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*
11 June 2019

CIRCABC Link: ***https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/8ff5e0ee-0c89-4ac0-a3c6-f212f5de2f38***

SUMMARY REPORT

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 products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean A2704-12 (ACS-GMØØ5-3) 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 products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified genetically modified soybean A2704-12 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
- Precautionary principle
- Risk assessment deemed not sufficient

Written statement issued by Sweden:
"The re-authorization of placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified soya bean is on the agenda on the meeting mentioned above. The authorization does not include cultivation. Soya bean A2704-12 is tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium-based herbicides.
The Swedish Board of Agriculture and the National Food Agency make the same conclusion as stated by Efsa i.e. this product is safe for human and animal health as well as for the environment. Sweden therefore votes in favour of granting the product authorization according to the Commission proposal.
This does not preclude the Swedish vote on a possible future granting of authorization of cultivation of seeds that are tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium.
Glufosinate-ammonium is classified as a substance toxic for reproduction in category 1B which means that it does not fulfil the approval criteria for active substances according to the Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009.

In our view, potential use and cultivation of genetically modified organisms in Sweden should not have a negative effect on biodiversity and, as far as possible, not lead to an increased use of pesticides."

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

B.02 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 products containing or produced from genetically modified oilseed rape T45 (ACS-BNØØ8-2), resulting from the commercialisation of this oilseed rape in third countries until 2005, 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 products containing or produced from genetically modified oilseed rape T45 (ACS-BNØØ8-2), resulting from the commercialisation of this oilseed rape in third countries until 2005,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
- Precautionary principle
- Risk assessment deemed not sufficient

Written statement issued by Sweden:
"The re-authorization of placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified Rape seed T45 is on the agenda on the meeting mentioned above. The authorization does not include cultivation. Rape seed T45 is tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium-based herbicides.
The Swedish Board of Agriculture and the National Food Agency make the same conclusion as stated by Efsa i.e. this product is safe for human and animal health as well as for the environment. Sweden therefore votes in favour of granting the product authorization according to the Commission proposal.
This does not preclude the Swedish vote on a possible future granting of authorization of cultivation of seeds that are tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium.
Glufosinate-ammonium is classified as a substance toxic for reproduction in category 1B which means that it does not fulfil the approval criteria for active substances according to the Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009."

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

M.01 ENGL request on analytical results for stacks.

The Commission informed about the European Network of GM laboratories (ENGL) request for clarification from the Commission on how to report on analytical findings of GM events, when more than one event is found in the same sample (sum of single events vs. per single event per species). The Commission informed that results from the laboratories should be reported per single event per species and that Competent Authorities are responsible for a decision on (non-)compliance. The reply will be sent to ENGL and shared with the Member States. No comments were raised.

M.02 Letter from Russia on non-compliant GMO imports.

The Commission informed about a letter received from the Russian Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance on the non-compliance of GM feed imports into Russia. Some Member States informed the Committee that Russia has also addressed letters to them regarding non-compliance. The Commission invited Member States to share any relevant information in writing before 20 June 2019. The Commission pointed out that controls are Member States' responsibility.

M.03 Global Community Meeting of the FAO GM Foods Platform.

One Member State informed the Committee that it considers participating to the Global Community Meeting of the FAO GM Foods Platform in September 2019, and enquired about participation of other Member States, the Commission and EFSA. The Commission informed that it will most likely not attend this meeting. It was agreed to share further information about participation with Member States.