

Board for Gene Technology

Helsinki
7 January 2010

Mr. Michael Hamell
European Commission
DG Environment
ENV.B3

Reference: **Finnish contribution to the QUESTIONNAIRE about the socio-economic implications of the placing on the market of GMOs for cultivation.** (ENV.B3/YK/GM ARES (2009) 188914; 29.7.2009)

Dear Mr. Hamell,

Please find enclosed the Finnish contribution to the Commission's questionnaire about the socio-economic implications of the placing on the market of GMOs for cultivation.

In order to respond to the questionnaire the Finnish GMO authorities have identified the relevant Finnish stakeholders. The Finnish contribution consists of the views of the different stakeholders, whose responses have been incorporated into one common document. Each answer represents only the view of the stakeholder in question and generally there are several divergent views on a particular question. Each respondent can be identified in the beginning of the corresponding answer. It is necessary to underline that the answers do not indicate or anticipate any future official views of the Finnish authorities or the Government.

Finally, a note should be taken that the questions are rather demanding and challenging to answer in our case, because there has been no GMO cultivation in Finland so far. In order to facilitate the task of the respondents, where applicable, an approach was suggested, in which the questions can be considered with relation to the first probable GMO cultivars in Finland, that is to say potato and sugar beet.

Yours sincerely,

Irma Salovuori
Secretary General
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