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Dr. Kotob is Vice President of Global Biotechnology Solutions (GBS), an international consulting company that provides technical support to clients in the area of global health and food safety. Dr. Kotob has over 30 years of experience in the areas of soil microbiology, marine bacteriology, molecular biology, and human bacterial pathogens. He is experienced in the use of recombinant DNA technology to detect potential human pathogens in food, drinking water, and the aquatic environment. Prior to joining GBS, he directed R&D at a U.S. environmental biotechnology company for nearly 15 years. Previously, he held research positions at several institutions, including the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the microbiology department at the University of Maryland, USA. At the FDA, he received a Public Health Achievement Award in recognition of his research on the localization of the promoter for the *ptI* genes of *Bordetella pertussis*, the causative agent of whooping cough.

He was also an assistant professor at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William & Mary, where he taught marine biotechnology and conducted research on the detection of pathogens harmful to humans, fish, oysters, and clams. He was a principal/co-principal investigator on several national and international projects funded by the U.S. Trade and Development Agency, Environmental Protection Agency, and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Dr. Kotob had a number of collaborative research projects with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. He has a B.S. (1975) from the University of Cairo, Egypt in soil science/soil microbiology and M.S. (1982) and Ph.D. (1990) in microbiology and molecular biology from the University of Maryland, USA.