

Participants (EU): Commissionner V. Andriukaitis, A. Ribokas, A. Vinciunas, N. Chaze, M. Valletta, V. Sysaite, M. Scannell,

(US): T. McKinney,

- McKinney presented himself and his role as the first under secretary for agriculture on trade following his nomination by Perdue. This was his 3rd trip to Europe. McKinney expressed his willingness to keep open channels for communication with the EU and SANTE and his openness for discussion.
- Three issues (offensives) were raised by McKinney:
 - (1): the EC ruling on plant breeding techniques:
 - McKinney expressed the US frustration with the ECJ ruling which "hammered the US and other third countries as trading

partners". He said that he EU is now expected to better reflect on the impact of the ruling and realise that EU legislation needs to change.

He stated that US is available to help the EU in this direction. He claimed that GM technologies are developed by small companies and universities (MIT, Barckley, Dupont) and it is not an industry matter. He also stated that his is confident that EU will realise the negative impact of this ruling. On that basis, he has reassured two biotech companies (located in Europe) that contacted the US in view of the need start their relocation. He repeated the offer from US to further discuss and help.

COM explained that the ECJ ruling provided clarity to the legislation with regard to the new techniques and this will enable further discussions. EU is promoting scientific progress and the available platforms will be used for the necessary discussions on this specific matter. It was also explained that within the preparation of the EU budget the needs on innovation, research and development have been taken into account and a big amount of money will be spent on these sectors. COM noted also that EU represents the views of 28 MS and all different approaches and views are being taken into account.

(2): the EU Regulation on pesticides:



(3): <u>the new EU regulations on veterinary medicinal</u> <u>products and medicated feed</u>:

