EUROPEAN COMMISSION
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

Institute for Health and Consumer Protection
Molecular Biology and Genomics Unit

20th ENGL PLENARY MEETING

4-5 December 2013, Ispra, Italy

Meeting Report

1.1 Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and reviewed the points of the agenda.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

The agenda (Annex 1) was approved since no objections or suggestions were raised.

The Chair explained that according to requests expressed by ENGL members two lectures were organised on biological breeding factors of relevance for GMO analysis.

1.3 Lecture: "Transgene detection in wheat; a polyploid crop with large genome size" (Dr. Beat Keller, University of Zurich)

The lecturer provided some background on the wheat agricultural species grown in the world and on their evolutionary history. He clarified that wheat does not have a real wild-type ancestor because it has been artificially generated through crosses. He explained that the hexaploid or tetraploid wheat species would have pairing only between chromosomes of the same sub-genomes and that they will behave therefore, as diploids. The wheat genome size is huge (17000 Mb) in comparison i.e. to rice (389 Mb) and presents a challenge for detection analysis.

Market introduction of GM wheat in USA was stopped in 2004 and currently no official GM wheat is approved worldwide. However, there are some field-trials occurring in different parts of the world. The speaker summarised the genes, traits, characteristics, selection markers of the GM lines under development and of the relative detection methods. He explained that the three sub-genomes are closely related and that it is therefore difficult to develop a species-specific control for quantitative analysis.

He illustrated the studies on GM wheat out-crossing with wild neighbouring crops. No out-crossing was observed with a field distance superior to 1.5 m.

Concern was expressed by participants on the sensitivity of the analysis for quantitative purposes. He replayed that the availability of genome sequences will allow the identification of sequences that are unique for a certain sub-genome and since wheat behaves as a diploid it will not matter on which sub-genome the reference gene is positioned. It was asked if differences existed between wheat cultivars. The speaker explained that sequence polymorphisms are present at a ratio 5 times smaller than in maize, but that polymorphism still exists.

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1.4 Lecture: "Impact of breeding and cultivation of *Brassica napus* on quantification of GM food/feed derived from oilseed rape" (Dr. Antje Dietz-Pfeilstetter, Julius Kühn-Institut, Braunschweig, DE)

The speaker covered the genomes organisation and evolutionary history of the oilseed rape species. She explained that B*rassica napus* (AACC) is an allotetraploid species with 10 chromosomes deriving from *B. rapa* (AA) and 9 chromosomes from *B. oleracea* (CC). She informed that seeds are mostly composed of embryo tissue, very little endosperm and seed coat.

In quantitative analysis the reference gene should be present in a single copy. She warned that the cruA, pepC and hmg-I/Y genes, generally used for relative GMO quantification, are present in 2 copies in *B. napus* since they are contained in both the A and C sub-genomes and that both genes are amplified. Although predominantly self-pollinating, this species may present 30% of out crossing.

Adventitious presence of GM oilseed rape in food/feed products may be due to seed impurities (purity required from seed producers is indeed 99.7%), seeds spread and dispersal by animals or by outcrossing of GM varieties with wild relatives. The seeds have long persistence in the soil due to secondary dormancy, and they can still germinate after 10 or more years. All these aspects affects the percentage of GM material that could be determined in the samples since there are variable ratios of reference gene and target GM for seed or pollen mediated gene flow giving hemizygous and homozygous contamination respectively.

The lecturer provided some examples of GM quantification for oilseed rape GM events having a difference in copy number of the related transgenic elements and for GM hybrids having a different zygosity in the composing events. Quantitative analyses were giving a variable ratio (1.5, 1 or 0.5) between the genetic target and the reference gene depending on the genetic element analysed or the zygosity of the event considered. She warned that the source of contamination (i.e. seed or pollen gene flow) needs to be known for calculating the proper GM% in the sample.

It was remarked that official control laboratories are not able to determine that source. It was further commented that ISTA tests on seed numbers while control laboratories assess genetic copy percentages and that these values do not correspond.

2. Approval Report 19th ENGL plenary

The Chair informed that the minutes of the previous ENGL meeting had been circulated and asked for comments. As no comments were made, the minutes were adopted without changes. The Chairman also informed that the document would be made available on the EU-RL web page. No objections were raised.

2.2 Dynamic Action List (DAL) of 19th ENGL plenary

The Scientific Secretary of the ENGL presented the dynamic actions list. Most items had been covered and could be closed but some still need completion, including a follow-up to complaints about the quality of the DNA provided by AOCS, which could explain the variability of results observed.

