

***Contribution to briefing for visit of Commissioner Andriukaitis to Helsinki on 04-07-2019
(CAB ANDRIUKAITIS 1359)***

New breeding techniques: At the AGRIFISH Council of 14 May 2019, Finland intervened supporting a debate at EU level aimed at finding a common interpretation of the current provisions of the GMO legislation and/or paving the way for their future modification. Finland indicated that the current legal framework is problematic/no longer fit for purpose and that there is a need to amend it, also referring to the importance to maintain the competitiveness of the European agri-food sector. Finland will hold a discussion in the Working Party in the autumn to prepare a request to the Commission under Article 241 TFEU to come forward with a proposal to regulate new breeding techniques. This is also foreseen for discussion in the December AGRIFISH Council.