



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

SUMMARY REPORT

Ad hoc meeting of the Advisory Group on the Food Chain and Animal and Plant Health on The Revision of the Plant and Forest Reproductive Material Legislation

Online meeting, 29 June 2021

Chair: DG SANTE G1

Stakeholders:

AMFEP, Arche Noah, BEUC, CEFS, CELCAA, CEPM, CEO, CIBE, COCERAL, Copa, COGECA, CropLife Europe, EASAC, ECO-PB, ECPGR, ECVC, EFFAB, EFFCA, EFI/EURFORGEN, EFM, ELO, ENA, ENGA, ENSSER, EPSO, EU-SAGE, EuroCommerce, EuropaBio, EUSTAFOR, European Federation of Biotechnology, Euroseeds, EFNA, ENA, ENSSER, EPSO, Eurocommerce, Euro Coop, Europatat, European Federation of Biotechnology, FEDIOL, FEFAC, FEFANA, FESASS, FIAN International, FSE, FoEE, FoodDrinkEurope, Food Supplements Europe, Freshfel Europe, Greenpeace, IFOAM Organics Europe, IG Saatgut, NATRUE AISBL, OIV, Plant ETP, POLLINIS, Slow Food, Testbiotech, UECBV, Union Fleurs, UNISTOCK, VBN.

On behalf of the Commission, Dorothee André of the Plant Health Unit (SANTE) welcomed the participants of the ad hoc stakeholder meeting and stated that the Inception Impact Assessment on the Revision of the Plant and Forest Reproductive Material Legislation has been published.

The purpose of the meeting was to inform stakeholders about the Inception Impact Assessment on the Revision of the Plant and Forest Reproductive Material Legislation and to receive questions and comments of the stakeholders. The Inception impact assessment (IIA) is based on the Study on the Union's options to update the existing legislation on the production and marketing of plant reproductive material (PRM Study) that was presented to the ad hoc stakeholder meeting on 19 May 2021. The Inception Impact Assessment has been published on the Better Regulation Portal and will remain open for feedback until 13 July 2021.

D. André introduced the Inception Impact Assessment and clarified that the problems of the earlier PRM Study have been grouped into two main problems and that the policy options are more distinct. The policy options aim to tackle the issues identified by the Council and confirmed by the PRM Study. The current legislation also needs to contribute in a more comprehensive way to the new EU priorities such as the EU Green Deal, the Farm to Fork

Strategy and the new EU Forest Strategy. While one of the policy options is a *status quo*, D. André made it clear that the Commission will not choose this option. She stressed that the Commission counts on the different stakeholders to work together to find the best possible solution that will respond to the needs of citizens, producers and users.

The Inception impact assessment will be followed by an Impact assessment. The final objective is to present the subsequent Impact assessment to the internal Regulatory Scrutiny Board to check if the environmental, social and economic impacts have been well assessed and the problems well described.

Stakeholders welcomed the presentation. Several organisations mentioned that they are happy to contribute to the process and appreciate the Commission's transparency, and added that they agree with the problems identified and that they have ideas on how to improve the legislation. They will send further comments in the coming weeks.

D. André reminded the stakeholders of the different steps and mentioned that the Commission will work with an external contractor, which will have a period of 9 months to work on the Impact assessment, starting from September. The open public consultation of the study supporting the Impact assessment will be open from November 2021 to February 2022 and be available on the official page. The Commission aims at adopting an official proposal by the end of 2022.