

Genetically modified organisms GMOs: deliberate release into the environment (repeal. Directive 90/220/EEC)

1998/0072(COD) - 13/01/2000 - Commission communication on Council's position

The common position maintains in principle the basic structure of the Commission proposal but builds on specific elements to provide for a more stringent and transparent regulatory framework. Specific changes have been introduced in order to strengthen the principles of the risk assessment procedure and the inclusion of public consultation linked with mandatory labelling at all stages of the placing on the market of GMOs increases transparency. In response to the growing public concerns about potential adverse effects of GMOs, the need for a more transparent and stringent regulatory system for the deliberate release of genetically modified organisms into the environment has now become clear. The common position has built upon the original proposal and the Commission is satisfied it will provide for an effective and efficient regulatory framework that takes into account both public concerns and the interests of industry. Furthermore, the Commission believes that a rapid revision of Directive 90/220/EEC may contribute significantly to the resolution of the problems that have been encountered in the implementation of the Directive and welcomes the fact that the common position was adopted by unanimity.?