EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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SUMMARY REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 14 APRIL 2016 - 15 APRIL 2016

(Section Phytopharmaceuticals - Plant Protection Products - Legislation)

CIRCABC Link: *https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/5cef8c97-5b14-458d-b501-f2ffa7d7a022*

A.01 Discussion on the follow up to the request of France to the Commission to take emergency measures under Article 70 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 to ban the use of dimethoate containing plant protection products in the whole EU in fruits and vegetables.

France explained the background to its request for emergency measures under Article 69 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 to ban the use of dimethoate containing plant protection products in the whole EU in fruits and vegetables and under Article 53 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 to ban the placing on the market of cherries originating from EU Member States or Third countries, where the use of dimethoate containing plant protection products is authorised for cherries. The main justification for this request is the lack of data for the toxicological assessment of three dimethoate metabolites. The lack of this data was already discussed during the assessment of confirmatory data for the approval of dimethoate in 2014 and all Member States agreed to assess the toxicology of these metabolites during the process of the renewal of the active substance. However, France considered it not appropriate to authorise plant protection products containing dimethoate as the risk assessment could not be carried out due to the lack of data. France observed several Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) exceedances for dimethoate in cherries and identified acute health risks for several of these samples. As lowering the dose or increasing the pre-harvest interval would result in a lowered efficacy of the product, France considers that no effective Good Agricultural Practices exist that can guarantee a use that is safe for human health. Because the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) indicated in its statement that the data are not sufficient to clearly exclude a consumer health risk, France considers that the use of dimethoate on cherries and the placing on the market of cherries treated with dimethoate should be banned in the Union. The Commission explained that one of the requirements for the requested emergency measures is that the food treated with the active substance is likely to cause a serious risk to human health. In the Commission's view the EFSA statement does not provide a basis for concluding on a serious health risk. Therefore emergency measures as requested by France are considered not appropriate. Furthermore the Commission referred to the higher MRL exceedance rate observed in France compared to other Member States,

which could be related to a difference in the Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) parameters like the pre-harvest interval. The Commission is of the opinion that the approval of the active substance and the review of the MRLs should be addressed under the regular procedures, which will also allow taking into account the new data available in the renewal dossier, that were not available to EFSA at the time the statement was drafted. The procedure for the renewal of the active substance is ongoing and in view of the recommendations made by EFSA, the review of the existing MRLs can be prioritised. One Member State supported the emergency measures as requested by France.

Another Member State indicated being in favour of restrictive measures for cherries only. Thirteen Member States supported the position of the Commission not to adopt emergency measures and agreed on the need to prioritise the MRL review following discussions in the Pesticides Residues section of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (PAFF). Two Member States indicated that they considered not granting emergency authorisations under Article 53 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 for the use of dimethoate on cherries in 2016.

France will now consider national measures and recalled the need to impose measures as regards imports from Turkey in particular.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the non-renewal of approval of the active substance triasulfuron, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market, and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011 (Draft Review Report Doc. SANTE/12483/2015 Rev. 3).

The draft document was presented for vote. Several Member States could not support the proposal as they considered that provisional toxicological reference values could be derived from the information available and could have been used to finalise the human exposure assessments. They considered that renewal of approval is possible with the missing data to confirm the genotoxic potential being submitted as confirmatory information.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the non-renewal of approval of the active substance amitrole, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market, and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011 (Draft Review Report Doc. SANCO/12765/2014 Rev. 2).

The draft document was presented for vote. No comments were raised.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the non-renewal of approval of the active substance isoproturon, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market, and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011 (Draft Review Report Doc SANTE/12121/2015 Rev. 1).

The draft document was presented for vote. No comments were raised.