

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Director-General

Brussels,
 SANTE/F3/TG/bjc(2016)7060639

Dear Mrs Christensen,

Subject: National implementation of Directive 2009/128/EC establishing a framework for Community action to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides

In your letter dated 10 November 2016, you express your concern about the delayed report, referred to in Article 4 (3) of the Sustainable Use Directive (SUD), which was due to be submitted to the European Parliament and the Council by 26 November 2014, in relation to Member State National Action Plans. We agree with the importance of Member States implementing this Directive.

The Commission recognises that the report concerning the implementation of national action plans is delayed. Instead of providing a report based on outdated information to the European Parliament and the Council, the Commission decided to submit a more comprehensive report, offering further added value. This will also provide a better overview on the current state of play at EU level. Therefore, the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety intends to provide a comprehensive report in September 2017 that will describe the current state of implementation of the SUD, and what improvements Member States have made since the initial analysis.


This report will include all the information of the initial exercise on national action plans in addition to information received from a comprehensive questionnaire which will be sent to Member States before the end of 2016, as well as the results of fact-finding missions that will be carried out in five Member States in 2017, aimed at identifying areas of good practice in a range of Member States covering all three zones.

This approach has recently been discussed with Member States and we will present and discuss the findings of this report with Member States to enhance implementation. The report will also be made publicly available on our website.

Mrs Henriette Christensen
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 Belgium

In parallel, my Directorate-General will also initiate a number of further actions in the area of SUD with the aim of further encouraging uptake of sustainable use principles. These include the publication in early 2017 of an overview report of audits in Member States on pesticide Marketing and Use (including some aspects of the SUD), development of a web-portal to enhance Member State exchange of information and finalisation of a Strategic Guidance Document on monitoring and surveying the impact of pesticide use.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Xavier Prats Monné', with a stylized, wavy line.

Xavier Prats Monné