



## Trade policies - agriculture and SPS

### Meeting date and place

Meeting held on 23/01/2019 15:00 in Charlemagne

### Participating organisation(s) & representative(s)

[ Art. 4.1 (b) ] [ Art. 4.1(b) ] (TRN: [ Art. 4.1(b) ]) Participant, Requester, Contact,

### Main issues discussed

[ Art. 4.1(b) ] briefly presented their activity and main clients (most notably the US Soybean Export Council).

The visitor voiced the US soybean growers' long standing concern over the EU's lengthy approval process for genetically modified organisms. While acknowledging that no major trade issues had occurred lately and commending the Commission's recent work in managing EFSA's scientific assessments, [ Art. 4.1(b) ] indicated that applicants complain about the lack of direct exchanges with EFSA.

On new plant breeding techniques, the visitor expressed interest for the statement the group of chief scientific advisers of the Scientific Advice Mechanism issued following the Court of Justice ruling in case C-528/16. [ Art. 4.1(b) ] called for EU policy developments in this field during the next term of the Commission, with a view to avoid negative impacts on trade. [ Art. 4.1(b) ]

[ Art. 4.1(b) ] also briefly referred to the EU pesticide policy and to the new approach proposed by the Commission last year regarding the setting of import tolerance requests for active substances with cut off criteria. This new approach is considered as a positive development from trade angle.

### Directorate or unit

TRADE [ Art. 4.1 (b) ]

### Internal participants

[ Art. 4.1 (b) ]	TRADE [ Art. 4.1 (b) ]	@ec.europa.eu	Participant.
[ Art. 4.1 (b) ]	TRADE [ Art. 4.1 (b) ]	@ec.europa.eu	Participant, Notetaker.
[ Art. 4.1 (b) ]	TRADE [ Art. 4.1 (b) ]	@ec.europa.eu	Participant, Notetaker.

### Author(s) of minutes

[ Art. 4.1 (b) ]

### Validator and validation date

[ Art. 4.1(b) ] validated the minutes on 25/01/2019 10:08