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HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
Safety of the Food Chain  
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## SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY PLANT VARIETY RIGHTS

21 NOVEMBER 2016

### SECTION B Draft presented for an opinion

#### **B.1. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1238/95 as regards the fees payable to the Community Plant Variety Office.**

The Commission presented the draft Regulation. Some Member State delegates expressed their concern about the increase of the examination fees and its impact on small breeding companies. The Commission and Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) replied that all necessary efforts including efficiency gains are taken to maintain the fees at a reasonable level. There will be no changes to the fees in the coming four years and a new analysis will be carried out to discuss the fees. As a self-financed agency it is important that CPVO pursues a balanced budget to ensure continuity of its activities.

Poland abstained and gave the following declaration: 'The suggested toll rates are too high. Taking into account the difficult economic conditions and a general recession affecting seeds breeding companies, in particular small companies and individual breeders (who constitute the majority of the companies concerned in Poland), the suggested rates growth would create a need for using only the national legal protection system, limiting free access to protection at the EU level. Such a situation will affect competitiveness of the entities operating within the EU'.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.