

Annex

Conclusions

of the European Conference on GMO-free Regions, biodiversity & rural development, Berlin 23rd January 2005

The following conclusions are a conspect, drawn from the results of the 15 workshops and the plenary discussions of the Conference. They have not been formally adopted or endorsed by the participants but are a collection of contributions and broader agreements. For more details see the minutes of the workshops and the presentations of the speakers.

1) Demands

GMO Approvals in the EU

- No new approvals for cultivation of GMOs until the Directive 2001/18 and appropriate co-existence standards are *implemented* in the member states.
- The present comitology procedure of EU approvals should be changed as to ensure that at least no GMO can be approved without the consent of the majority of member states.
- Include socio-economic impacts in the approval process, including agricultural and regional considerations and the impact on the Communities general goals for sustainable agricultural development
- Regions should be able to participate in EU-level decision-making from the onset (EFSA reports should be public, hearings should be held on co-existence implications and nature protection aspects, etc.) and legally entitled to draw their own conclusions regarding the regional and local conditions.
- A credible and competent scientific panel at the EFSA should be established, replacing the present selection of predominantly molecular biologists with close links to GMO development.
- The final approval shall explicitly specify conditions for the protection of particular ecosystems/environments and/or geographical areas
- GM vines, trees and animals should not be approved
- For crops where there is no realistic chance for co-existence (such as oilseed rape) no approvals for cultivation and import of reproductive material (irrespective of its intended use) should be granted

Seed purity of non-GMO seeds

- GMO-free seeds are the prerequisite for GMO-free regions, for environmental control and for any form of coexistence management
- EU wide seed purity standards for labelling GMO in non-GM seeds must be set at the technical detection limit
- The local and regional diversity of seeds must be protected and promoted Regions have a special duty and the right to protect their local heritage
- Seed saving and exchange practices, small scale and farm based seed development and conservation of heritage seed must not be compromised by the threat of GM contamination
- Special efforts may be needed to protect areas of breeding and seed production

Coexistence and Regional self-determination

- The EU legislation and institutions should acknowledge the right of national, regional and local authorities to declare their territories GMO-free with regard to the cultivation by legally binding decisions and provisions.
- A European Register of GMO free regions and areas should be established to which a GE-free region can inscribe and be legally protected.
- Non-GM seeds must remain GMO free and not be contaminated by any amount of GM

admixture.

- The European Union has the duty to enable organic farmers to comply with its regulation on organic farming (Reg. 2092/91) prohibiting the use of GMO in organic agriculture. This includes the protection of farms from GM contamination and the right of farmers to convert to organic production in the future.
- Minimum provisions on coexistence must be established at European legislative level. These should include:
 - A public register with exact locations and details of the GE plots (including cross-border registers) at the EU level
 - GE farmers must register individual planting at least 3 month in advance and neighbours need to be actively informed and consulted prior to initial GMO planting, also across national borders
- Community wide liability provisions including
 - Compulsory insurance based upon the liability of the GM-seed producer as in the Swiss GMO law
 - polluter pays principle and burden of proof polluter
 - seed companies must offer farmers the handing down of liability
 - fund based compensation for general costs of prevention, control and testing
- Special protection must be provided for centres of agro-diversity and seed production
- Until there are European regulations member states should implement now strict protection in national co-existence regulations and laws and demand EU minimum Standards, which allow for the self-determination of regions.
- The regional goals regarding rural development and agriculture must be taken into account
- Protection of geographical indication and traditional products from GMO
- Bee keepers must be protected both with regard to their ability to keep their products gmo free and with respect to their freedom to operate

Animal feed and commodities

- There is a need for labelling also animal products which have been produced using GM feed
- As long as there is no mandatory labelling of animal products there should be positive labelling opportunities for animal products produced without the use of GM feed
- This should also be possible for quality labels and protected areas of origin

Nature conservation and protection

- It is impossible to consider the diversity in nature protected areas in the member states through an EU wide centralised procedure
- in accordance with the Subsidiarity Principle and the Precautionary Principle, consideration should be given to derogate GMO regulations for eco-sensitive and other protected areas to Local Authorities wherever possible.
- strict conditions for use in specific environments and/or geographical areas stipulated in the approval consent(Article 19 Dir. 2001/18/EC) plus instruments to ensure that the consents specific conditions are strictly adhered (e.g. in the regulation of good agricultural practice)
- There is a need for the scientific definition of what constitutes potential ecological damages to prevent
- Such definitions have to take into account what is acceptable to society
- Require mandatory application to regional and national nature conservancy authorities if GMOs are to be planted in or in direct vicinity of protected areas

