

## **Dr Gatsha Mazithulela leaves CSIR**

Dr Gatsha Mazithulela has left the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) South Africa and joined National Research Foundation (NRF) South Africa as Vice President of Research Infrastructure and National Research Facilities. He succeeded Prof Krish Bharuth-Ram whose contract expired at the end of January 2009.

He was an Executive Director, Biosciences, at CSIR, one of the leading scientific and technology research, development and implementation organizations in Africa. CSIR undertakes directed research and development for socio-economic growth and is part of the ABS consortium whose mandate is to develop sorghum with increased vitamin A.

Dr Gatsha is a member of the ABS external advisory board (EAB), an independent Board which consists of world class experts from relevant disciplines represented in the project. The responsibility of the board is to review the progress of the project and give their advice accordingly, an exercise that is vital to ensuring that the project adheres to its vision, mission and goals, stay on track and deliver its stated objectives.

Dr. Gatsha's move to NRF could still be beneficial to the ABS project as NRF's objective is to support and promote research through funding, human resource development and the provision of the necessary research facilities, in order to facilitate the creation of knowledge, innovation and development in all fields of the natural and social sciences, humanities and technology. It also provides research information and strategic advice hence by identifying certain gaps in the project, he's move to NRF could be beneficial in leveraging the ABS project.