



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
Directorate E - Safety of the food chain
Acting Director

SANCO

18. 12. 2007

Brussels,
E1/WDB/al D(2007)510910

To whom it may concern

Subject: Evaluation of the Community acquis on the marketing of Seed and Plant propagating Material

With this letter I would like to ask for your full cooperation to the above mentioned evaluation, led by Mr. Daniël Traon (ARCADIA International EEIG - Agro food consultancy).

The Directorate General for Health and Consumer Protection has launched an external evaluation of the Community acquis on the marketing of seed and plant propagating material.

The aim of the evaluation is to establish objectively how effectively and efficiently the legislation has met its original objectives and to identify its strengths and areas for improvement and its robustness with regard to potential new challenges affecting this field.

The evaluation is placed in the general context of the Better Regulation initiative of the Community and therefore its primary aim is:

- to identify the current problems and needs,
- to suggest possible objectives that the Community should pursue in order to respond to the identified problems and current and expected future needs,
- to identify different realistic options to achieve the proposed objectives, and
- to analyse the social, environmental and economic impacts of each of those options, as well as their feasibility, stakeholders' level of support and their strengths and weaknesses.

The concepts of simplification and reduction of administrative burden on the public authorities and the private sector stakeholders should be behind the analysis of the relevant options.

In the context of this evaluation, the evaluation team is requested to consult relevant stakeholders, at Community and national level, including both public bodies and the private sector.

It is obvious that, for the evaluation to be successful, the quality and width of information submitted to the evaluators are of paramount importance.

I therefore count on your full support to the exercise, the results of which will serve as one of the basic elements for DG SANCO's future strategy with regard to the Community legislative framework for the marketing of seeds and plant propagating material.

Possible contact points in my Directorate are Mr Michael Flueh (Head of Unit, tel. 92258) and Mr Walter De Backer (Evaluation manager, tel. 50473).

I thank you in advance for your cooperation and contribution to this analysis.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'EP', written over a long diagonal line that extends from the bottom left towards the top right.

Eric Poudelet