

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY
Directorate D – Food chain: stakeholder and international relations
D2 – Multilateral International Relations

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR TRADE
Directorate D – Sustainable Development, Bilateral Trade Relations,
D3 – Agriculture, Fisheries, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Market Access, Biotechnology

Brussels, 13.11.2018 SANTE.D2/TRADE.D3 (2018) 6478438 [Art. 4.1(b)]

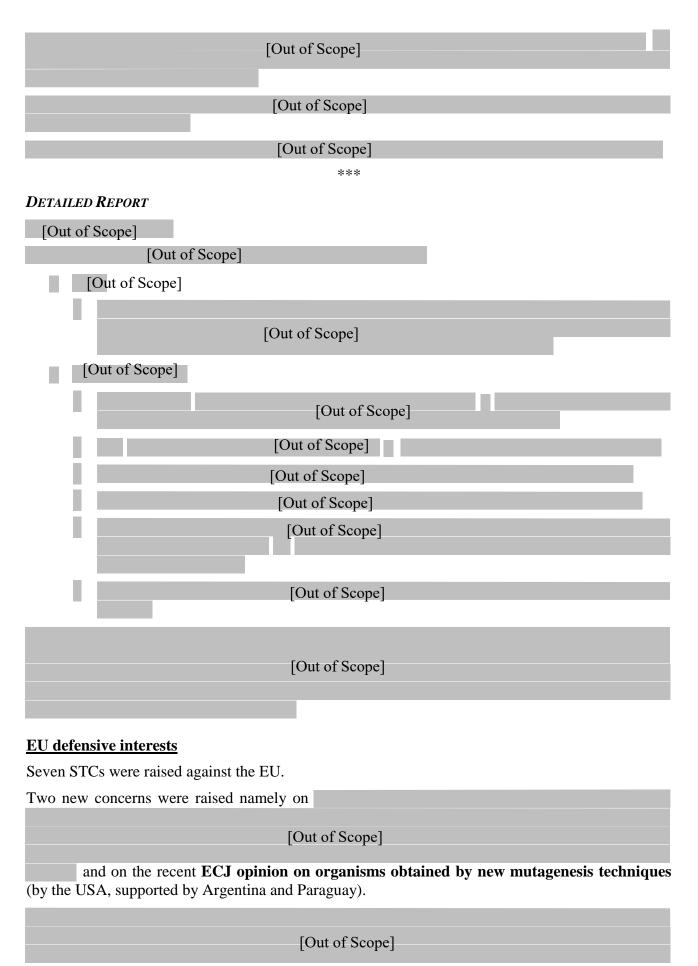
Report of the 73rd WTO SPS Committee meeting (30 October-2 November 2018, Geneva)

EU Delegation:		
DG SANTE:	[Art. 4.1(b)]	
DG TRADE:	[Art. 4.1(b)]	

SUMMARY

Once again, the EU policies dominated the Committee's proceedings. Two thirds of the formal meeting were devoted to discussing EU SPS measures. A total of **93 statements** were made by more than thirty Delegations to question, directly or indirectly, EU policies and measures in several areas, notably:

• [Out of Scope]			
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• [Out of Scope]			
• Precision Biotechnology (14 Delegations)			
• [Out of Scope]			
• [Out of Scope]			
• [Out of Scope]			
• ECJ ruling on mutagenesis (3 Delegations)			
[Out of Scope]			
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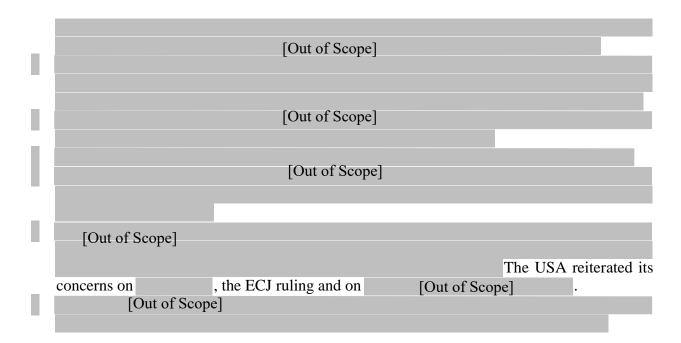


was requested to explain proper implementation underlined.		and to provide c	
	[Out of Scope]		

Under a different agenda item, Argentina presented an **international statement on agricultural applications of precision biotechnology** (G/SPS/GEN/1658/Rev 2). 12 other Members (Uruguay, Brazil, Paraguay, Jordan, Dominican Republic, Canada, the USA, Australia, Guatemala, Vietnam, Honduras, Colombia and an observer organisation (ECOWAS) spoke emphasizing the critical role of new mutagenesis techniques in agricultural innovation to address global environmental challenges, food insecurity, antimicrobial resistance, animal and plant health outbreaks and animal welfare issues. Some members expressed their concerns about different domestic rules which create asymmetry in trade. The USA called for a constructive dialogue between trade partners.

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,	al meetings bilateral meetings were held in the ma	rgins of the	SPS Committee namely with Ar	rgenting
,	Canada, [Out of	Scope]		
encoura	and US aged all these countries to process mark	ket applicat	• The EU ions faster, follow international s	standards
and pro	ovide real market openings. In the case	of Argentin	afOut of Scope Canada, [Out of Scope	and
	he EU also responded to their concerns	[Out of S	Scope]	
	chlights of the offensive issues discussed		· ·	
Ē	Argentina raised its concerns in relation	n to the EC	ruing.	
	[Ou	t of Scope]		
-	Canada reiterated its concerns on		, the ECJ ruling and on	
		Out of Sco	pe]	
-	[Ot	ut of Scope]		
		[Out of Sco	pe]	



Next meeting

The next SPS Committee meeting will take place on 21-22 March 2019 and will be preceded by a thematic session on Equivalence and on Fall Armyworm (19 March) and an informal meeting (20 March).
