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Subject:	BTO meeting between DG SANTE and MEP Thomas Waitz				
	(Greens/European Free Alliance, AT) - 17/10/2018				

BTO meeting between DG SANTE and MEP Thomas Waitz (Greens/European Free Alliance, AT) - 17/10/2018

Participants:

• EP: MEP Thomas Waitz

• SANTE: (E3, (01),

Subject: New Breeding Techniques

An informal meeting was held on new breeding techniques with MEP Thomas Waitz. SANTE:

- informed about the ongoing activities with the EU Member States to properly implement the
 outcome of the ruling of the Court of Justice of the EU (CJEU) on mutagenesis issued on 25 July
 2018;
- explained that the ECJ judgement was very clear and requires no immediate action by COM;
- informed that SANTE is keen to have an open debate with stakeholders and to get a genuine understanding of potential issues at stake.

MEP Waitz:

- emphasised that the organic sector is a big success, highly trusted by consumers in the EU and that it should be kept free from GMOs;
- highlighted the importance of the freedom of choice for farmers and the risks for coexistence of different agricultural practices arising from cross-pollination;
- questioned the safety of the new techniques and the need to use these techniques in the agricultural sector.

Both parties appreciated the conversation and expressed their openness to continue the discussion on the topic.