2.3 Outcome of the 25th ENGL SC meeting (September 2013)

The Scientific Secretary of the ENGL highlighted the main points in the report of the last SC meeting. He informed that a new WG on the differentiation of stacked events from mixtures of the same single events was established.

3. Progress reports ENGL working groups:

3.1 WG SPP (Sample Preparation Procedure)

The Chair of that WG summarised the mandate and presented the document structure. The draft will be published on the ENGL-net and will be open for comments until the beginning of January. The final text will be provided to the SC meeting in March 2014.

3.2 AG SMV (Advisory Group on Selection of Methods for Validation)

The speaker reminded the mandate of the WG and summarised the progress of the project. It was recalled that objective criteria were requested to be defined in order to optimise selection. In December/January an updated list of screening methods will be made available. A second meeting is planned on the 11th of February 2014 for defining selection criteria. The Chair of the ENGL reminded that the EU-RL will validate in 2014 two methods selected and that the ENGL will be asked to volunteer for the ring-trial validation, for which no participation fee will be provided.

3.3 WG DIR (Detection Interpretation Reporting)

The Chair of the WG summarised the mandate and the general structure of the document that is intended to serve as guidelines. She underlined that due attention will be paid to the clear cross interaction with all other guidance's published by the ENGL in order to ensure full consistency. In January 2014 the group will prepare a final draft which will be submitted to the next ENGL-SC for final publication.

3.4 WG MPR (Method Performance Requirements)

The Chair of the WG explained that some delays occurred. He reviewed the WG mandate and achievements and informed that the final draft including the comments will be submitted to ENGL in January 2014 and to the applicants in February 2014. The final version will be presented in March 2014 to the 26th SC and possibly adopted within the first half of 2014.
The Chair invited ENGL members to provide input to the document for having a consolidated version by end of January 2014.

3.5 WG-IGSE (Identification of stacked GM events)

The Chair of the WG recalled that the WG was newly formed in response to a SANCO request and that a draft report on the issue is planed to be presented to the SC in March 2014. It was clarified that the objective of the project is providing recommendations for distinguishing a stack from a mixture of single events.

A document will be prepared to review first the methodology then to propose strategies and recommendations. In the first meeting organised on the 11th-12th of November in Ispra the WG agreed that for the purpose of the WG a definition of genetically modified (GM) stack as a GMO containing more than one GM event combined via conventional crossing would be most appropriate because multi- event GMO produced by other means could be characterised and identified without principal problems.

The WG also listed a number of ideas how stacks could be differentiated from mixtures and that a web-forum was opened for all ENGL members for collecting suggestions. He announced that a 2nd meeting has been organised for the 13th -16th of January 2014.

The Chair reminded the urgency of delivering results to the SANCO request.

In the subsequent discussion, it was pointed out that multi event GMO crops segregate in the field and that in case of a stack produced through crossing, the segregated events could be detected by the single-event method. This would be unlikely for events introduced through re- or co-transformation.

Day 2: 5th Dec 2013

4. ENGL matters

4.1 Open agenda point for discussion on NRLs Regulation (EC) No 1981/2006

No proposals for additional agenda points were made. The chair invited the participants in future to be more active. He underlined that the ENGL plenary should be an occasion to discuss issues that are relevant for several laboratories and to exchange info on good practice and solutions found.

4.2 Revision of Regulation (EC) No 1981/2006

SANCO provided by video-link an update on the revised Regulation (EC) No 1981/2006. It was explained that a new list of NRLs, also covering new MS will be published, that fees will be updated and a new definition of stack will be introduced into the legislation. The latter is meant to bring this legislation into line with Regulation 503/2013, where stack can be obtained by conventional crossing, transformation or retro-transformation of GM events.

The revised Regulation also introduces a reduction of validation fees for public research institutes, not only SMEs, and the contribution to laboratories participating to validation ring trials will be reduced accordingly. It was finally underlined that official laboratories would need to be accredited by December 2014. SANCO informed that the regulation will be voted on the 9th of December and that it will take one month to be adopted if the vote will be positive. In that case it will be enforced 20 days after publication. (Note: on 9 December the SCFCAH unanimously approved the proposed Regulation)

4.3 Discussion on implication of Regulation (EU) No 503/2013

SANCO explained that the new Regulation will modify the procedure for GM plants applications. Inter alia, de novo sequence information on stack will need to be provided to EFSA and EU-RL. The Regulation will enter into force on the 8th of December 2013.

