



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FOOD CHAIN AND ANIMAL HEALTH

Held in Brussels on 14 December 2009

(Section Genetically Modified Food & Feed and Environmental Risk)

Chairs: Dorothee André and Sébastien Goux

Adoption of the agenda

The draft agenda was accepted subject to the modifications that are reflected in the report.

Reorganisation of the Commission with respect to GMO

The chair presented to the Committee the new organisation of the Commission with respect to GMOs. Following the decision of President Barroso, the competences of DG ENV and DG SANCO on this matter will be all placed within DG SANCO. The reorganisation is currently under preparation and should be effective as of 1st February. It will be ensured that the expertise of DG ENV will be transferred to DG SANCO.

The chair also indicated that since the agenda included presentations by EFSA on applications related to cultivation, competent authorities under Directive 2001/18 had also been invited to attend this meeting.

- 1. EFSA Opinion on an application for renewal of authorisation for the continued marketing of (1) existing food and food ingredients produced from genetically modified insect resistant maize MON810; (2) feed consisting of and/or containing maize MON810, including the use of seed for cultivation; and of (3) food and feed additives, and feed materials produced from maize MON810, all under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 from the company Monsanto**

The initial environmental risk assessment related to the cultivation of MON810 maize was carried out by the Spanish Biosafety Commission. EFSA representatives presented the opinions related to the renewal of the authorisations for cultivation of MON810 maize and food/feed containing, consisting of or produced from GMOs.

After an exchange of views with Member States regarding specific aspects of the risk assessment as well as on management and monitoring measures which would be the most appropriate, the chairman concluded that the Commission would now, on the basis of the EFSA opinion, consider the next steps of the authorisation procedure.

2. EFSA Opinion on an application for the placing on the market of the genetically modified glyphosate tolerant maize NK603 for cultivation, food and feed uses, import and processing and for renewal of the authorisation of maize NK603 as existing products, both under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003, from Monsanto

The initial environmental risk assessment related to the cultivation of NK603 maize was carried out by the Spanish Biosafety Commission. EFSA representatives presented the opinions related to the renewal of the authorisations for cultivation of NK603 maize and food/feed containing, consisting of or produced from GMOs.

After an exchange of views with Member States on specific aspects of the risk assessment and on issues related to the interplay between GMO and pesticide legislation, the chairman concluded that the Commission would now, on the basis of the EFSA opinions, consider the next steps of the authorisation procedure.

Miscellaneous

Non authorised linseed from Canada

A Commission representative provided an overview of the Alerts (RASFF) related to the non authorised linseed FP967. RASFF are essentially related to linseed imported from Canada before the adoption of the protocol of sampling and testing of linseed originating from Canada. However, it was also underlined that linseeds imports from Russia (1 RASFF) and China (2 RASFF) had been notified. Member States were thus invited to also control linseed imports from these origins.

Draft Commission Regulation on implementing rules concerning applications for authorisation of genetically modified food and feed in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Regulations No (EC) 641/2004 and (EC) No 1981/2006

A Commission representative indicated that the draft Regulation would be notified under SPS/TBT agreement in early 2010. Once comments will be received from third countries, discussions will resume in SCFCAH with a view to finalise the draft.