



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
Directorate B – Sustainability
B.3 – Social Sustainability

Brussels
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NOTE FOR THE FILE

**Subject: Meeting between Cabinet Wojciechowski, DG AGRI and BAYER
27/10/2022**

Bayer: Personal data and Personal data
Personal data

Commission: Maciej Golubiewski, Joana Stawowy (Cabinet Wojciechowski) Personal data
Personal data (DG AGRI).

The meeting was organised at the request of Bayer.

Bayer

- Short introduction of the company with stress on innovation, global network and research. Bayer wants the Green Deal to be successful and offers help for this. Bayer is focussed on sustainability, emission reduction and increasing the resilience of agriculture.
- For Bayer, Europe has become a less interesting market compared to other markets worldwide because it is less competitive and requires many speciality pesticides. Soon, there will (only) be NGT bananas due do specific banana diseases. Retailers like Lidl are very powerful and will not oppose to NGTs anymore.
- Different pesticides have different impacts; not every pesticide should be judged the same. Organic farming means yield reduction. It is proven possible to produce more with less input. The example of short stature corn is given, which has been developed ‘through multiple technology approaches including traditional breeding, gene editing and biotechnology’.
- Bayer urgently want a legislative proposal on NGTs. Bayer favours full transparency and clear labelling of NGT products. One is proud and do not want to hide anything. It is predicted that consumers will like NGT products. With NGTs, new varieties adapted to the changing climate can be bred faster.

Cabinet

- Farm to Fork and Biodiversity Strategies are of high importance for Commissioner Wojciechowski. It needs to be considered that Member States have different starting points. This is especially important for the SUR proposal. The methodology to measure pesticide use reductions is key. Industry is recommended to work more with Member States.
- Export is very important for the EU, contributing to global food security. European agriculture still is family based; local markets still can be improved. Small farmers do not benefit sufficiently at the moment: their support is priority for Commissioner Wojciechowski.
- It is important to listen to public opinion, which is often against GMOs and NGTs. Bayer may communicate better on risk assessment as this is a main public concern.
- Cabinet stresses the importance for Bayer to communicate with cabinets Kyriakides and Timmermans.

Electronically signed

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c.c.: MICHELINI Silvia, BASCOU Pierre, Personal data, Personal data,
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