

Dear competent authorities for Directive 2009/41/EC,

First of all, I would like to warmly thank you for the useful information you provided us regarding your experience with Directive 2009/41/EC for the period June 2014 - December 2017.

As you are aware, we have started discussions on the ruling of the Court of Justice of the European Union on new mutagenesis techniques (Case C-528/16) with competent authorities for Directive 2001/18/EC and Regulation (EC) 1829/2003, in particular on the implementation and consequences of the outcome of the ruling. The minutes of the discussions held at the last Committee meetings (September and December meetings for the <u>Standing Committee on Plants</u>, <u>Animals</u>, <u>Food and Feed – section GMO</u>, October meeting for the <u>Regulatory Committee under Directive 2001/18/EC</u>) are available at the respective Committees webpages. During these discussions, we also invited those Competent Authorities to liaise with you regarding the implementation of the ruling for Contained Uses of GMMs, and GMOs when appropriate.

In view of the importance of the ruling on new mutagenesis techniques, I would like that the Commission report summarising your experience with the Directive covers also specifically this topic. Therefore, we are now kindly asking you to provide us with information regarding new mutagenesis techniques in contained uses of GMMs (and GMOs when appropriate) and the impact of the outcome of the Court ruling for you as Competent Authority for Directive 2009/41/EC.

We would very much appreciate receiving your input by **15 February** by answering to this email. This input will feed in the Commission summary report, and may also be used to contribute to further discussions in upcoming Committee meetings.

For your information, the Commission is planning to organise in 2019 a joint Committee meeting of all GMO competent authorities on the topic on new techniques, should Member States consider this necessary.

Finally, we would like to take the opportunity of updating the summary report to also include the full year 2018 (extending the report to cover the period June 2014 – **December 2018**). In order to facilitate and harmonise your reporting, we will provide you early January with a link to an updated and shorter version of the questionnaire, which can be used to collect information for year 2018.

I thank you in advance for your contributions and cooperation. Finally, we would like to wish you, your families and colleagues a merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful new year.

Kind regards,

DG SANTE/E/3 Health & Food Safety



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