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HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

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Brussels,

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your letter of 7 September 2020 where you inform me of the development of a detection method for Cibus oilseed rape, described in the scientific article by Chhalliyil et al¹.

I welcome all efforts in the development of detection methods for products from new genomic techniques. Indeed, an important part of the enforcement of the EU legislation on genetically modified organisms is the detection and identification of possibly unauthorised products entering the EU market. I am sure that the Member States, who are responsible for controls, will give due consideration to this scientific article. My services have already contacted the European Union Reference Laboratory for Genetically Modified Food & Feed (EURL GMFF) to assess the new information provided in the article. EURL GMFF informed that the article and the method described therein will be discussed with the European Network of GMO Laboratories meeting on 30 September.

The outcome of the discussion will be publicly available² and discussed with the competent authorities of the Member States in a forthcoming Standing Committee meeting.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Greenpeace European Unit

Cc: Mr Janusz Wojciechowski, Commissioner for Agriculture;
Mr Virginijus Sinkevičius, Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries;
[REDACTED], [REDACTED] European Food Safety Authority

¹ *A Real-Time Quantitative PCR Method Specific for Detection and Quantification of the First Commercialized Genome-Edited Plant* – Foods 2020, 9, 1245; doi:10.3390/foods9091245

² The minutes of the meeting will be available on EURL GMFF website : <https://gmo-crl.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ENGL/ENGL.html>