2) Strategies and Plans

GMO-free Regions

- Increase number and size of regions - reach out to neighbours and countrywide
- Discuss and implement wide range of possibly helpful measures within the regional legislative authority and power, including regional approval requirements for any cultivation of GMO (based upon coexistence considerations and nature conservation)
- Within the national legislation (implementation of 2001/18 and co-existence rules) propose and promote restrictive measures on coexistence, liability and nature conservation and for explicit regional authority to approve or reject under coexistence conditions.
- At the same time national governments should press for EU wide regulations on minimum standards of "coexistence", liability, seed and nature conservation
- Exchange legal and technical expertise and combine forces (list of legislative acts, legal advice, judgements and of experts in the field)
- Establish and also demand at national level interim regulations where necessary to prevent imminent planting of approved varieties of GM maize
- (e.g. 17 varieties of Mon 810 now approved EU wide) next planting season: no planting before co-existence rules are implemented

Seed

- Protect regional plant genetic resources, heritage and varieties of seed and promote free access to them (with reference to EU directive 98/95, see seed legislation of Tuscany)
- Convince EU Commission to propose seed purity requirements at the practical detection level and broaden coalition especially including regional governments and entities, farmer organisations, co-operatives and traders.

Animal feed and commodities

- Direct cooperation with GMO-free regions in Brazil and other regions of commodity import, but also between co-ops from both sides of the Atlantic
- promote European (incl. central and eastern European and Russian) feed alternatives to soy and local cultivation of protein rich species including new CAP tools and further agricultural research on regional protein sources for livestock production
- Direct cooperation (or confrontation) with major commodity companies (ADM, Cargill, Bunge) and preferential work with smaller independent companies (traders, feed-retailers)
- Cooperation with retailers, meat, egg and milk production companies and brands
- info-campaign to farmers on the availability of non-gm feed

European Conference on GMO free Regions, Biodiversity and Rural Development Berlin 22-23. January 2005

List of Participants

Country	Name	Organisation
1. Albania	1. Lavdosh Ferunaj	Albanian Organic Agriculture Association
2. Austria	2. Alexandra Pohl	Bio Austria & ARGE Bio-Landbau
	3. Gerald Lonauer	EU-Representative of Upper Austria
	4. Jens Karg	GLOBAL 2000
	5. Josef Hoppichler	Federal Institute for Less-Favoured and Mountainous Areas
	6. Josef Martinz	Minister of Agriculture, Regional Government of Carinthia
	7. Markus Schörpf	BIO - Austria
	8. Peter Hebein	Regional Government of Carinthia
	9. Sepp Eisl	Minister of Agriculture, Regional Government of Salzburg
	10. Thomas Fertl	Consultant
	11. Werner Müller	GLOBAL 2000
	3. Azerbaijan	12. Aytan Poladova
4. Belgium	13. Antje Kölling	European Parliament
	14. Eric Gall	Greenpeace European Unit
	15. Hiltrud Breyer	Member of the European Parliament, Greens / EFA
	16. Karen Janssens	Greenpeace Belgium
	17. Marco Schlüter	IFOAM EU Group
	18. Michel Somville	Greens/ EFA Group in the European Parliament
	19. Oliver Emmes	Green/EFA Group in the European Parliament
	20. Roberto Piccinini	Greenpeace European Unit
	21. Steve Emmott	-/-
	5. Bulgaria	22. Svetla Nikolova
6. Cyprus	23. Kiriaki Zannettou	Federation of Environmental and Ecological Organizations
7. Czech Republic	24. Martin Kloubek	Greenpeace Czech Republic
8. Denmark	25. Dan Belusa	Greenpeace Nordic
	26. Andres Õunmaa	Ministry of Agriculture Estonia
	27. Marika Ruberg	Ministry of Agriculture Estonia
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	34. Eric Meunier	Inf'OGM
	35. Jordi Rossinyol	Friends of the Earth France