An update was provided on the GM papaya situation. Thai authorities informed on July 2013 that a number of measures had been implemented for diminishing export of non-authorised papaya. The FAO inspection (29th Jan to 07 Feb 2014) in Thailand on pesticide control will be extended to GMO control. The number of non-authorised GM papaya detected in Europe has currently decreased, only two occurrences were detected in November and December. Based on the findings of the FAO inspection it will be decided if it will be necessary to take emergency measures on GM papaya.

5. Scientific and technical session 1

5.1 GM papaya from Thailand – detection, actions (L. Grohmann, DE; M. Petrillo, JRC)

The JRC presented newest findings regarding GM Papaya. It was explained that there are several different GM papaya on the market or in the field. Those relating or derived from the GenBank entry J467933 contain the sequence of SunUp papaya (or 55-1 event) which are cultivated in Hawaii. They contain P-nos, T-nos and P35S genetic elements which can be detected with generally available screening methods. Also another event (from Thailand), which appeared on the market in the EU in 2012, is detectable by the T-nos and P35S methods, but not Pnos, the exact nature of the unauthorised event remains unknown.
The JRC has received NGS sequence data of the GM papaya originating Thailand from the German BVL and DNA, for sequence analysis by NGS, from the Belgian NRL.
BVL (DE) reported the experience of a Federal State Hessiawhen testing papaya consignments arriving in Frankfurt Airport (Germany). The responsible control laboratory has developed over the years a lot of experience and identified several elements in GM Papaya from Thailand, some deviating from the known Hawaiian GM papaya in terms of presence, order and of localisation.

Regarding sampling, the procedure according to CEN/TS 15568 defines the number of fruits to be analysed as the square root of the number of boxes. However, it was found that not all fruits in the same box necessarily resulted to be GM positive or negative, indicating a possible mixed origin. Hence sampling remains an issue.

The speaker provided an historical prospective on the findings of GM papaya from Thailand. He mentioned preliminary results of NGS sequence analysis performed on a GM papaya sample from Thailand. He noted the presence of elements such as P35S, T-nos, T35S which were identical to the Hawaiian 55-1 GM event, but also differences in the gene cassettes.

The following options for action were considered:

- Validation of a construct-specific method for detection of GM papaya from Thailand
- Maintaining official control according to Art. 15 of regulation EC 882/2004
- Increasing official control by adding green papaya to the list of non-animal food/feed products according to regulation (EC) n 669/2009
- Proposing EC implementing decision on emergency measures on papaya consignments from Thailand.

In the final discussion there was general agreement that element-specific methods are available for detecting GM papaya events in the consignments.
Participants asked if counter analysis were performed on the same fruit and suggested keeping back-up samples. Exporters from Thailand may have a mix of products received from many small producers so that not all the fruits in a consignment may result GM positive. Counter analysis should be made therefore on the same fruit sample.

5.2 GM wheat & China rice – update

Commission officials had a meeting with USA authorities in June and asked for an update on GM wheat in August/September. USA authorities answered that investigations were still ongoing but not findings were obtained to explain the appearance of a GM wheat plant no longer commercialised in conventional fields.

The EU-RL reported that it has received two event specific methods from Monsanto, information on the first method has been published on the EU-RL web page in December 2013. The LOD of the methods was found to be 0.5%, as indicated previously by the USDA. The report on the verification of the second methods, received later from Monsanto, will also be published in due course. The EU-RL in-house verification concluded that the sensitivity is better (0.03%) than the first methods, but not better than the testing strategy developed by the EU-RL. It therefore seems advisable to start with the testing strategy, mostly consisting of rather well established screening methods, and use the more sensitive event specific method from Monsanto only for verification.

It was asked if control materials were going to be distributed. EU-RL informed that Monsanto had stopped the development of the GM wheat event and that, according to available information, they do not have material to distribute. The EU-RL agreed to send a note to the US authorities asking for the provision of the corresponding seeds which are apparently still available. The EU-RL also announced that as an alternative solution a plasmid was being developed and that this will be available in January/February 2014.

