

The President

Dr Bernhard Url
Executive Director
European Food Safety Authority

Subject: Request for a scientific opinion on recent studies on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques and their food and feed, and amending Regulation (EU) 2017/625

Dear Director,

By letter dated 1 February 2024, Mr Pascal Canfin, the Chair of the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) requested that the European Parliament asks the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) to deliver a scientific opinion on the analysis by the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES¹) on Annex I of the of the Commission proposal for a regulation on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques and their food and feed, and amending Regulation (EU) 2017/625² (NGTs plants proposal).

The proposal, which establishes a specific regulatory framework for NGT plants and their products (*lex specialis*), introduces specific criteria to determine whether a NGT plant is to be considered equivalent to conventional breeding and therefore be exempted from the Union GMOs Legal framework. Those criteria are listed in Annex I of the proposed Regulation.

The European Parliament, therefore, considers it opportune to request EFSA to draw up a scientific opinion on the analysis by ANSES, which examines in particular the criteria set in Annex I.

The European Parliament hereby requests this scientific opinion in accordance with Article 29 of Regulation 178/2002. As this scientific opinion will be useful to better inform the work of the European Parliament on the proposal, the Parliament requests that the opinion be ready before the end of July 2024.

Yours sincerely,



Roberta Metsola

Copy: Mr Pascal Canfin, Chair of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

¹ <https://www.anses.fr/en/system/files/BIOT2023AUTO0189EN.pdf>

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52023PC0411>