

**EFSA Consultative Workshop on the Draft Guidance on  
SELECTION OF COMPARATORS FOR THE RISK ASSESSMENT OF GM PLANTS**

March 31<sup>st</sup> 2011  
9:30 - 17:00

- Venue: Hotel Silken Berlaymont, 11-19, Boulevard Charlemagne, Brussels
- Chair: Riitta Maijala  
*Director of Risk Assessment, EFSA*
- Moderator: Helmut Gaugitsch  
*Head of Unit, Land Use and Biosafety, Environment Agency Austria*
- 9:00 - 9:30 Registration
- 9:30 - 9:35 Welcome by Riitta Maijala
- 9:35 - 9:40 Welcome address from Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle (by video)  
*EFSA Executive Director*
- 9:40 - 9:55 Opening of the meeting by MEP José Bové  
*Vice-Chair of the EP Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development*

**I. SETTING THE SCENE: THE CONCEPT OF SUBSTANTIAL EQUIVALENCE**

- 9:55 - 10:10 Principles of risk assessment in the EU legal framework  
*Sébastien Goux - DG SANCO*
- 10:10 - 10:25 GM plant environmental risk assessment: pros and cons of different approaches  
*Hartmut Meyer - ENSSER*
- 10:25 - 10:40 The concept of substantial equivalence and the comparative approach  
*Peter Kearns - OECD*
- 10:40 - 11:20 Discussion
- 11:20 - 11:45 Coffee break

**II. EXCHANGING VIEWS ON EFSA DRAFT COMPARATOR OPINION**

- 11:45 - 12:15 Presentation of the draft comparator opinion  
*Howard Davies - Chair EFSA Comparators WG*
- 12:15 - 12:25 Specific FF/MC and ENV needs for selection of comparators  
*Joe Perry - EFSA Comparators WG*

- 12:25 - 12:45 Discussion
- 12:45 - 14:00 Lunch break
- 14:00 - 14:35 Risk assessment of single events
- Comments received  
*Antoine Messéan - EFSA Comparators WG*
- Invited comments  
*Wolfram Reichenbecher - Fed. Agency for Nature Conservation (DE)*  
*Pieter Windels - EuropaBio*
- Discussion
- 14:35 - 15:10 Risk assessment of stacked events
- Comments received  
*Howard Davies - Chair EFSA Comparators WG*
- Invited comments  
*Annick Pleysier - EuropaBio*  
*Andreas Heissenberger - Environment Agency Austria (AT)*
- Discussion
- 15:10 - 15:45 Stacked events not from conventional crossing
- Comments received  
*Howard Davies - Chair EFSA Comparators WG*
- Invited comments  
*Inge Broer - University of Rostock (DE)*  
*Jan W Pedersen - National Food Institute (DK)*
- Discussion
- 15:45 - 16:00 Coffee break
- 16:00 - 16:35 Risk assessment when no comparator is available
- Comments received  
*Harry Kuiper - Chair EFSA GMO Panel*
- Invited comments  
*Cristoph Then - Testbiotech (DE)*  
*Boet Glandorf - National Institute of Public Health and the Env. (NL)*
- Discussion
- 16:35 - 16:50 Concluding remarks by Helmut Gaugitsch
- 16:50 - 17:00 Closing of the meeting by Riitta Maijala
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