5.3 Detection of StarLink (CBH-351) in Saudi Arabia

EU-RL provided some background on the issue. In Saudi Arabia commercial samples from the markets were found to be positive for MON810 and other GM events but also for StarLink (4 cases in samples imported from the US). The Chairman investigated if ENGL members were still testing for StarLink and if it could be detected using the current GMO/method matrixes. One ENGL member remarked that a method for detecting StarLink is included in the GMO-Finder matrix but that no positive results for the event have been detected in official control in Europe.

5.4 The EU-RL sequence based dynamic GMO matrix

The presentation started with an introduction to the Central Core Sequence Information System (CCSIS), a database including sequences of the GMO events annotated according to the information supplied by the applicants as foreseen by the Commission Regulation (EC) No 641/2004. Recently, all the existing records, which are kept as files with annotation tables, were transferred into a relational database which has the DNA sequences as core elements. The speaker explained that various tools were developed to use this information for internal purposes.

One of these applications, the GMO-Matrix, involved the import of some elements of the JRC GMOMETHODS database (i.e. the primers and probes sequences) in order to simulate Polymerase Chain Reactions (PCR) *in silico* on the events sequences, either with perfect annealing of primers and probe (using a custom script) or with imperfect annealing of primers allowing for gaps and mismatches (using a local e-PCR binary script from NCBI). A web-server application provides an inter-phase to the users using a php script for delivering the results. Data are analysed in real-time and are up-dated with the input of new GMO sequences.

A live demonstration of the different tools developed was presented. The GMO/methods matrix application and GM event identification tool that helps identifying the event possibly present in a sample given a set of analytical results was shown.

The Chair announced that collaboration was started with the colleagues from BVL in Germany to harmonise terminology and create links between the EUginius and GMOMETHODS database platforms. The collaborative effort should provide a more complete picture on GMOs cultivated worldwide and tools to support operational activities of official control laboratories.

5.5 Pre-spotted plates, update

The JRC reminded that element-based (EL) and event-based (EV) pre-spotted plates (PSP) had been devised. 16 methods were placed on the element PSP covering seven taxon-specific, six element-specific and three event-specific methods. Four species were included in the event PSP; in particular, nine methods were added for maize, soybean and cotton GMOs. Some methods considered not anymore relevant were deleted.

The EL-PSP include the methods currently used for screening purposes and should provide a more standardised and complete coverage. The EV-PSP comprises only authorised events (existing in the EU-register also under the LLP regulation) and the most frequent species (maize, soybean, oilseed rape and cotton). The two types of plates could be envisioned as a first screening and second identification step to be followed by a third quantification phase. The plates had been tested on highly processed materials and pollen and delivered equally good performances.

The speaker informed that the EV-PSP had been already produced and that were under assessment while production of the EL-PSP was arranged for December. Initially a pilot project will be launched for comparing use of the SPS with the current procedures and asses the reliability, costs/benefits, advantages of the PSP approach. The EU-RL GMFF will provide eight EL-PSPs, eight EV-PSPs, positive controls, master mixes and instructions. The pilot project will involve the analysis of seven composite samples selected by the laboratories that had already been tested and found positive to possibly more than one GM event. A set of criteria for the selection of the participants was explained. The PSP will be made available to official control laboratories after the results of the pilot had been analysed.

Questions were asked on the number of controls and on the cost of the plates. It was explained that for every PCR a positive and negative control could be loaded on the EL-PSP. It was further emphasized that the plates for the pilot project will be distributed free of charge and that in the future their price will depend on the cost/benefit analysis. It was anticipated that the production cost could be close to 100 euro/plate.

Further questions were raised on the extraction protocols to be followed. It was explained that the DNA extraction method needs to be adapted to the species, quantity and quality of the samples to be analysed. Participants further enquired on the reasons for adopting a 50 uL reaction volume; it was

remarked that specificity and sensitivity when using 25 uL of reaction volume are under assessment and that until this study is not completed the original 50 uL volume is used.

6. Scientific and technical session 2

6.1 GMOseek algorithm (J. Zel)

The speaker underlined cross interactions with other ENGL WG. He explained that the new matrix approach developed with the GMOseek project requires software to manage the data. The GMOseek algorithm can be used for different purposes such as smart identification and selection of screening elements for detecting GMOs, or as a decision support system for daily analytical activities in the laboratory (i.e. screening results could be introduced and the software provides the list of GMO possibly present in the sample or indicates inconsistencies that could suggest the presence of a stack).

