



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

## **SUMMARY RECORD OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FOOD CHAIN AND ANIMAL HEALTH**

**Held in Brussels on 20 April 2009**

**(Section Genetically Modified Food & Feed and Environmental Risk)**

Chair: Sébastien Goux

All the Member States were present except Bulgaria, Cyprus, Lithuania and Romania.

- 1. Discussion on a draft Commission Decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified maize 59122xNK603 (DAS-59122-7xMON-00603-6) pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council**

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) opinion, the public comments and the draft Decision were presented and discussed. Two Member States reiterated comments made to EFSA during the safety assessment phase and indicated that they were not satisfied with the EFSA opinion in this respect. One Member State also indicated that it had two remaining questions concerning the EFSA opinion. Another Member State reiterated general comments such as its opposition to cover "import and processing" under the Regulation. No Member States commented on the text of the proposal as such. The chairman of the meeting concluded the above comments will be considered before seeking the opinion of the Committee on the draft Decision.

- 2. Rules for applicants for the preparation and presentation of applications to be submitted under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 on GM food and feed**

A Commission representative provided the state-of-play concerning the future proposal on Rules for applicants for the preparation and presentation of applications to be submitted under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 on GM food and feed. EFSA has been formally consulted on the document, and has provided its answer at the end of March. The chairman of the meeting indicated that further discussions would take place during the next Standing Committee meeting.

### **3. EFSA Opinion on an application for the placing on the market of insect resistant genetically modified maize MON89034 for food and feed uses from Monsanto.**

An EFSA representative made a presentation of its opinion on MON89034 maize. Three Member States reiterated the comments which they made to EFSA during the safety assessment phase. One of three Member States indicated that in response to its comments EFSA requested additional information on one particular study.

#### **Miscellaneous**

##### Emergency measures for LLRICE 601 and BT63

Upon request of Member States, a Commission representative provided a state-of-play on the Emergency measures for LLRice601 and BT63. With regard to LLRICE 601 the Commission indicated that it would continue to reflect on review options for this emergency measure taking account of the information already supplied by the US Rice industry, the findings of the last FVO inspection report and information received through the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF).

Updating the Member States on the implementation of Decision 2008/289/EC on emergency measures regarding the non-authorised genetically modified organism "BT 63" in rice products, the Commission informed that there has been 7 rapid alerts received since the beginning of the year.

The Commission also informed the Member States that the Chinese authorities had responded positively to preliminary findings of the draft report for the inspection carried out by the Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) in China between the 25th of November and the 4th of December 2008, and that this response was being analysed in order to prepare the final report.

##### Proposal for harmonised measure for Low Level Presence of Unauthorised Genetically modified material.

Upon request a Commission representative explained that there were no new elements to the technical points presented at the last meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2008, and that a proposal is still currently being discussed between the different Commission services.

##### Evaluation of the Regulation

Upon request a Commission representative indicated that an evaluation of some aspects of Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 was scheduled to be launched soon. This evaluation will be carried out in close coordination with the ongoing evaluation of Directive 2001/18/EC.

Task Force of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on Novel Food

The Committee was updated of the work that is ongoing in this Task Force and more specifically on the EC proposal for a revision of the OECD Test Guideline 408 Repeated Dose 90-day Oral Toxicity Study in Rodents (1998) to include whole-food testing. This proposal is to be discussed in the next Joint Meeting of the Chemicals Committee and the Working Party on Chemicals, Pesticides and Biotechnology that will take place in June.