Follow up to the European Parliament non-legislative resolution on the draft Commission implementing decision renewing the authorisation for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MON 87427 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council

1. **Resolution tabled pursuant to Rules 115(2) and (3) of the European Parliament's Rules of procedure**

2. **References:** 2025/2897(RSP) / B10-0491/2025 / P10_TA(2025)0292

3. **Date of adoption of the resolution:** 25 November 2025

4. **Competent Parliamentary Committee:** Committee on the Environment, Climate and Food Safety (ENVI)

5. **Brief analysis/assessment of the resolution and requests made in it:**

The resolution calls on the Commission to withdraw the Commission draft implementing decision (**paragraph 3**) on the grounds that it exceeds the implementing powers provided for in Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 (**paragraph 1**) and that it is not compatible with the aim of that Regulation and the general principles of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002, i.e. the protection of human life and health, animal health and welfare, the environment and consumer interests, whilst ensuring effective functioning of the internal market and in line with the precautionary principle (**paragraph 2**).

The resolution calls on the Commission not to renew the authorisation of the Genetically modified (GM) maize due to the risks associated with glyphosate use, resistant weeds, biodiversity loss and insufficient long-term evidence, and the reliance on general surveillance without providing for targeted, independent, long-term studies, in line with the One Health Approach (**paragraph 4** and **recitals E** to **K**).

The draft resolutions call on the Commission to submit, without delay, a legislative proposal to reform the decision-making procedure on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) in order to respond to the consistent objections of Parliament and the lack of qualified majority support among Member States (**paragraph 5** and **recital L**).

In addition, it urges the Commission to consider the EU's obligations under international agreements, such as the Paris Climate Agreement, the United

Nations (UN) Convention on Biological Diversity and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, as regards pesticide reduction (**paragraph 6**).

6. Response to the requests and overview of actions taken, or intended to be taken, by the Commission:

The Commission would like to recall that the draft implementing decision concerns the renewal for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from GM maize MON 87427, but not the cultivation of this maize.

With respect to **paragraphs 1** and **3** of the resolution, the Commission would like to point out that the draft decision has been prepared in line with and has undergone the procedural steps set out in Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 on GM food and feed and in Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 on comitology, as illustrated below:

- on 19 March 2024, Bayer Agriculture B.V., on behalf of Bayer CropScience LP based in the United States, submitted an application to the Commission for the renewal of that authorisation in accordance with Articles 11 and 23 of Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 for the authorisation of the placing on the market of this GM maize for food/feed and other uses, with the exception of cultivation;
- on 13 May 2025, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) published an opinion in accordance with Articles 6 and 18 of Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 concluding that this maize is as safe as its conventional counterpart and the tested non-GM maize reference varieties with respect to the potential effects on human and animal health and the environment;
- in its scientific opinion, EFSA considered all the questions and concerns raised by the Member States in the context of the consultation of the national competent authorities as provided for by Article 6(4) and Article 18(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003;
- the EFSA opinion was subject to a public consultation, and no comments were received;
- the draft decision was voted in the Standing Committee on 15 September 2025 with no qualified majority against or in favour;
- the draft decision was voted in the Appeal Committee on 21 October 2025 with no qualified majority against or in favour;
- in accordance with the rules set out in Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003, a decision has to be taken on the application;
- in accordance with the rules set out in Regulation (EC) No 182/2011 on comitology, it is for the Commission to decide on the adoption;

- on that basis, the Commission will proceed with the adoption of this decision.

The Commission therefore considers that by going forward with the adoption process of a decision that fully complies with the procedural steps set out by the co-legislators in the GMO legislation, it does not exceed its implementing powers.

With respect to the other provisions of the resolution, the Commission considers that they fall outside the remit of the right of scrutiny, which is limited to the question of whether the implementing act exceeds the implementing powers provided for in the basic act. The Commission is not required to justify the implementing act as regards these points. Nevertheless, the Commission has carefully considered the position expressed by the Parliament and would like to make the following comments:

EFSA performed a comprehensive risk assessment of this GM crop which concluded positively, after considering Member States' comments. Therefore, the Commission considers that its decision is in line with the EU legislation on GM food and feed, and the EU's General Food Law and in line with the precautionary principle and the One Health approach (**paragraph 2**).

In relation to the call on the Commission not to renew the authorisation of the GM crop due to the risks associated with glyphosate use, resistant weeds, biodiversity loss and insufficient long-term evidence, and the reliance on general surveillance without providing for targeted, independent, long-term studies, in line with the One Health Approach (**paragraph 4** and **recitals E** to **K**), EFSA's assessment covered all relevant aspects of food and feed safety, as well as environmental assessment, including interactions of the GM crop with target and non-target organisms, and possible cumulative and combinatorial effects of herbicides use (**recital E**), within the remit of EFSA's responsibilities.

Regarding concerns raised about the fact that the post-market monitoring plan in the draft decision relies largely on general surveillance without providing for targeted, independent, long-term studies (**recitals H** and **K)**, no specific risks were identified during the environmental risk assessment by EFSA in either the original or renewal assessment. In such circumstances, only general surveillance is required under Directive 2001/18/EC and a post-market environmental monitoring plan was put in place consisting of such surveillance. EFSA evaluated in the renewal application, in accordance with the GMO legislation and its relevant guidelines, the post market environmental monitoring reports and confirmed the GM maize environmental safety and the adequacy of the proposed monitoring for the scope of renewal application.

In relation to the concerns about herbicide use **(recitals F** and **G**), the Commission notes that the authorisation of GMOs is not linked to the

authorisation of herbicides. However, the two authorisation systems are geared to ensure a high level of protection of health and the environment.

The risk assessment of an application for food and feed uses of a herbicide-tolerant GM crop includes assessment of the safety of the GM crop sprayed with the herbicide by comparison to its conventional counterparts. EFSA concluded favourably for the GM crop concerned by this resolution.

The environmental risk assessment of active substances and plant protection products is carried out in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market. Maximum residue limits (MRLs) apply to all relevant imported food and feed, including to GM products and ensure that the health of EU consumers is fully protected.

With regard to the call to submit a legislative proposal to reform the decision-making procedure on GMOs in order to respond to the consistent objections of Parliament and the lack of qualified majority support among Member States (**paragraph 5** and **recital L**), the Commission would like to recall that it submitted a proposal to the Council and the Parliament on 14 February 2017 to amend Regulation (EU) No 182/2011, changing the voting rules at the Appeal Committee to increase transparency and accountability in the GMO decision-making process. However, this proposal has not been adopted by the co-legislators. In light of this situation, the Commission decided to withdraw the proposal on 16 July 2025, and the withdrawal was published on 6 October 2025. As such, the Commission is bound to apply the procedures laid down in Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 on comitology and in Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 on GM food and feed.

Finally, as regards the call to consider the EU's international obligations (**paragraph 6**), the Commission is fully committed to respecting the EU's international commitments in the field of environmental protection, which have to be implemented in the relevant policy areas (climate change, biodiversity, etc.) or in appropriate initiatives. However, the Commission decisions for the placing on the market of GMOs that do not present risks to health or to the environment do not run counter to such international commitments.