6.2 Update on CEN/ISO activities and ENGL synergies (L. Grohmann)

The speaker explained that since 1999 the CEN Technical Committee 275/WG11 has been involved on the standardisation of methods for GMO detection in food. The task was taken over in 2008 by the ISO subcommittee TC34 SC 16 not focusing only on GMOs but broadening the scope to horizontal methods for molecular biomarker analysis applied to food/feed, seeds and including plants pathogens.

The speaker provided a list of the existing ISO standards. He explained that according to ISO rules a review of the standards is foreseen every five years. He informed that all GMO related standards reviewed by ISO TC34 SC16 were confirmed and that new standard methods will be provided as stand-alone documents.

Amendments of the existing standards were published in April 2013 with some changes concerning expression of results for qualitative/quantitative analysis and test reports. In particular, for qualitative analysis results of all test portions shall now be consistent otherwise they shall be re-tested; if the results are still ambiguous, the sample is considered negative. Minor changes have been introduced in the general part of the document for the extraction methods and a completely revised document has been published for the protein-based methods. Other standards were published on general requirements for nucleic acid analysis using microarrays (ISO 16578:2013). A new project to develop a stand-alone ISO Technical Specification for a 35S-pat construct-specific PCR method has been launched.

The speaker presented the work plan of the ISO and CEN subcommittees. He informed on an on-going CEN project for harmonisation of GMO screening strategies based on a matrix approach (CEN TC275 WG11). The document will have the number prCEN/TS 16707. The document on screening strategies will be submitted to the CEN secretariat, voted during February-May 2014 and published in mid 2014.

6.3 Updated GMO CRM certificates (JRC IRMM)

The speaker informed that the zygosity of the GM trait and the male or female donors for maize hybrids are specified in the CRM certificates. The certificates can be downloaded from the IRMM webpage. He mentioned that a training on "GMO quantification: proper calibration and estimation of measurement uncertainty" was organised by IRMM on 21st and 22nd of November upon request of the EU-RL GMFF. The feedback received was very positive and confirmed by the participants present in the audience. He informed that the slides and summaries provided at the training will be published.

7. AOB

The Chairman announced that following a request from the Commission (DG SANCO) an ENGL-WG on seed testing should be established. As no opposition was raised, participants were invited to express their interest to participate in the WG or to nominate experts to the ENGL secretariat,

preferentially from countries with breeding companies and involved in seed production or import/export of seeds. The German members volunteered for sharing a national guidance document on seed testing. Other ENGL members offered participating to the WG. It was suggested to invite ENGL members also involved with ISTA, which publish guidelines on GM seed testing.

The Chairman announced the opening at the JRC of a national expert position for the EURL-GMFF. He explained the professional expertise required and the tasks offered for the scientific officer.

8. DAL ENGL 20th

The EU-RL Scientific Secretary summarised the actions and deadlines agreed upon during the meeting (Annex 2).

The Chair remarked that more presentations and contributions need to be provided by ENGL members also on issues coming from real life situations. He thanked the participants and wished Merry Christmas to all.

All presentations can be found at:
https://englnet.jrc.ec.europa.eu/20th%20ENGL%20Plenary%20meeting/default.aspx

Annex 1: agenda

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

Institute for Health and Consumer Protection
Molecular Biology and Genomics Unit

20th ENGL PLENARY MEETING

4-5 December 2013, Ispra, Italy

Draft Agenda

VERSION 02/12/2013

Day 1: 4th December 2013

	12:45	*Lunch*	
AP	Time	Topic	Documents
1.1	14:00	▪ Welcome	
1.2		▪ Approval of the Agenda	Draft Agenda
1.3		▪ Lecture: "Transgene detection in wheat; a polyploid crop with large genome size" (Dr. Beat Keller, University of Zurich)	Presentation
1.4		▪ Lecture: "Impact of breeding and cultivation of Brassica napus on quantification of GM food/feed derived from oilseed rape" (Dr. Antje Dietz-Pfeilstetter, Julius Kühn-Institut, Braunschweig, DE)	Presentation
	15:45	*Coffee Break*	
2.1	16:15	▪ Approval Report 19th ENGL plenary	Meeting report;
2.2		▪ Dynamic Action List (DAL) of 19th ENGL plenary	DAL-ENGL19;
2.3		▪ Outcome of the 25th ENGL SC meeting (September 2013)	Report SC25
3		Progress reports ENGL working groups:	
3.1		▪ WG SPP (Sample Preparation Procedure)	SPP update
3.2		▪ AG SMV (Advisory Group on Selection of Methods for Validation)	AG SMV update
3.3		▪ WG DIR (Detection Interpretation Reporting)	DIR update
3.4		▪ WG MPR (Method Performance Requirements)	MPR update
3.5		▪ WG-IGSE (Identification of stacked GM events)	IGSE update
	17:30	*End of day 1*	
	19:30	**Social dinner: Il Melograno Restaurant - Angera**	

