



FEDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECOLOGICAL ORGANISATIONS OF CYPRUS

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Update on FEEEO campaign on GMOs

One of FEEEO's ongoing campaigns concerns GMOs. Based on relevant documented data and on Cyprus particularities, FEEEO strongly believes that Cyprus must without delay ban GMOs, especially their release into the environment. It is worth mentioning that people in Cyprus do not approve GMOs. Therefore, FEEEO took the initiative and in collaboration with other NGOs organised a campaign for the collection of signatures for a petition **demanding the total ban of GMOs in Cyprus.**

The 78,226 signatures collected, are comparatively to the Cyprus population (749,200 census of 2004) a very representative sample and consists a democratic expression of a general rejection of GMOs in Cyprus. FEEEO will deliver the petition to the President of the Cyprus Republic and to the President of the European Commission, asking, for the respect of the Cypriots will, to ban GMOs. We strongly support the amendment of the EU legislation in order to allow member states to ban GMOs in their territory.

FEEEO also supports the ban of GMOs world wide and collaborates with other organisations sharing the same opinions, principles and targets.

FEEEO concentrated its efforts on the declaration of the whole of Cyprus as a GMO free country. Nevertheless, it continues the campaign on Local Authorities, aiming the declaration of their territories as GMO free zones. The Municipalities that have already declared their territories as GMO Free Regions are the capital Nicosia, Ayios Athanasios, Engomi, Larnaca, Germasogeia, Strovolos and Latsia. The Cyprus Union of Municipalities has issued a declaration which you have already on the website.

Moreover, FEEEO collaborates with the Cyprus Communities Union, in order to achieve the declaration of the Cyprus communities as GMO free areas. The Cyprus Communities Union has issued a declaration on GMOs calling upon the Community Councils to declare their territories as GMO free zones (you may find attached the original declaration in Greek and a translation into English.)

It is worth mentioning that all Natura 2000 sites in Cyprus are GMO free areas and the cultivation of GM crops that relate to wild species existing in Cyprus is forbidden.

A very important step forward for the declaration of Cyprus as a GMO free country is the Decision at the Council of EU Environment Ministers on the 4th of December 2008 that "Points out that in accordance with Community Law, which includes the Precautionary Principle, regions with particular agronomical and environmental characteristics, including small isolated islands, may require different case-specific management or restrictions measures, including prohibition measures for GMO cultivation". This decision was made possible due to the efforts of the Cyprus Government and the lobby of FEEEO.

[Sample of the FEEEO Petition regarding ban of GMOs in Cyprus:](#)



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PETITION

Against GMOs

After almost fifteen years of GMOs enforcement on our planet, it is obvious that they are related to serious short and long-term dangers for human health, agriculture and nature.

Since, once they are released into the environment there is no way for withdrawal or recall, the safest solution, based on Precautionary Principle, is to ban GMOs.

We, the citizens of the Cyprus Republic demand the total ban of GMOs in our country:

ονοματεπώνυμο	τόπος διαμονής	υπογραφή
Χρυσόβροχοσι Αρχιεπίσκοπος Κύπρου		Γιάννης Χρυσόβροχος
Μάριος Κιργιαν		Μάριος Κιργιαν
Αλέξανδρος Κινσεμειν		Αλέξανδρος Κινσεμειν
Γιάννης Παροχίου	Λαία	Γιάννης Παροχίου
Παναγιώτης Δαφινά	Λαία	Παναγιώτης Δαφινά
Ειρήνη Αραστασιδου	Λευκωσία	Ειρήνη Αραστασιδου
Χάρης Χορτζόφινος	Λευκωσία	Χάρης Χορτζόφινος