Question for written answer E-010440/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Lidia Senra Rodríguez (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Spraying with glyphosate by ENCE

On 20 March 2015 the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer declared the herbicide glyphosate, among others, to be 'probably carcinogenic', after it had been found in the blood and urine of farmworkers in sprayed areas. There is also convincing evidence that it has caused cancer in laboratory animals.

As the Asociación pola Defensa da Ría de Pontevedra (Association for the Defence of the Ría de Pontevedra) has pointed out, the forestry company ENCE has been using this herbicide for several years and is still using it 'to remove vegetation growing among the eucalyptus trees [...] converting the plantations into veritable biological deserts where only the eucalyptus survive'.

In its answer to question E-006141/2011, the Commission stated that the approval of any plant protection product 'may be reconsidered in the light of new evidence on adverse effects revealed by experience, and endorsed by EFSA'.

Does the Commission intend to maintain the approval of this herbicide produced by Monsanto?

Does the Commission intend to revoke its decision of 24 April authorising the placing on the EU market of 17 genetically modified organisms for food use, 15 of which are resistant to herbicides and 8 to glyphosate?

Does the Commission intend to take any action against ENCE as a result of its spraying?

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