	36. Pascale Loget	Vize President of the Conseil Regional Bretagne
	37. Pawel Polanecki	AER (Region of Mazowie, Poland)
12. Georgia	38. Inga Gvineria	Georgian Association of Preventive Toxicologists
	39. Mariam Jorjadze	Biological Farming Association "Elkana"
13. Germany	40. Adrian Bebb	Friends of the Earth Europe
	41. Andreas Bauer	Umweltinstitut München e.V.
	42. Andreas Krug	Federal Agency for Nature Conservation
	43. Ann Stafford	
	44. Annegret Falter	VDW (German Scientists Union)
	45. Barbara Niedeggen	Federal Agency for Nature Conservation
	46. Beatrix Tappeser	Federal Agency for Nature Conservation
	47. Benny Haerlin	Foundation on Future Farming & Save our Seeds
	48. Bernd Voss	Member of the EU Economic and Social Committee & AbL
	49. Bertram Verhaag	Denkmal Film Ltd.
	50. Christel Schmelzeisen	Federal Agency for Nature Conservation
	51. Christiane Grefe	Die Zeit
	52. Christine Weizsäcker	Ecoropa
	53. Christof Potthof	Gen-ethisches Netzwerk
	54. Christoph Palme	Institut für Naturschutz und Naturschutzrecht, Tübingen
	55. Claudia Fiebig	Ministry for the Environment Northrhine-Westphalia
	56. Cornelia Roeckl	Foundation on Future Farming
	57. Cornelia Wiethaler	agravivendi & GMO free lake of constance
	58. Dan Leskien	Federal Ministry for Consumer Protection, Food and Agriculture
	59. Doris Pick	PhD candidat at the University Kassel
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	61. Felix Prinz zu Löwenstein	BÖLW, organic food production alliance & Naturland
	62. Frank Berhorn	Federal Agency for Nature Conservation - Division Monitoring
	63. Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf	Member of the European Parliament & President of AbL
	64. Gabriele Weiss	EcoStrat GmbH, Büro Berlin
	65. Hans-Georg Starck	Ministry for the Environment and Agriculture Schleswig-Holstein
	66. Hans-Theo Jachmann	CEO, Syngenta Germany
	67. Hartmut Meyer	GENET
	68. Heike Moldenhauer	BUND (Friends of the Earth Germany)
	69. Henning Strodthoff	Greenpeace Germany
	70. Ingrid Nöh	German Federal Environment Agency
	71. Janna Völker	Informationsdienst Gentechnik
	72. Jochen Fritz	Aktionsbündnis GVO-freie Landwirtschaft Baden-Württemberg
	73. Johannes Niedeggen	Gut Kerkow, Uckermark
	74. Juergen Binder	Stop-Gmo.Org
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	76.	Katja Moch	Eco-Institute
	77.	Laurent Luetge	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
	78.	Lutz Grohmann	CONGEN Biotechnology GmbH
	79.	Manuel Schneider	grassroots foundation & Projektbuero !make sense!
	80.	Martha Mertens	Friends of the Earth Bavaria
	81.	Mathias Berninger	Federal Ministry for Consumer Protection, Food and Agriculture
	82.	Matthias Miersch	Lawyer
	83.	Melanie Amrhein	Regionen aktiv, Reutlingen
	84.	Mute Schimpf	AbL (German Family Farmers Association)
	85.	Oliver Scherer	Informationszentrum Gentechnik Hohenlohe-Unterland
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	87.	Paola Alvarez	AIS - Agencia Informacion Solidaria
	88.	Peter Röhrig	BÖLW, organic food production alliance
	89.	Peter Stoltenberg	BIOLAND LV SH/HH/MV
	90.	Rüdiger Stegemann	Aktionsbündnis Gentechnik-freie Region Oberrhein
	91.	Rudolf Buntzel	EED (Development Service of German Protestant Churches)
	92.	Rutj Kleinöder	Freilicht Museum Domäne Dahlem
	93.	Sabine Brückmann	Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF)
	94.	Siegrid Herbst	AbL (German Family Farmers Association)
	95.	Stefan Zvoll	Arbeitsgemeinschaft bäuerliche Landwirtschaft (AbL)
	96.	Steffen Reese	Naturland
	97.	Susanne Götze	Neues Deutschland
	98.	Swati Jangle	Greenpeace Germany
	99.	Tina Loeffelbein	Greenpeace Germany
	100.	Tobias Plieninger	Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften
	101.	Turgut Altug	Öko-Brücke Deutschland-Türkei e. V. & No To GMO's Platform Turkey
	102.	Ulrike Bickel	Greenpeace Aachen
	103.	Ulrike Doyle	German Advisory Council on the Environment
	104.	Ulrike Middelhoff	Ecosystem Research Centre, University of Kiel
14. Greece	105.	Caterina Choreftaki	WECF (working group on sustainable agriculture and rural development)
	106.	Helena Dimitriou	Panhellenic Network Against GMO
	107.	Ioannis Stratakis	Union of Prefectural Administrations of Greece (ENAE)
	108.	Lazaros Georgiadis	Union of Prefectural Administrations of Greece (ENAE)
	109.	Myrto Pispini	Greenpeace Greece
	110.	Nikolaos Kontosoro	
	111.	Nikolaos Lappas	GESASE (General Confederation of Greek Agrarian Associations)
	112.	Paula Maier	DIO (Greek organic farmers association)
	113.	Yoryakis Kostis	BIO.ZO - Bio Consumers for quality life
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	115. Erika András	Municipality of Karcag
	116. Hajnalka Homoki	Ministry of Environment and Water Hungary
	117. Lea Bauer	Biokontroll Hungaria (KHT)
	118. Noemi Nemes	Greenpeace Hungary
	119. Veronika Mora	Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation
16. India	120. Suman Sahai	Gene Campaign
17. Ireland	121. Aine Kealy	GM-free Ireland Network
	122. Danny Forde	GM free Wexford
	123. Grainne Vaughan	Irish Seed Savers Association
	124. Martin Kenny	Leitrim Co. Co.
	125. Michael O'Callaghan	GM-free Ireland Network
18. Italy	126. Albert Wurzer	Autonomous Province of Bozen
	127. Alessandro Fugatti	Provincia Autonoma di Bolzano - Alto Adige
	128. Barbara Schiller	
	129. Carmelo Troccoli	Confederazione Nazionale Coldiretti
	130. Claudio Melchiorre	ADOC (Consumer Association)
	131. Daniele Govi	Regione Emilia-Romagna
	132. Dr.Maria Grazia Mammuccini	Arsia Regione Toscana
	133. Edoardo Zanchini	Legambiente Onlus
	134. Eduardo Calza Bini	WFP
	135. Elmar Stimpfl	Versuchszentrum Laimburg
	136. Fabrizia Pratesi	Equivita
	137. Federica Ferrario	Greenpeace Italy
	138. Francesca Ponti	Regione Emilia - Romagna
	139. Gianfilippo Lucatello	ROMANATURA (Nature Protection Agency)
	140. Luca Colombo	Consiglio dei Diritti Genetici (Genetic Rights Council)
	141. Marcello Buiatti	Università degli Studi di Firenze
	142. Massimo Bugli	RomaNatura
	143. Renzo Spagnesi	Regione Toscana, Economic Division, Sustainable Product Quality
	144. Riccardo Russu	Arsia Regione Toscana
	145. Roberto Gatto	Regione Marche Italia
	146. Talea Weissang	AMAB (Associazione Marchigiana Agricoltura Biologica)
19. Japan	147. Akiko Frid	NO! GMO Campaign
	148. Haruo Nagasawa	Kyodo News Agency
	149. Keisuke Amagasa	NO! GMO Campaign
	150. Ryoko Shimizu	Seikatsu Club Consumers' Co-operative
20. Lithuania	151. Jurgita Maciunaite	Environmental Information Center
21. Netherlands	152. Antje Lorch	Ifrik
	153. Diederick Sprangers	Goede Waar & Co (consumers organisation)
	154. Geert Ritsema	Friends of the Earth Europe
	155. Janne Kuil	Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals
	156. Lindsay Keenan	Greenpeace International
	157. Maaïke Raaijmakers	Biologica (organic food and farming platform)
	158. Pieter Jansen	Both ENDS
	159. Robert A. Verlinden	Platform Belangen van Consument (BeVaCo)

