



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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**Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed**

**Section *Genetically Modified Food and Feed***

**19 March 2018**

**CIRCABC Link:** <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/5d7d6d95-c7b5-426b-85aa-01f122bd88d7>

**SUMMARY REPORT**

**A.01 Risk assessment of information on the subcombination Bt11 x 1507 x GA21, related to the application of Syngenta (EFSA-GMO-DE-2011-99) for authorisation of food and feed containing, consisting and produced from genetically modified maize Bt11 x 59122 x MIR604 x 1507 x GA21 - Presentation by EFSA.**

EFSA presented the statement on the risk assessment of information on the subcombination Bt11 x 1507 x GA21, related to the already authorised genetically modified maize Bt11 x 59122 x MIR604 x 1507 x GA21. No questions were raised by Member States.

**A.02 Scientific opinion: Assessment of genetically modified maize NK603 x MON810 for renewal of authorisation under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 (application EFSA-GMO-RX-007) - Presentation by EFSA.**

EFSA presented the opinion on the application for the renewal of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified maize NK603 x MON810. One Member State asked for clarifications about the sequence of NK603 event, in relation with a recent publication on this matter. EFSA confirmed that this publication was taken into account during the risk assessment. One Member State asked if adverse environmental effects have been observed in relation with the import of genetically modified maize. EFSA replied that until now no adverse environmental effects have been identified.

**A.03 Canada's proposal for technical amendment of the "Sampling and testing protocol for Canadian flaxseed exported to the European Union" – presentation and discussion.**

The Commission informed the Committee Members that the Canadian authorities had requested an amendment to the sampling and testing protocol for Canadian flaxseed exported to the European Union. This amendment replaces the requirement to use a specific DNA extraction kit by a provision introducing performance criteria for DNA extraction during analysis. The presentation was followed by a brief discussion. The Committee endorsed the amended protocol (see Annex 2), which came into immediate effect.

**A.04 Emergency measure on rice from China (Decision 2011/884/EU): overview of the results of Member States' controls.**

The Commission presented an overview of the results of Member States' controls for 2017. A small increase of the in-compliances was observed comparing with 2016. Therefore, it was agreed to maintain the emergency measure in place.

**B.01 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 food and feed produced from genetically modified sugar beet H7-1 (KM-ØØØH71-4) pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.**

The draft Decision renewing the authorisation for the placing on the market of food and feed produced from genetically modified maize sugar beet H7-1 (KM-ØØØH71-4) was presented to the Committee and submitted for a 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

As a consequence, the Chair informed the Committee that the draft Decision will be submitted to the Appeal Committee.

***Written statement issued by France***

***«Déclaration écrite de la France***

*La France souhaite relayer les remarques de l'Anses (Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de l'alimentation, de l'environnement et du travail) qui regrette que le pétitionnaire n'ait pas réalisé l'analyse du site de pré-insertion de l'ADN-T dans le génome de la betterave H7-1. En effet, l'Anses a mis en évidence une délétion d'environ 10,9 Mb au site d'insertion par rapport au génome de référence de la betterave. En l'absence d'information sur la betterave parentale (utilisée pour la transformation génétique), il n'est pas possible de déterminer l'origine de cette délétion. La caractérisation moléculaire de la betterave H7-1 aurait dû être complétée par le pétitionnaire à l'occasion de la présente demande de renouvellement, en tenant compte de l'évolution des connaissances et des techniques dans le domaine de la génomique.*

*De façon générale, pour tous les dossiers de demande de renouvellement, l'actualisation de la caractérisation moléculaire doit être réalisée à l'aide d'analyses bio-informatiques avec des bases de données de séquences génomiques annotées lorsque de telles bases sont publiquement disponibles pour l'espèce végétale considérée, comme le Panel OGM de l'EFSA le recommande dans son guide de 2015 (EFSA GMO Panel 2015. "Guidance for renewal applications of genetically modified food and feed authorised under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003." EFSA Journal 13(6): 4129, 8 pp.).*

*Enfin, toutes les études citées dans les demandes d'autorisation doivent être fournies par les pétitionnaires dès le dépôt des dossiers sans qu'il soit nécessaire de les demander.»*

### **M.01 Traceability and Labelling of Compound Feed.**

One Member State raised the question of whether compound feed where one of the feed materials had technically unavoidable presence of an authorised GMO below the labelling threshold of 0.9% should be labelled as GMO, if the compound feed manufacturer knew of this presence. Some Member States described their approach. The Commission recalled the labelling and traceability requirements laid down in Regulations (EC) 1829/2003 and 1830/2003, which exempts presence below 0.9% of GMOs authorised for food and feed use, provided that this presence is adventitious or technically unavoidable. The Commission offered to further discuss the issue at a later date, if more details of the specific case referred to could be submitted.

### **M.02 GM-Free Labelling.**

One Member State informed the Committee about certain issues relating to the intra-EU trade of food marketed with “GM-Free” type labels/claims, and asked the Committee and the Commission to consider whether guidance on this issue is necessary. The Commission took note, recalled the conclusions of the 2013 “GM-free” labelling study, and invited the Member States to submit data and information on possible intra-EU trade issues with regard to such products.

### **M.03 RASFF - Biomass.**

One Member State asked clarifications about any developments of the RASFF case on GM biomass, notified in autumn 2017. The Commission informed the Committee that it continues the follow up of this case and that any new developments will be presented at the following meetings of the Committee.