



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Brussels,
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SUMMARY REPORT OF THE APPEAL COMMITTEE

Genetically Modified Food and Feed (maize MIR162 (SYN-IR162-4))

27 SEPTEMBER 2012

President: Ladislav Miko

27 Member States were present.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendments.

The Chair reminded the Member States of the interpretation regime for the Appeal Committee which, as a general rule, follows the applicable regime in the corresponding Standing Committee. In case of a need for additional interpretation facilities, the Commission services will do their utmost to meet this need. However, given the high costs related the Chair kindly asked the Member States to reflect on the real need for interpretation before sending a request to the Commission.

One Member State representative stated that English could be sufficient but the language is a sensitive issue and therefore the importance of the Appeal Committee should be reflected in the availability of interpretation.

The Chair informed the Member States representatives that DG SANCO has been made aware of a research paper published on 19 September 2012 in the Food and Chemical Toxicology Journal related to a study performed on rats for 2 years on NK603 and Roundup herbicide. Commission has requested European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) to analyse this study as a matter of urgency. EFSA will publish an initial scientific review next week as the first step in a two-stage process. If information gaps are identified, EFSA will request further data to the authors which would contribute to a more comprehensive assessment that EFSA will publish in the coming weeks as a second part of its evaluation. This study as stated by the Chair is taken seriously and the Commission is committed to ensure safety for consumers and the environment.

2. Exchange of views and opinion of the appeal committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified maize MIR162 (SYN-IR162-4) pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council. (Doc. SANCO/11873/2012) (Legal Base: Article 7(3) and Article 19(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003)

The draft Commission Implementing Decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified maize MIR162 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 on genetically modified food and feed was submitted to the Committee for an opinion.

Vote: no opinion (152 votes in favour, 96 votes against, 97 abstentions)

Interventions during the Appeal Committee:

France made a declaration on the research paper published in the Food and Chemical Toxicology Journal on NK603 and Roundup herbicide. *ANSES (Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de l'alimentation, de l'environnement et du travail)* and the *Haut Conseil de Biosécurité* have been requested to analyse the publication and provide an opinion. The French authorities will draw the consequences and seize the Commission as regards the evaluation procedure of GMOs.