22. Poland	160. Jadwiga Lopata	ICPPC - International Coalition to Protect the Polish Countryside
	161. Julian Rose	ICPPC - International Coalition to Protect the Polish Countryside
23. Portugal	162. João Melo	Direcção Regional do Ambiente
	163. Margarida Silva	Quercus
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25. Romania	165. Craioveanu Dan	Federation of Organic Farmers
	166. Gabriel Paun	ECOSSENS
26. Russia	167. Victoria Kolesnikova	Eremurus Club/CIS Biosafety Alliance
27. Serbia and Montenegro	168. Natasa Dereg	Green Network of Vojvodina
28. Spain	169. Albert Ferre	Plataforma Transgènics Fora
	170. Alexis Vaughan	GRAIN
	171. Helen Groome	EHNE (Basque Farmers' Union)
	172. Manuela González Griñán	Ciudadans pel Canvi
	173. María Ramos	COAG (Coordinadora de Organizaciones de Agricultores)
	174. Rosa Binimelis	Plataforma Transgènics Fora, Catalonia
29. Sweden	175. Peter Einarsson	Ekologiska Lantbrukarna (organic farmers associaton)
30. Switzerland	176. Alex Hagmann	Film Video Multimedia
	177. Angelika Hilbeck	ECOSTRAT & ETH Zurich
	178. Bernhard Batschelet	Musician
	179. Bruno Heinzer	Greenpeace Switzerland
	180. Christian Schlatter	FiBL (Research Institute on Organic Farming)
	181. Daniel Ammann	SAG (Swiss working group on genetic engineering)
	182. Daniela Luethi	RSI Radio Svizzera RETE UNO
	183. Dr.Florian Leiber	Freie Hochschule für Geisteswissenschaft
	184. Florianne Koechlin	Blauen-Institut & SAG
	185. François Meienberg	Berne Declaration
	186. Jean-Louis Gueydon	Fondation pour une Terre Humaine
	187. Jochen Koester	TraceConsult
	188. Markus Sieber	Stiftung Fintan Rheinau
	189. Maya Graf	SAG & MP Green Party
	190. Urs Hans	Public Eye on Science
31. UK	191. Becky Price	GeneWatch UK
	192. Brian Johnson	English Nature
	193. David Cuming	Consumers International (CI)
	194. Helena Paul	econexus & Five Year Freeze
	195. Kenneth Richter	Friends of the Earth England, Wales, Northern Ireland
	196. Matthew Burgess	Mid Devon District Council & Green Party UK
32. USA	197. Rachel Schurman	University of Minnesota

