

From: [REDACTED] (SANTE)
Sent: lundi 11 mai 2020 16:52
To: [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE)
Cc: [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE)
Subject: BTO ECVC event 'New GMOs, Patents and the Peasants', 20th Feb 2020

BTO: Participation in the European Coordination Via Campesina (ECVC) event 'New GMOs, Patents and the Peasants' Rights to Seeds in Europe

20/02/2020, Brussels, European Economic and Social Committee, Jacques Delors Building

Participants:

- Host of the event: [REDACTED] (EESC, Group III)
- Organisers: ECVC: [REDACTED]
- Moderator: [REDACTED] (Kybele)
- Other speakers: [REDACTED] (EPO), [REDACTED] (GM Watch), [REDACTED] (Kings College London), [REDACTED] (University of Alberta)
- COM: DG SANTE - [REDACTED] (E3), [REDACTED] (G1), DG GROW - [REDACTED] (F3)
- Other stakeholders in the audience: FoEE, Greenpeace Europe, Testbiotech, [REDACTED] ([REDACTED])

DG SANTE and GROW were invited to the event organised by ECVC focusing on the use of new genomic techniques (NGTs), patents, and peasants' rights to seeds in relation with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas (UNDROP).

The European Patent Office (EPO) presented the state of play on patents in plants as well as the ongoing dispute on the products of biological processes, and provided some statistics on patented products. [REDACTED] made a case on why the regulation of gene editing will not hurt small and medium size companies, while [REDACTED] followed up with an overview of the effect of patents on seeds on the global seed market share concentration. Finally, [REDACTED] explained the concerns of ECVC related to the patents on NGTs.

The event was concluded by a round table with short interventions from DG SANTE E3, G1 and DG GROW F3. On NGTs, E3 explained the recent request of the Council to the Commission to submit a study on the status of NGTs, focusing on its working methods, and specifically the stakeholder consultation process and the expected input from other Commission services and EFSA. The round table was followed by a brief Q&A session.