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From: (SANCO)
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Subject: BTO- Meeting with Industry on Cartagena Protocol (COP-MOP 6)
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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BTO- Meeting with the Industry on Cartagena Protocol (COP-MOP 6) - 19 July 2012

DG SANCO: Dorothee André, (E1)

Industry: (Global Biosafety Manager, Bayer CropScience),
(EuropaBio), (CropLife International)

Objective of the meeting: on request of to discuss the key subjects, namely risk assessment and socio-economic consideration, that will be on the agenda of the Cartagena Protocol MOP 6 in Hyderabad in October.

Key elements of the meeting:

- The Industry is represented as observer (Global Industry Coalition) at the COP-MOP meetings of the Cartagena Protocol. at and will be in India.
- On **risk assessment**, the Industry presented their views: even if the Roadmap improved a lot, they are not convinced that the amount of information/the whole guidance is useful (e.g. the South American Countries developed an alternative guidance document), the Parties should first use the guidance before adopting it, need to work on regulatory frameworks (53% of Parties does not have regulatory frameworks) before developing new guidances.
- In the AHTEG (Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group), no agreement was reached on several parts of the guidance: use of omics for abiotic stressors (difficulties for developing countries with no access to such technologies), use and reference to socio-economic issues, section on uncertainty, benefits, general monitoring. Furthermore, there was a controversy as not all the comments were considered equally.
- The Industry also presented their views on **socio-economic** considerations: the definition of socio-economic is different from the one in the EU, link with the SPS/WTO obligations, guidance on this issue should be developed at regional level instead of international level, the conceptual clarity is not yet defined, need for clarity for notifiers.

The Industry finally presented their views on the other issues at the agenda of the COP-MOP 6: on **handling, transport and packaging**, article 18.2 b and c work well (no need for dedicated documents) and elements already exist for article 18.3, article 8 on **notifications** works well.