



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
**DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

Food and feed safety, innovation  
**Director**

Brussels,  
SANTE E3 (2016)

Dear Petitioner,

**Subject: Implementation of EU legislation on genetically modified organisms**

Let me reassure you that the Commission, as guardian of the Treaty, is working to ensure the proper implementation of the EU legislation and a high level of protection of human and animal health and the environment.

Let me also specify that Member States have primary responsibility for the correct and timely application of EU legislation.

Against this background, I recognise the need to have a broad reflection on innovation in the agricultural sector, an area where the EU is traditionally world leader, so that it can remain competitive, benefit from sustainable innovation and contribute to sustainable agriculture, in full respect of the stringent EU safety standards. I am confident that such a reflection would also help consolidating public's and business operators' trust in the integrity of the EU agri-food sector.

Yours sincerely,

Sabine Jülicher