

Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Mr. Vytenis Andriukaitis November 15:

Dear Vytenis Andriukaitis,

The regulation of pesticides in Regulation 1107/2009 is a very important tool to ensure a high level of protection of human health and the environment. The public trust in the regulation depends on the decision taken when a risk has been identified.

When a risk has been identified in the evaluation of an active substance, we must reduce the risk as soon as possible. I am fully aware of the difficulties faced by agriculture in finding alternatives but to retain trust from the public, we need to prevent further use of these active substances as soon as possible.

Therefore delays in the decision-making process must be avoided. Where critical concerns have been identified by EFSA, it is not appropriate to delay a decision of non-renewal of approval of substances posing a risk to human health or the environment.

Therefore, Denmark urges the Commission to find the resources and put forward proposals of non-renewal of approval of these active substances for a vote in the Standing Committee (SCoPAFF) as soon as possible. I would like to suggest a vote shortly after publication of the Commission's review report, that is approximately 6 month after publication of the EFSA conclusion.

In case where the evaluation on an active substance leads a data gap a "clock-stop"- and a data submission period must set to allow industry to deliver additional data. Otherwise the approval of the substances must be withdrawn until a safe use can be demonstrated.

Yours sincerely,

Jakob Ellemann-Jensen