EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

sante.ddg2.g.001(2015)4587352

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 21 SEPTEMBER 2015 - 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

(Section Phytopharmaceuticals - Plant Protection Products - Legislation)

CIRCABC Link: *https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/67338e2a-dabb-4e2c-bb7c-773b59aff79d*

A.01 Notification of 22 July 2015 by Germany of a measure taken under Article 71 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2007 concerning the placing on the market and use of winter cereal seeds treated with the active substances clothianidin, imidacloprid or thiamethoxam in Germany.

The Commission noted a discrepancy between EU Regulation No (EU) 485/2013 and the measure taken by Germany.

Germany explained that it considers risk too high as seed treatment practices are not yet sufficiently advanced to limit dust and hence effects on bees in neighbouring areas.

A Member State requested Germany to provide detailed information on how marketing of such seeds will be enforced in the EU. Two Member States commented that they did not see Germany's notification before the deadline, and that their understanding is that Article 71 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2007 can only be used after asking the Commission to act and if the Commission does not act. Even if used, it has to be followed by the Commission proposal. The Member States asked the Commission to present such a proposal. One Member State is inclined to take note of the German notification but asks Germany to share scientific reasoning for the measure taken.

The Commission stated that all three a.s. are under review under Article 21 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2007. Germany should submit the information that led them to take the measure, so EFSA can take it into account for the current open call for data. Point will be on the agenda again of the Committee meeting in October 2015.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Commission Implementing

Regulation (EU) No 540/2011 as regards the extension of the approval periods of the active substances 2,4-D, Acibenzolar-s-methyl, Amitrole, Bentazone, Cyhalofop butyl, Diquat, Esfenvalerate, Famoxadone, Flumioxazine, DPX KE 459 (Fflupyrsulfuron-methyl), Glyphosate, Iprovalicarb, Isoproturon, Lambda-Cyhalothrin, Metalaxyl-M, Metsulfuron methyl, Picolinafen, Prosulfuron, Pymetrozine, Pyraflufen-ethyl, Thiabendazole, Thifensulfuron-methyl, and Triasulfuron.

The Commission introduced the draft and presented its contents. The Commission stressed legal obligation to extend under Article 17 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2007.

One Member State asked for the extension to be staggered in two batches: one expiring on 30 June 2015, another expiring on 31 December 2015.

Germany made the following declaration:

"The agreement of the Federal Republic of Germany to the extension of the approval periods is based on the assumption that this decision is a risk management decision of purely formal and administrative nature. The extension of the approval by Commission is supported by the German delegation exclusively under the formal aspect described in the recitals of this regulation. For the active substances Pymetrozine, Picolinafen and Isoproturon, for which Germany is RMS, a renewal of approval is not to be expected according to the present state of knowledge.

The extension of substances approval serves exclusively the possibility to finalise the renewal procedure formally correct and does not open the possibility for extensions without any further scientific assessment. For the above mentioned active substances Commission has to take care, that the procedures are completed within the newly opened time schedule. Another additional extension is not compatible with the German position."

One Member State opposes as the measure does not take account of a request on rescheduling of the review programme submitted earlier. One Member State does not support the extension of the approval period for certain substances as they do not fulfil the approval criteria in Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009, and therefore voted against the whole measure.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.