

EN

E-002778/2023

Answer given by Ms Kyriakides
on behalf of the European Commission
(20.11.2023)

The Commission proposes to renew the approval of glyphosate based on an Opinion¹ of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and a Conclusion² of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). Those outputs are the result of a peer-reviewed comprehensive assessment by the Rapporteur Member States³. The assessment took into account all available and relevant data – both regulatory guideline studies and scientific literature, including many new studies not available for the previous assessment - and was subject to two public consultations. Comments and/or information submitted during the consultations were taken into account as part of the peer review by the other Member States as well as by experts from ECHA and EFSA. Further detailed information can be found on the dedicated webpages of ECHA⁴ and EFSA⁵.

The Commission must abide by the criteria for approval enshrined in Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009⁶. If an active substance fulfils those criteria, it shall be approved, subject to appropriate conditions and restrictions. This is the case for glyphosate.

While Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 concerns the placing on the market of plant protection products (PPPs), other Union legislation is also relevant in the context of the use of PPPs and in achieving the ambitions of the Green Deal. In particular, in line with the Directive on the Sustainable use of pesticides⁷, Member States shall take all necessary measures to promote low pesticide-input pest management, giving priority to non-chemical methods. In the event that PPPs containing glyphosate are authorised, Member States shall impose the necessary mitigation measures to reduce exposure to humans and the environment.

¹ European Chemicals Agency (2022). Opinion of the Committee for Risk Assessment proposing harmonised classification and labelling of glyphosate (ISO); N-(phosphonomethyl) glycine (EC Number: 213-997-4; CAS Number: 1071-83-6). <https://echa.europa.eu/registry-of-clh-intentions-until-outcome/-/dislist/details/0b0236e185e41a77>

² European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), (2023). Peer review of the pesticide risk assessment of the active substance glyphosate. EFSA Journal, 21(7), 1-52. <https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2023.8164>

³ France, Hungary, the Netherlands and Sweden acting jointly as rapporteur Member State for the renewal assessment of glyphosate.

⁴ <https://echa.europa.eu/de/hot-topics/glyphosate>

⁵ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/topic/glyphosate>

⁶ OJ L 309, 24.11.2009, p. 1. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32009R1107>

⁷ Directive 2009/128/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 establishing a framework for Community action to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides (OJ L 309, 24.11.2009, p. 71. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/AUTO/?uri=OJ:L:2009:309:TOC>).