



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Brussels,
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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FOOD CHAIN AND ANIMAL HEALTH
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 20 FEBRUARY 2014
(Section Genetically Modified Food and Feed and Environmental Risk)**

Chair: Celine Valero

27 Member States were present, SK was represented by SI

A.01 Scientific opinion on application for the placing on the market of herbicide-tolerant genetically modified soybean BPS-CV127-9 for food and feed uses, import and processing under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 – Presentation by EFSA.

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) presented the opinion on the herbicide tolerant, genetically modified soybean BPS-CV127-9 for food and feed uses, import and processing which was published in January 2014 and addressed questions raised by Member States during the consultation period. The presentation was followed by questions from Member States to EFSA.

A.02 Proposed amendment to the sampling and testing protocol for Canadian flaxseed exported to the European Union (addition of new mode of transport: lake vessels).

postponed

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision authorising the placing on the market of insect-resistant and herbicide-tolerant genetically modified cotton T304-40 for food and feed uses, import and processing under Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003.

The draft Decision authorising the placing on the market of insect-resistant and herbicide-tolerant genetically modified cotton T304-40 for food and feed uses, import and processing, was presented to the Committee and then submitted for opinion.

Reasons for negative vote or abstention:

- No agreed national position
- National risk assessment not completed
- Negative public opinion
- Political reasons
- Risk assessment deemed not sufficient
- The Regulation on GM food and feed is not considered as the right legal basis to authorise products other than food and feed containing and consisting of GMOs
- Precautionary principle.

Vote taken: no opinion (185 votes in favour, 126 votes against, 41 abstentions)

M.01 Technical consultation by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) on low levels of genetically modified crops in international food and feed trade

The Commission informed Member States that an ad hoc meeting will be convened on 6 March 2014 to discuss the draft FAO document on low levels of genetically modified crops in international food and feed trade. The Commission will circulate its comments in advance of that meeting.

M.02 French request for a prohibition of the placing on the EU market of MON810 maize for cultivation

France informed about its new request to the Commission from 17 February 2014 under Article 32 of Regulation 1829/2003 for a prohibition of the placing on the EU market of MON810 maize for cultivation. The scientific justification is based on a risk to certain non-targeted species and the development of resistance in target organisms. The Chair informed that on the basis of a preliminary analysis of the French scientific justification, the Commission has no intention to adopt new measures under Article 53 of Regulation 178/2002 and a formal reply will be sent to the French authorities in accordance with Article 54 of Regulation 178/2002. The Commission will be sending the elements provided by France to EFSA for analysis.

M.03 Update on the recent Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) notifications on genetically modified rice Bt63 in choline chloride

A number of Member States explained that Bt63 rice had been detected in some lots of choline chloride 60% corn cob feed additive. Three notifications were submitted to the RASFF in this regard, two by France and one by Belgium, all resulting from company's own checks. FR and BE provided details on these notifications and on the actions taken at national level. Other Member States anticipated further notifications to be submitted. Member States called for harmonisation of measures to be adopted following these results and for the inclusion of this type of products under the Decision 2013/287/EU. The Commission will perform an evaluation of the issue taking into consideration the discussion held and any additional data provided by Member States and by the feed industry.

