

Special committee on the EU procedure for approval of active substances in plant protection products: BfR statements can be accessed online

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More openness and transparency in the assessment of active substances contained in plant protection products – that was the plea of BfR President, Professor Dr. Dr. Andreas Hensel, at the hearing before the special committee of the EU Parliament on the authorisation of plant protection products on 15 May 2018 in Brussels. The committee has the task of preparing recommendations in order to critically examine the approval and authorisation processes for active substances and plant protection products and draft proposals on making them more efficient and transparent. The BfR has been supporting the further improvement and harmonisation of the assessment processes for years.

The video recording in the European Parliament can be accessed using the following link:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/ep-live/en/committees/video?event=20180507-1026-COMMITTEE-PEST>

The presentation given by the BfR President can be accessed using the following link:

http://www.emeeeting.europarl.europa.eu/committees/agenda/201805/PEST/PEST%282018%290515_1P/sitt-8262367

Appearing before the special committee, BfR President, Professor Dr. Dr. Andreas Hensel, explained the scientific aspects of risk assessment in the approval procedure for active substances, which is uniform throughout the EU, as well as risk assessment in national decisions on the authorisation of plant protection products. The desired outcome is unrestricted access to scientific information by the general public. In addition to fundamental issues regarding the implementation of the European authorisation and approval process, the numerous questions that arose within the special committee mainly concerned the assessment of glyphosate. In the European processes, the herbicidal active substance was assessed as non-carcinogenic by the BfR, as well as the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), based on the latest available knowledge. This assessment was made on the basis of an independent, comprehensive evaluation of all available original scientific data, studies and other relevant information after consultation with all member states. After making their own assessments, all assessment authorities all over the world that had access to the original data came to the conclusion that glyphosate should not be classified as carcinogenic to humans according to the latest available knowledge.

More information on the subject of glyphosate on the BfR website

http://www.bfr.bund.de/en/a-z_index/glyphosate-193962.html#fragment-2



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About the BfR

The Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) is a scientifically independent institution within the portfolio of the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) in Germany. It advises the Federal Government and Federal Laender on questions of food, chemical and product safety. The BfR conducts its own research on topics that are closely linked to its assessment tasks.

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