



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY
Food Safety, Sustainability and Innovation
(acting)

Brussels
SANTE.E.3/ (2023)8099980

Dear representatives of the G6 network,

Subject: Your email of 14 July 2023 – G6 statement on legislative proposal concerning new genomic techniques

I refer to your above-mentioned email ⁽¹⁾, addressed to [REDACTED], concerning the Commission legislative proposal on plants produced by certain new genomic techniques (NGTs). [REDACTED] has asked me to reply on her behalf.

I would like to thank you for sharing the statement of the G6 network expressing the view that the proposal is based on state-of-the-art scientific evidence and has the potential to enable breakthroughs in European research with respect to optimising plants for agriculture, forestry and other bioeconomy applications.

The potential contribution of NGT plants to achieving the objectives of the European Green Deal and its Farm to Fork Strategy as indeed been one of the key objectives of the Commission proposal.

I take note of your concern related to the prohibition to use NGT plants in organic production. Let me clarify on this point that the Commission has listened to the position of a clear majority in the organic sector, according to which the use of NGTs is considered incompatible with the concept of organic production and with consumers' perception of organic products.

I note also your openness to discuss the legislative proposal and to contribute relevant scientific evidence to the process. In that regard, you might wish to arrange a meeting with Ms [REDACTED] Unit E3 - Biotechnology, and her team (contact: sante-consult-e3@ec.europa.eu).

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

⁽¹⁾ Registered under our reference Ares(2023)4961517

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