



Commissioner Andriukaitis,  
Commission Européenne,  
DG Santé et Sécurité Alimentaire,  
Rue Breydel 4,  
Brussels 1049,  
Belgique

31st March 2016

**Subject: EU approval of pending GM products for import, food and feed processing**

Dear Commissioner,

GAFTA is the association representing the international grain and feed trade, established in 1876. Our membership comprises over 1600 member companies in more than 90 different countries worldwide. The timely approval of GM traits within the EU system is of utmost importance to our members so they have legal certainty importing food and feed into the EU and at the same time ensuring the viability of food and feed supplies to a key market.

Our members are concerned that three events (MON87705xMON89788, MON87708xMON89788 and FG72) which have received a positive EFSA scientific opinion are still pending full approval. As these GM traits are already approved in key export markets, it is very difficult for the international trade to function and further creates legal uncertainty for operators who will be faced with adventitious presence of such GM events due to the nature of trading in bulk commodities.

We note that it is now in the hands of the Commission to take a final decision on these dossiers. With this letter, we would like to underline the importance of these decisions to support the needs of the food and feed industries in Europe and to provide legal certainty to both exporters and importers.

We are looking to the EU Commission to complete its timely authorisations of these three GM traits according to legal requirements which in our view will help avoid potential trade disruption.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Jaine Chisholm Caunt  
Director General

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The Grain and Feed Trade Association