof Sampson noted that this approach balances POPIA requirements with NIH funding conditions, but there may be concerns about publishing applicants' names due to privacy. Committee members were asked to assist in sharing this information.

Application Number	Department	Project Title and Description	1 st Reviewer Redacted	2 nd Reviewer Redacted
1. BES-2026-35260		Redacted		
2. BES-2026-35549		Redacted		
3. BES-2026-34800		Redacted		
4. BES-2026-35522		Redacted		
5. BES-2026-31839		Redacted		
6. BES-2026-32159		Redacted		
7. BES-2026-30632		Redacted		
8. BES-2026-32783	Biomedical Sciences	<u>Evolution, biology and host-pathogen interactions of mycobacteria 2025</u> Amendment Form Review Outcome: Approved		
9. BES-2026-29318		Redacted		
10. BES-2026-10312		Redacted		

11. BES- 2026- 28005		Redacted		
12. BES- 2026- 30632		Redacted		
13. BES- 2026- 32783	Biomedical Sciences	<u>Evolution, biology and host-pathogen interactions of mycobacteria 2025</u> Progress Report Form Review Outcome: Approved		
14. BES- 2026- 22780		Redacted		
15. BES- 2026- 22781		Redacted		
16. BES- 2026- 22782		Redacted		
17. BES- 2026- 22183		Redacted		
18. BES- 2026- 33665		Redacted		
19. BES- 2026- 30368		Redacted		
20. BES- 2026- 35077		Redacted		

End