To:	SCHAPS Jens ((AGRI)

Cc:

Subject: e-Report Meeting with Dow Agro Sciences (12 January 2016)

Participants:

DOW:

AGRI: J. Schaps,

Dow briefly introduced the agro-business part of the company (Dow AgroSciences) and highlighted their priorities for Europe: mainly crop protection business development (herbicides) with a focus on oilseed rape in particular (where lack of herbicide solutions may impact farmers decisions to plant) and other crops like wheat, sugar beet, rice, fruits and vegetables. So Dow was interested in DG AGRI perspectives for these crops in Europe.

Dow also briefly mentioned activities in oilseed rape breeding aiming at increasing the protein content of oilseed rape meal (and therefore at adding value to oilseed rape meal for feed)

Dow also wondered about future general priorities for CAP (competitiveness on exports or supply to domestic market) and referred to difficulties to provide innovative solutions for EU farmers due to lengthy EU regulatory approval processes.

AGRI referred to the latest DG AGRI mid-term outlook publications where all crops are addressed and where for instance the oilseed rape area in Europe is expected to remain stable around 6 Mio ha in coming 10 years (with less positive outlook for biodiesel uses than forecasted earlier).

AGRI confirmed that CAP is not focusing on one single model of agriculture and that different market segments can be supplied by EU farming (both export and/or domestic markets). AGRI also commented that EU agriculture needs to face different external demands (environmental protection, animal welfare)

AGRI noted the importance of rice crop for Dow and recalled the importance of on-going discussions on tricyclazole for EU rice sector.