EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE GENERAL

Brussels,
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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE APPEAL COMMITTEE

Genetically Modified Food and Feed

12 JULY 2019

Chair: Sabine Jülicher

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendments.

2. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision renewing the authorisation for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean A2704-12 (ACS-GMØØ5-3) pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The Chair introduced the draft Commission Implementing Decision renewing the authorisation for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean A2704-12, which was the same as that presented to the Standing Committee on 11 June 2019.

The Chair established whether any Member State had changed its position or whether Member States had any further comments. No Member State raised questions and therefore the draft was put up for vote.

Vote taken: no opinion

Reasons for the negative vote or abstention:
- No agreed national position
- Negative public opinion
- Political reasons
- Risk assessment deemed not sufficient

Sweden made the following declaration:

"The re-authorization of placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified soya bean is on the agenda on the meeting mentioned above. The authorization does not include cultivation. Soya bean A2704-12 is tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium-based herbicides.

The Swedish Board of Agriculture and the National Food Agency make the same conclusion as stated by Efsa i.e. this product is safe for human and animal health as well as for the environment. Sweden therefore votes in favour of granting the product authorization according to the Commission proposal.
This does not preclude the Swedish vote on a possible future granting of authorization of cultivation of seeds that are tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium.
Glufosinate-ammonium has very serious properties and is classified as a substance toxic for reproduction in category 1B which means that it does not fulfil the approval criteria for active substances according to the Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009.
In our view, potential use and cultivation of genetically modified organisms in Sweden should not have a negative effect on biodiversity and, as far as possible, not lead to an increased use of pesticides."

The chair informed the members of the Committee that, in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011, it is now for the Commission to decide on this authorisation.

3. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision renewing the authorisation for the placing on the market of products containing or produced from genetically modified oilseed rape T45 (ACS-BNØØ8-2), resulting from the commercialisation of this oilseed rape in third countries until 2005, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The Chair introduced the draft Commission Implementing Decision renewing the authorisation for placing on the market of products containing or produced from genetically modified oilseed rape T45, which was the same as that presented to the Standing Committee on 11 June 2019.

The Chair established whether any Member State had changed its position or whether Member States had any further comments. No Member State raised questions and therefore the draft was put up for vote.

Vote taken: no opinion

Reasons for the negative vote or abstention:
- No agreed national position
- Negative public opinion
- Political reasons
- Risk assessment deemed not sufficient

Sweden made the following declaration:

"The re-authorization of placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified Rape seed T45 is on the agenda on the meeting mentioned above. The authorization does not include cultivation. Rape seed T45 is tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium-based herbicides.
The Swedish Board of Agriculture and the National Food Agency make the same conclusion as stated by Efsa i.e. this product is safe for human and animal health as well as for the environment. Sweden therefore votes in favour of granting the product authorization according to the Commission proposal.
This does not preclude the Swedish vote on a possible future granting of authorization of cultivation of seeds that are tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium.

Glufosinate-ammonium is classified as a substance toxic for reproduction in category 1B which means that it does not fulfil the approval criteria for active substances according to the Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009.
In our view, potential use and cultivation of genetically modified organisms in Sweden should not have a negative effect on biodiversity and, as far as possible, not lead to an increased use of pesticides."

The chair informed the members of the Committee that, in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011, it is now for the Commission to decide on this authorisation.