GMO-free Regions and areas: Petition to the European Commission - Cover Letter

The EU Commission seems to be finally starting to realise what we have been telling them for a while: that measures to stop GMO contamination need to be taken at EU level. We understand that the Commission is now working towards new EU “coexistence” legislation.

Thousands of regional and local governments have already declared themselves GMO free but the current EU law is weak and offers little support for them. The coming year will therefore be a key opportunity to influence new EU proposals and to make sure that any new law will include the right of regions to declare GMO-free zones.

In an effort to put pressure on the EU Commission the following EU-wide petition has been launched. This text already has the support of the Assembly of European Regions (AER) and the regions of Upper Austria and Tuscany. The AER will lobby their member regions to sign the petition.

The main target of the petition will be local and regional Governments, who are asking for their democratic right to decide whether GMO crops can be cultivated in their area. Obviously it makes sense to start with those areas that have already passed GMO-free declarations, but the text of the petition should make it also possible for those authorities to sign that have so far stopped short of declaring a GMO-free zone. Additionally you can ask Members of Parliament, Members of the European Parliament and NGOs in your country to sign the petition. Please be aware that this petition is not meant to be signed by individual members of the public.

We will need a signature of a senior representative of the local or regional government (e.g. Town Mayor) to make the petition meaningful and to avoid other fractions within that authority later disputing the support.

To lobby regional and local governments in your country successfully it will be useful to involve local groups (who have direct contact with their representatives) and as many other NGOs as possible in your country. Local groups might find some of the tips in the “Campaign guide for GMO-free regions” on how to lobby your local/regional government useful. You can download it from <http://www.gmofreeeurope.org>

Please let me know whether you are happy to be the coordinating organisation in your country for the petition. I will then refer to you any other organisation from your country that would like to be involved. Please also send me a copy of any translation of the petition text that you make. A page on the GMO-free Europe website will have the petition available for download and will give details about coordinators in each country. The address will be <http://www.foeeurope.org/GMOs/gmofree/Petition>

On May 17th the Assembly of European Regions, together with Friends of the Earth, is organising a conference on coexistence legislation in the European Parliament in Brussels, which will be attended by EU decision makers, as well as NGO’s and regional representatives. This will be a key opportunity to present preliminary results from the petition so we would be grateful for as many signatures as possible by then. The collection of signatures will however continue after the Conference throughout the summer of 2005, and will be presented to the European Commission and the European Parliament after the first draft of the new “coexistence” legislation. I will let you know the final deadline in time. Also I will provide you with regular updates about the number of signatories.

Please return the signed petitions to:
GMO Free Regions Conference
Marienstr.19-20, 10117 Berlin, Germany
tel +49 30 24047146
fax +49 30 27590312
email: petition@gmo-free-regions.org

Or
Kenneth Richter
Friends of the Earth
26-28 Underwood Street, London N1 7JQ
kenr@foe.co.uk
Tel +44 20 7566 1671

Please feel free to contact us with any questions regarding the petition.

