
Subject:

FW: BTO – Meeting with livestock and farmers European organisations regarding the pending GMO authorisations

From: (SANTE)
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:53 PM
To: FLUEH Michael (SANTE)
Cc: (SANTE); (SANTE); (SANTE);
(SANTE); (SANTE)
Subject: BTO – Meeting with livestock and farmers European organisations regarding the pending GMO authorisations

Dear Michael,

Please find below the BTO prepared by .

BTO – Meeting with livestock and farmers European organisations regarding the pending GMO authorisations

Date: 11 March 2015

Attendees:

Livestock and farmers Organisations from ES, IT, PT, RO and UK: ASEPRHU, ASOPROVAC, FuturAgra, CONFAGRICULTURA, AgroBiotechRom, IACA, NFU.

SANTE: M. Flueh (Director E, acting), (E1)

SANTE

- The lack of support of MS in the Standing Committee on GM food and feed is a fact since 2004, and the number of supporting MS is decreasing. The general rules of comitology apply to all sectors but it is only in the GMO area that the Commission adopts alone.
- There are discrepancies between MS votes and their needs on GM feed products.
- President Juncker committed to review the decision-making process on GM food and feed to be adopted by end April.
- 13 applications are waiting for the final adoption by the Commission. The other applications continue to be risk assessed by EFSA and voted by Member States when a favourable scientific opinion is published.

Livestock and farmers Organisations

- There is a real risk of blocking imports due to adventitious presence of not yet authorised GM soybean and maize.
- The livestock sector is very competitive. Burdens linked to access to GM feed would impact on their competitiveness with regard international market.

- The EU imports meat products produced with GM feed not yet authorised in the EU and therefore not accessible for EU farmers. EU farmers consider this as an unequal treatment.
- The regulatory costs on poultry and eggs production are estimated at 5% and 15% respectively, out of which 1.2% and 1% are linked to GMOs.
- They would oppose to any attempt to renationalise the GM food and feed authorisation procedure as it has been done for cultivation.
- The public opinion is not well informed. Commission should inform citizens about the safety of GMOs and the dependence on GM feed imports.