Day 2: 5th Dec 2013

AP	Time	Topic	Documents
4	09:30	ENGL matters	
4.1		▪ Open agenda point for discussion on NRLs Regulation (EC) No 1981/2006	
4.2		▪ Revision of Regulation (EC) No 1981/2006 (SANCO)	Videolink
4.3		▪ Implications of Regulation (EU) No 503/2013 (SANCO)	Videolink
	10:45	*Coffee Break*	
5	11:15	Scientific and technical session 1:	
5.1		▪ GM papaya from Thailand – detection, actions (L. Grohmann, DE; M. Petrillo, JRC)	Presentations
5.2		▪ GM wheat & China rice – update	Paper
5.3		▪ Detection of StarLink (CBH-351) in Saudi Arabia	
5.4		▪ The EU-RL sequence based dynamic GMO matrix (A.Angers/M.Petrillo, JRC)	Presentation
5.5		▪ Pre-spotted plates, update (M. Querci, JRC)	Presentation
	12:45	*Buffet lunch and visit to the JRC Visitors' Centre*	
5	14:30	Scientific and technical session 2:	
6.1		▪ GMOseek alghoritm (J. Zel)	Presentation
6.2		▪ Update on CEN/ISO activities and ENGL synergies (L. Grohmann)	Presentation
6.3		▪ Updated GMO CRM certificates (P. Corbisier)	Presentation
	15:45	*Coffee Break*	
7	16:15	AOB	
7.1			
8	16:45	DAL ENGL 20th	
	17:00	*End of meeting*	

Annex 2: DAL (Dynamic Action List) 20th ENGL Plenary

20th ENGL PLENARY ACTION LIST 12-5-2013				
ACTIONS	**Resp.**	**Timeline**	**Status**	**Comments**
ENGL CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT				
Make available on ENGLNet report and presentations of 20th ENGL Plenary	SEC	Dec-13	Done	done
Confirm exact date of next ENGL SC meeting + invitation/agenda	SEC	Dec-13	Done	25-26 March 2014
Decide dates 21th ENGL plenary	SEC	Jan-14	Open	
Send invitation and agenda of the 21th plenary ENGL	SEC	Mar-04	Open	
ENGL WORKING GROUPS				
WG Detection Interpretation Reporting (DIR)				
Organise meeting of the drafting group	SEC	Dec-13	Open	to be held in January 2014
Send final draft to ENGL for comments	SEC	Feb-14	Open	
Send final draft to SC for adoption	SEC	Mar-04	Open	at the SC26 in March 2014
WG Method Performance Requirements (MPR)				
Produce final draft for ENGL comments	SEC	Jan-14	Open	
Seek ENGL comments	SEC	Jan-14	Open	
Consult biotech industry about new version of MPR doc	EURL	Feb-14	Open	
Submit the final drfat to SC26	SEC	Mar-14	Open	
WG Sample Preparation Procedure (SPP)				
Send V10.2 to ENGL for comments	SEC	Dec-13	Done	Comments deadline 15 January 2104 (draft sent on 13/12/2013)
Send final draft to SC for adoption	SEC	Mar-14	Open	at the SC26 in March 2014
AG Method Selection for Validation				
Organise meeting	SMV AG chair	Aug-13	Done	a meeitng will be held on 11/02/2014
WG on identification of stacks (IGSE)				
Organise the 2nd meeting	SEC	Dec-13	Done	Scheduled on 13-16 February 2014
Organise 3rd meeting	SEC	Jan-14	Open	To be held at the end of February 2014
OTHERS				
Approach US authorities to get control sample of MON71800	EURL	Dec-13	Open	event specific method is now available
Seek feedback on issues with CRMs	SEC	Dec-13	Open	A note will be sent to applicants and CRMs producers
Invitation to NRLs for PSP pilot study	SEC	Dec-13	Done	Sent on 10/01/2014
New WG on seeds: designate members (including ISTA?) and define mandate	SEC	Jan-14	Open	for adoption by the SC26 by written procedure