### **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**



HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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# SUMMARY REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 12 JUNE 2017

(Section Genetically Modified Food and Feed and Environmental Risk)

CIRCABC Link: https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/23a0c0ab-8e5c-4927-93c7-dc2dcfb0aa4a

## A.01 JRC Technical Report "Recommendation for the unit of measurement and the measuring system to report traceable and comparable results expressing GM content in accordance with EU legislation" – Presentation by JRC.

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) presented the Technical Report "Recommendation for the unit of measurement and the measuring system to report traceable and comparable results expressing GM content in accordance with EU legislation" prepared by a European Network of GMO Laboratories Working Group under the coordination of the JRC. The report is available crl.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ENGL/docs/WG-UoM-Final-Report.pdf. Upon a question from a Member State on the follow-up to the report, JRC replied that the working group recommended to launch a dedicated study to determine conversion factors between different units of measurement on Certified Reference Materials. This study could address different crops and feed into a follow-up version of the Technical Report.

## A.02 JRC draft Technical Report on the use of EU Reference Methods and JRC decision tools for GMO analysis – Presentation by JRC.

This agenda item was postponed to a future Standing Committee meeting.

## A.03 Scientific Opinion on an application for placing on the market of genetically modified herbicide tolerant soybean DAS-44406-6 for food and feed uses, import and processing under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 - Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the opinion on application for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified herbicide-tolerant soybean DAS-444406-6 under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003. The presentation also addressed comments made by Member States during the three months consultation period. One Member State made a comment on increased lectin levels to which EFSA replied and provided clarification.

A.04 Scientific Opinion on an application for placing on the market of genetically modified herbicide tolerant oilseed rape MON 88302 x MS8 x RF3 for food and feed uses, import and processing under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 - Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the opinion on application for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified herbicide-tolerant oilseed rape MON 88302 x MS8 x RF3 under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003. The presentation also addressed comments made by Member States during the three months consultation period. No question was raised during the Committee meeting.

A.05 Scientific Opinion on an application for placing on the market of genetically modified herbicide tolerant soybean FG72 × A5547-127 for food and feed uses, import and processing under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 - Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the opinion on application for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified herbicide-tolerant soybean FG72 × A5547-127 under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003. The presentation also addressed comments made by Member States during the three months consultation period. One Member State informed the Committee that its national competent authority is currently assessing a 90-day study of single event A5547-127 submitted in the context of an application currently under assessment by EFSA.

A.06 Risk assessment of information on the subcombination Bt11 x MIR162, related to the application of Syngenta (EFSA-GMO-DE-2009-66) for authorisation of food and feed containing, consisting and produced from genetically modified maize Bt11 x MIR162 x MIR604 x GA21 - Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the statement on the risk assessment of additional information on the sub-combination Bt11 x MIR162, related to the application of Syngenta (EFSA-GMO-DE-2009-66) for authorization of food and feed containing, consisting and produced from genetically modified maize Bt11 x MIR162 x MIR604 x GA21. EFSA concluded that this new information does not alter the previous conclusions of the scientific opinion on genetically modified maize Bt11 x MIRI 62 x MIR604 x GA21. The Commission informed the Committee that in line with the specific conditions of the authorization a letter was sent to the authorization holder informing about the outcome of statement on the risk assessment by EFSA. No question was raised during the Committee meeting.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified soybean DAS-68416-4 pursuant to Regulation (EC) 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The draft Decision authorizing the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified soybean DAS-68416-4 was presented to the Committee and submitted for vote.

Reasons for the negative vote or abstention:

- No agreed national position
- Negative public opinion
- Political reasons
- Risk assessment deemed not sufficient

#### Written statement submitted by Sweden

The authorisation of placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified soy DAS-68416-4 is on the agenda for this meeting. The authorisation does not include cultivation. Soy DAS-68416-4 is tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium-based herbicides.

The Swedish Board of Agriculture and the National Food Agency make the same conclusion as stated by EFSA i.e. this product is safe for human and animal health as well as for the environment. Sweden therefore votes in favour of granting the product authorisation according to the Commission proposal.

This does not preclude the Swedish vote on a possible future granting of authorisation of cultivation of seeds that are tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium.

Glufosinate-ammonium is classified as a substance toxic for reproduction in category 1B which means that it does not fulfil the approval criteria for active substances according to the Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009.

In our view, potential use and cultivation of genetically modified organisms in Sweden should not have a negative effect on biodiversity and, as far as possible, not lead to an increased use of pesticides.

As a consequence, the Chair informed the Committee that the draft Decision will be submitted to the Appeal Committee.

Vote taken: no opinion.

### M.01 EFSA guidance on the risk assessment of GMO at low level.

The Commission updated Member States on the expected timeline for EFSA to publish the final guidance and informed of the deadline of the ongoing consultation process. It was agreed that the questions on risk management raised by Member States during EFSA's consultation process will be addressed after the publication of the EFSA guidance and by the risk managers (Commission and national authorities), for example in a PAFF meeting.