



STELLA KYRIAKIDES
MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

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Dear

I would like to thank you for the joint open letter to former Commissioner Andriukaitis, co-signed with 23 organisations representing the associations of the agricultural and food sector, regarding the judgement of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) on new breeding methods.

I note that you are advocating for a fact-based and unbiased political and societal debate. I would encourage you to continue to engage constructively in open debates with national regulators, scientists and stakeholders, including consumers, on the potential risks and benefits of new techniques. It is important to understand who could benefit from the products obtained with these techniques and what needs could be addressed by using them. I remain convinced that concrete examples foster public confidence and acceptance of new technologies. Such debates should also cover ethical, legal, societal and economic aspects.

Further to the Council's request¹ of 8 November, the Commission will carry out a study on the status of new genomic techniques and will be consulting stakeholders to present and substantiate their views. I am sure that the study will contribute to foster an informed and genuine debate on the use of these techniques that, for example, might have the potential of reducing our dependency on synthetic pesticides.

Yours sincerely,

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