



**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE  
REGULATORY COMMITTEE under DIRECTIVE 2001/18/EC  
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 26 APRIL 2017**

**A.01 Draft Best Practice Document on "Coexistence of genetically modified crop potato with conventional and organic farming" - Presentation by the JRC.**

The JRC presented the draft Best Practice Document. No comments were made during the meeting. The Member States were invited to provide comments in writing within one month, which will be considered by the European Coexistence Bureau before final publication.

**A.02 Update from Member States on measures taken according to Article 26a(1a) of Directive 2001/18/EC to avoid possible cross border contamination of GMOs into neighbouring Member States in which cultivation of those GMOs is prohibited.**

Among the Member States cultivating maize MON810 and having borders with Member States where cultivation is prohibited:

- One Member State informed the Committee that it amended its national legislation on coexistence by including a provision that allows for specific measures for border areas to be adopted when necessary;
- One Member State indicated that its national coexistence measures are already applicable in the border areas;
- One Member State, in which currently GMOs are not cultivated, stated that they adopted specific coexistence measures for border areas;
- One Member State, in which currently GMOs are not cultivated, is considering adopting specific coexistence measures for border areas in the future so that there is compliance with the Directive in case cultivation takes place.

The Commission asked the Member States concerned to officially communicate to the Commission the measures taken regarding coexistence measures at border areas, so that the necessary information can be uploaded on the Commission website.

**B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Directive, amending Directive 2001/18/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the environmental risk assessment of genetically modified organisms.**

The Commission presented the changes of the draft Commission Directive compared to the one submitted for comments to the feedback mechanism, and to the TBT and SPS Committees and explained the rationale for those changes. The changes were based on the comments of the Member States as well as the comments received through the feedback mechanism and TBT and SPS Committees. The changes mainly consisted of clarifications of the requirements, depending on whether the notifications are submitted under Part B or Part C of the Directive.

During the meeting some Member States proposed additional changes to further clarify and streamline the draft proposal. The Commission informed the Committee that the new suggestions will be considered and that an updated proposal will then be presented for vote in the next meeting of the Committee.

**Vote postponed**

**M.01 Notification from a Member State about the presence of unauthorized GM petunias on the market**

One Member State informed the Committee about the presence of unauthorized GM petunias on the market and briefly described the controls carried out and the measures taken to withdraw them from the market. Another Member State informed the Committee of a similar notification received from a non-EU country. The Commission reminded all Member States of their obligations under Article 4(5) of the Directive 2001/18/EC and asked them to notify to the Commission by 26 May 2017 the results of their investigations and the measures taken. A follow up discussion will take place in the next meeting of the Committee.

**M.02 Notification from a Member State about the presence of unauthorized GM aquarium fish on the market**

One Member State informed the Committee about the presence of unauthorized GM aquarium fish on the market and described briefly the controls carried out and the measures taken to withdraw them from the market. The Commission reminded all Member States of their obligations under Article 4(5) of the Directive 2001/18/EC and asked them to notify to the Commission by 26 May 2017 the results of their investigations and the measures taken. A follow up discussion will take place in the next meeting of the Committee.

**M.03 Update on application C/NL/13/02**

Upon request of a Member State the Commission updated the Committee about the progress in the process of application C/NL/13/02 regarding the placing on the market of genetically modified carnations as cut flowers.

N.B. The drafts on which the Committee expressed an opinion are subject to a defined procedure in relation to the formal adoption by the Commission.

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