

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0726/09
by Marie-Noëlle Lienemann (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Reopening of authorisation procedures for genetically modified maize

Why and on what new scientific basis does the Commission consider it appropriate to reopen the authorisation procedures for the cultivation of two new varieties of genetically modified maize, BT11 from Syngenta and BT1105 from Pioneer and Dow, when the 27 Environment Ministers decided unanimously in favour of the strengthening and harmonisation of the risk evaluation methods across the Member States?

Likewise, why has the Commission decided to invalidate the safeguard clauses which oppose the cultivation of MON810 maize in France, Greece and Hungary, even though the European Parliament, when considering Directive 2008/27/EC¹, reaffirmed the necessity to authorise the Member States or particular regions to declare themselves GM-free zones?

¹ OJ L 81, 20.3.2008, p. 45.