

From: [REDACTED] (SANTE)
Sent: 03 June 2016 10:35
To: [REDACTED] (SANTE)
Subject: BTO - Discussion on glyphosate with Copa-Cogeca, 02 June 2016

[REDACTED]

Please find below the BTO of the meeting on 02 June 2016 with Copa-Cogeca.

Kindly amend and distribute as you see fit. Please copy me so I can ask for registration of the final version.

[REDACTED]

BTO, Discussion on glyphosate, 02 June 2016

Participants:

Copa-Cogeca:

- [REDACTED] Secretary General
- [REDACTED], Director
- Several representatives of Farmers' Unions from DE, FI, FR and UK

COM:

- Vytenis Andriukaitis, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety
 - Arunas Vincionas, CAB Andriukaitis
 - Nathalie Chaze, CAB Andriukaitis
 - [REDACTED] SANTE.E.4
 - [REDACTED], SANTE.E.4
-
- Farmers' unions presented their positions on glyphosate. They explained the relevance of PPPs containing this active substance for weed control, pre-harvest applications, no/low-till agriculture (=> soil erosion), fuel consumption (=> climate change), and financial competitiveness of the European farming sector (through fuel consumption, labour cost and product quality). They pointed out that alternative substances have lower efficacy and/or worse toxicity profile. Farmers use PPPs judiciously, in line with Good Agricultural Practice, and also because PPPs are a cost factor themselves. They are concerned that the current discussion on glyphosate is political and no longer science based.
 - Copa-Cogeca asked COM to ensure the continued approval with glyphosate even in the absence of support from a qualified majority of MS.
 - COM broadly agreed with the arguments and analysis presented by farmers and asked Copa-Cogeca to contribute to regaining public trust and strengthen communication on important issues, such as glyphosate. Support for COM position should not only be expressed after a

decision has been taken. COM noted the relative absence of farmers' views in the public debate and mobilisation efforts.

- While pointing to ongoing efforts to get their point across to national governments, media and citizens, some farmers' unions accepted that they were too silent in the past and need to be more pro-active in the future. However, they also pointed to the difficult media environment in some MS.
- COM informed Copa-Cogeca of the proposed extension of the current approval for glyphosate and advised to focus on communications with relevant MS governments.
