



19.4.2010

0018/2010

WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

on the use of genetically modified potatoes in the European Union

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Lapse date: 19.7.2010

0018/2010

Written declaration on the use of genetically modified potatoes in the European Union

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the European Commission's decision to allow genetically modified potato plants to be grown and used for animal feed and for the production of starch on the territory of the European Union constitutes *de facto* indirectly adding genetically modified products to the food intake of people in the EU,
- B. whereas potatoes form a particularly large part of the diet in many EU countries, and as such there is a real danger that genetically modified potatoes might cross with conventional potatoes and thereby appear on the food market,
- C. whereas this decision was taken without consultation of the European Parliament, farmers or consumers at Community level,
- D. whereas the World Health Organisation has serious reservations about the impact of genetically modified potatoes on human and animal health,
 1. Considers that, once this step has been taken, there will be fewer obstacles to allowing the use of other genetically modified products in the agricultural and food sector;
 2. Considers that the spread of genetically modified products should not occur until there is less doubt about their effect on human health and on the environment;
 3. Considers that the Commission should consult Parliament before taking decisions on placing genetically modified products on the market, and this decision should therefore have been submitted to Parliament for consideration;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the parliaments and governments of the Member States.