

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Ms Paola Testori Coggi European Commission Director General SANCO

1049 Brussels

Subject: Post-Market Environmental Monitoring of GMOs

Dear Ms Testori Coggi, Lou Pada,

We hereby confirm the receipt, on 27 of May 2010, of your letter dated 26 May 2010 (Ares (2010) 280509) as regards the Post-Market Environmental Monitoring (PMEM) of GM plants authorised for cultivation in EU.

In this respect, EFSA will support the risk managers in assessing the annual post-market monitoring reports submitted by the applicants on GM crops approved for cultivation in EU. It is paramount for EFSA that the data collected during the PMEM forms a sound basis for a comprehensive environmental risk assessment of GM plants.

In line with your request, and following the receipt of a PMEM report from the EC, the EFSA GMO Panel will issue a scientific opinion on the scientific information summarized in this report. In doing so, EFSA proposes to work in close collaboration with Member States in the frame of its Scientific Network for the Risk Assessment of GMOs which will meet on a yearly basis. An appropriate deadline for preparing such an opinion can be agreed in due time after EFSA has received the PMEM report from the EC.

In addition, EFSA is committed to assist risk managers with work related to the scientific advice for the generation of a standard general surveillance plan for cultivation, if and when needed.

I would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm EFSA's commitment to provide the necessary support in implementing SANCO's priorities.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle