



SENATE OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

14TH TERM

42nd

RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

Delivered on the 2nd session held on 3rd November 2022

on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the sustainable use of plant protection products and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 /Senate Print no. N 195/13, COM(2022) 305/

The Senate

I.

1. Supports

the submitted proposal because it perceives it as a Commission's effort to use pesticides in a sustainable and targeted way in accordance with the latest scientific findings and with the emphasis on the reduction of most dangerous chemical pesticides as much as possible and not as an effort to completely eliminate the chemical pesticides from agriculture;

2. Requests,

in accordance with the position of the Government, that the methodology for the calculation of national targets for the reduction of chemical pesticide is fair, place an equal burden on the Member States, and takes fully into account their previous endeavour in this area; recalls, in this context, the 47th Resolution of the Senate of 19 November 2020 on Farm to Fork Strategy in which the Senate already called for taking into account different conditions of the individual Member States and their previous endeavour when meeting the proposed targets;

3. Is of the opinion

that in the case of Natura 2000 sites, the complete prohibition of pesticide application is not necessary because part of these areas is used for agricultural activities and such prohibition of pesticide application would also affect a significant part of agricultural land in a number of Member States;

4. Considers it to be desirable

to continuously educate the users of pesticides, distributors and advisors, while emphasis must be laid also on the independence of advisors, and to raise also awareness of pesticide issues and publish key information on them;

5. Supports also

financial compensations to be provided to agricultural producers to cover the costs arising from the new requirements on the use of chemical pesticides, however, calls for this compensation to be provided from EU funding sources other than the proposed CAP, as the CAP strategic plans are de facto already in place and this type of support was not envisaged when they were drawn up;

6. Emphasises

the need to increase the market availability of alternative active substances that are safe for human and animal health and also for the environment and that allow rapid replacement of particularly hazardous chemical pesticides, and therefore also considers it necessary to support both the research and development of alternative substances and their registration; adds, in this context, that the wide availability of alternative substances will also facilitate implementation of integrated pest management;

7. Points out

also the fact that the situation in the area of reduction of the use of pesticides is complicated by the current Russian invasion of Ukraine, which has led Europe to place great emphasis on ensuring food self-sufficiency; considers it necessary, therefore, to take the current situation into account not only when discussing this proposal but also when setting any further agricultural objectives;

II.

1. Requests

the Government to inform the Senate no later than on 31st January 2023 about the way this Resolution was taken into account and about the further development of negotiations;

2. Authorises

the President of the Senate to forward this Resolution to the European Commission.

Miloš Vystrčil
sign manual

President of the Senate

Jiří Čunek
sign manual
Senate Verifier