Question for written answer E-001119/2018 to the Commission Rule 130 Patrick Le Hyaric (GUE/NGL)

Subject: GMOs not authorised in the EU found in feed and consumer safety

Currently, approximately sixty GMOs are authorised in the EU for food and feed uses, the overwhelming majority of which is imported.

GMOs which are not authorised in the EU have been detected in feed in France. In a control carried out in late 2017, the Directorate for Fraud Prevention detected the presence of unauthorised GMOs in feed. The products in question are dead, genetically-modified bacteria which were used to produce amino acids used as feed additives for ruminants, pigs and salmon with the consequences that this entails for farmers and consumers. It is the French subsidiaries of the Japanese food giant Ajinomoto, the world's largest producer of amino acids by fermentation, which would appear to be implicated.

Can the Commission explain how such shortcomings can still occur in the monitoring of the food supply chain for animals and humans alike, as highlighted by the various scandals in recent years involving giant food companies?

Has the Commission taken any measures to ensure that the precautionary principle as regards health, safety and traceability of such additives is properly applied and does it intend to carry out a survey among the Member States to find out which countries are concerned and since when?

What will the next steps be following that discovery?

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