Thanks a lot for your help.

GMO-free Regions and areas: Petition to the European Commission

Across the European Union, thousands of local and regional government authorities want to exclude the growing of genetically modified (GM) crops in their area. The reasons for taking such an initiative include:

- concerns about the many scientific uncertainties surrounding the long term safety of GM foods and the effect on the environment of growing GM crops;
- the clear difficulties of growing GM crops without contaminating traditional, conventional, and organic crops, and the economic effects this will have on the agri-food sector;
- the demands from their citizens for GM-free food and a GM-free local environment;

Current European law fails to protect these local and regional government authorities.

And internationally, there is increasing pressure to force GM crops into the European Union, especially via the US-led trade dispute at the World Trade Organisation.

WE, the undersigned, believe that in order to protect our local economy, culture, environment and health of our citizens, EU law must include the democratic right of local and regional governments to decide whether GM crops can be cultivated in their given area.

We also believe, that there should be no EU wide approvals for the cultivation of GMOs until these matters are resolved and that there should be strict labelling regulations for any presence of GMOs in conventional and organic seeds at the practical detection limit.

.....
(Name of local/regional authority or constituency)

Signed
.....
(Name and position)

*Please return via ordinary mail and via fax to
GMO-free Regions Conference, Marienstr.19-20, 10117 Berlin, Germany
Fax +49 30 27590312
Email: petition@gmo-free-regions.org
Web: <http://www.gmo-free-regions.org>*

GMO-free regions and local areas in EU countries

A short overview by Kenneth Richter of "GMO Free Europe", <http://www.gmofree-europe.org>

Austria

8 out of the 9 Austrian provinces have now indicated that they want to go GMO-free and have either passed regional bills or are discussing them. Over 100 municipalities have signed a GMO-free resolution.

Belgium

39 communities in the Flemish and 81 communities in the French speaking part of Belgium have declared themselves GMO-free.

Finland

There are two GMO-free municipalities in Finland.

France

In France more than 1250 majors have issued declarations of GMO-free status of their municipality.

On the regional level 15 regions and 5 Departments have issued declarations of a GMO-free status.

Germany

In Germany more than 50 GMO-free zones have been set up by an alliance of more than 11 600 organic and conventional farmers.

Greece

All 54 Greek prefectures have voted to declare their area GMO-free, making Greece the first country to be entirely covered by GMO-free areas.

Hungary

In Hungary 31 municipalities have declared themselves GMO free.

Ireland

In Ireland the region of Westmeath has become the first county council to pass a GM resolution.

Plus a number of local GM-free zone (GM-free farms).

Italy

1,806 municipalities in Italy have so far chosen to declare their territories GMO-free. The combined area of those communities that have already signed a resolution against GMOs and those that recently have indicated to ban GMOs means that nearly 80% of Italy's territory is declared GMO-free. Fighting against transgenic crops are also 14 (out of 20) Italian regions and 27 provinces.

Poland

Two (out of 15) provinces in Poland have passed GMO-free resolutions. Plus a number of local GM-free zone (GM-free farms).

Portugal

In Portugal the Algarve region has declared itself GMO-free.

Slovakia

The Cross-border region of Pannonien has declared itself GM-free covering 10 Slovakian, 23 Austrian and 12 Hungarian municipalities.

Slovenia

The GMO-free Bio-region ALPE ADRIA, covers the whole area of Slovenia, the Austrian provinces of Carinthia and Styria and the Italian provinces of Friuli-Venezia Giulia and Veneto.

Spain

The two regions of Castilla la Mancha, Asturias and the Balear Islands have passed parliament deliberations place, in Cataluña such a deliberation in under discussion; while Andalucía and the Basque country have a 5-year moratorium on GM growing in place.

UK

So far 60 areas in England and Wales have approved a GMO-free resolution. In Scotland the regions of Moray, West Lothian, the Highlands and the Western Islands have adopted GM-free resolutions. This brings the total UK population living in areas with a GMO-free policy to more than 15 million.

Luxemburg, Malta and Cyprus

In the three small states of Luxemburg, Malta and Cyprus the possibility of country-wide GMO-free zones is being discussed in parliament.

An overall number is probably only of limited value due to the massive differences in size, the form of the GMO-free declaration and due to overlap of regions, smaller areas and municipalities. Never the less it is probably true to state that there are more than 100 regions (of recognised "European Region" status) and more than 3500 sub-regional areas that have declared themselves GMO-free