CASE STUDY (CSI01):

A medical researcher seeks information about applying the Advance Informed Agreement procedure.

Objective:

- To understand what information should be registered with the BCH after a country 'makes a decision' on importing a Living Modified Organism (LMO) and how it is done through the Biosafety Clearing House (BCH).
- To determine if the Advance Informed Agreement procedure applies in particular instances.

Scenario

You are working for a Competent National Authority and have been contacted by a medical researcher who intends to start some new research. She wishes to import some supplies and wants to know if the Advance Informed Agreement (AIA) Procedure will apply in those instances.

1. Using a line of genetically engineered knock-out mice[1] for cancer research in a contained facility.
2. Planting five genetically modified rice plants modified to express a protein in a small plot on university grounds that can be harvested and used to produce a medically important pharmaceutical ('biopharming').

Mechanics:

Participants should be divided into groups and given time to discuss the topics. Each group should select a leader to report to the plenary and summarize the issues raised during the discussion.

[1] A genetically engineered mouse that has had one or more of its genes made inoperative (i.e. have been "knocked out" of the mouse).