



PRIZE
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**“Towards a sustainable and healthy
development of Biotechnology”**

There is widespread consensus in the fact that the genetically modified organisms can provide beneficial advances for humanity in determinant areas such as nourishment, health and the protection of the environment. However, it is no less true that we are facing polemic innovations and discoveries that are finding serious difficulties for its social acceptance. Its technical origin is challenged, in so far as the potential effects it may have on the health and the environmental as well as the socioeconomic consequences that in may have in all levels, even globally, that are associated to its production, distribution and consumption.

Agenda 21 showed its conviction that humanity can do nothing less but to avail itself of all the benefits of biotechnology. Since then, diverse international, regional and national bodies have begun to promote the establishment of *regulatory frameworks of biotechnology*. As a common point, these frameworks have the ambitious objective to promote the healthy and sustainable development of biotechnology and face the conciliation of counterpoised interest that at times are incompatible among them.

This monograph provides a detailed vision of the course taken by different bodies such as the OECD, WTO, UN, and The European Union and includes the stances of some countries from around the world, thereby showing the variety and intensity of the implemented measures, as well as the problems and contradictions that have occurred in its practice.