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Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed
Section *Genetically Modified Food and Feed*
09 December 2019

CIRCABC Link: *https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/654d460b-d0cc-4472-9b09-1f34459af360*

SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 Assessment of genetically modified soybean MON 87751 × MON 87701 × MON 87708 × MON 89788 for food and feed uses, under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 - (application EFSA-GMO-NL-2016-128) - Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the opinion on the application for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean MON 87751 × MON 87701 × MON 87708 × MON 89788. No questions were raised by Member States.

A.02 Assessment of genetically modified maize MON 87427 × MON 89034 × MIR162 × MON 87411 and subcombinations, for food and feed uses, under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 (application EFSA-GMO-NL-2017-144) - Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the opinion on the application for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MON 87427 × MON 89034 × MIR162 × MON 87411 and subcombinations. No questions were raised by Member States.

A.03 Assessment of genetically modified maize MIR604 for renewal authorisation under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 (application EFSA-GMO-RX-013) - Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the opinion on the application for renewal of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MIR604. No questions were raised by Member States.

A.04 Assessment of genetically modified maize MON 89034 for renewal authorisation under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 (application EFSA-GMO-RX-015) - Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the opinion on the application for renewal of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MON 89034. No questions were raised by Member States.

A.05 Statement complementing the EFSA Scientific Opinion on application (EFSA-GMO-UK-2006-34) for authorisation of food and feed containing, consisting of and produced from genetically modified maize 3272- Presentation by EFSA.

EFSA presented the Statement complementing the opinion on the application for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize 3272. Given the particularities of this product, it was agreed to discuss again at a forthcoming Committee meeting.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean MON 87708 × MON 89788 × A5547-127, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The draft Decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean MON 87708 × MON 89788 × A5547-127, was presented to the Committee and submitted for a vote.

Vote taken: No opinion

Reasons for the negative vote or abstention:

- No agreed national position
- Negative public opinion
- Political reasons
- Precautionary principle
- Risk assessment deemed not sufficient

Written statement issued by Sweden:

"The re-authorization of placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified soya bean is on the agenda on the meeting mentioned above. The authorization does not include cultivation. Soya bean MON 87708 x MON 89788 x A5547-127 is tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium-based herbicides.

The Swedish Board of Agriculture and the National Food Agency make the same conclusion as stated by Efsa i.e. this product is safe for human and animal health as well as for the environment. Sweden therefore votes in favour of granting the product authorization according to the Commission proposal.

This does not preclude the Swedish vote on a possible future granting of authorization of cultivation of seeds that are tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium.

Glufosinate-ammonium has very serious properties and is classified as a substance toxic for reproduction in category 1B which means that it does not fulfil the approval criteria for active substances according to the Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009.

In our view, potential use and cultivation of genetically modified organisms in Sweden should not have a negative effect on biodiversity and, as far as possible, not lead to an increased use of pesticides."

As a consequence, the Chair informed the Committee that the draft Decision will be submitted to the Appeal Committee.

M.01 Council decision (EU) 2019/1904 on new genomic techniques

The Commission informed the Member States of the request of the Council (Decision (EU) 2019/1904) to submit a study on the status of new genomic techniques under Union law, and, if appropriate, a proposal or other measures required as a follow-up to the study. The Commission will organise the next Joint Working Group of the three competent authorities for GMO of 15 January 2020, where the follow up to this request will be discussed. The Member States will be invited to contribute to the study. The Commission stressed the importance of substantiation of the Member States' contributions.

M.02 Commission Decision 2011/884/EU Emergency measure for rice from China: Member States' reports

The Commission reminded Member States of their obligation to report their national control results under the emergency measure. The Commission therefore invited the Member States to send all missing data for 2019 to the functional mailbox (SANTE-MS-REPORTS-DECISION-2011-884@ec.europa.eu).

M.03 RASFF case 2019.3332

The Commission drew the attention of the Member States on a follow up notification in RASFF, concerning the detection of antimicrobial resistance genes in food enzymes in a Member State. The Member State specified that traceability information will be uploaded in RASFF as soon as it becomes available. The Commission asked Member States to follow the traceability information in RASFF and withdraw immediately any non-compliant products that may have been placed on their markets.

M.04 Official Controls Regulation (EU) 2017/625

Further to a Member State enquiry, the Commission confirmed that it does not intend to propose any acts pursuant to Article 23 of Regulation (EU) 2017/625. No other Member State intervened.