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AREAS WITHOUT GMO, BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, SECOND EUROPEAN CONFERENCE,

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Contribution of the NETWORK COUNTRY SEEDS

The contamination of the seeds by GMO is a weapon of massive destruction of country and biological agricultures.

Seed-bearer industry claims that it only can guarantee not contaminated seeds and that the seeds of farm are the least sour. Thus in Spain, of the corn bio of traditional varieties local, nonhybrid and resulting from seeds of farm, found themselves contaminated, and their culture in bio became impossible. Within the framework of the coexistence such as it settles today in Europe, the seed-bearer ones claim to be the only ones with being able to work under sufficient conditions of insulation. To buy each year an industrial seed will become thus very quickly an obligation for any peasant wanting to work without GMO, this would be to only be able to prove the fortuitous or accidental character of possible contaminations of its harvests.

This assertion is initially the consent by the seed-bearer ones of impossibility of ensuring the coexistence within the framework of the current European agrarian systems where the majority of the farmers has recourse to the seeds of farm.

This assertion is stalemate elsewhere false. To be able to make each year two multiplications of their corn lines, the seed-bearer ones carry out half in the Southern hemisphere of it, in particular in producing large Chile of seeds GM. In 2004, 36% of the batches of conventional corn seeds imported into France and analyzed by the Customs were contaminated at a low rate and were marketed like nonGMO. This contamination increases since only 20% of the analyses were positive in 2003. Whereas no culture of soya GM is practised in Western Europe, of soya bio, of which certain resulting from seeds of farm, several times have found contaminated in France. These contaminations can originate in only the importation of contaminated seeds. Even when this contamination is weak, that does not prevent its rate from increasing at each season when the peasant resows then the grain which it collected.

The selection and the multiplication of the seeds to the farm are, for agricultures alternative with the GMO, traditional, country, bio, biodynamic..., an essential

complement with the work of the professional selectors. Indeed, they only allow the adaptation of the plants cultivated to the local conditions without massive recourse to the crutches of petrochemistry and fossil energies (manure, pesticides, irrigation, industrial mechanization...).

To develop an agriculture without GMO durably forces us to organize the conservation and the culture of in the farms and the exchanges of seeds which they require. To prohibit under pretext of risks of contaminations or protection of the intellectual property, it is to prohibit very in the long term alternate with the GMO.

The responsibility for the pollutants can protect polluted only if it covers the whole of the damage: loss of harvest, but also loss basic (contamination of the grounds, of varieties threatened of genetic erosion...), loss of customers and notoriety, moral wrong... The right of the Areas to remain without GMO and the responsibility for the close farmers of GMO in the event of contamination are two good legal weapons to protect itself from the contaminations by flows of pollen or seeds from one field to another. They are unfortunately ineffective in the event of contamination by the industrial seeds and dies, as the important contaminations of the die bio in France show it whereas the surfaces cultivated in GMO are unimportant there (234 products bio analyzed positively by the organizations certifiers in 2004).

The right to protection of our traditional agrarian systems, quality and without GMO also requires:

- **the labelling of the seeds marketed starting from the threshold of detection.**
- **that the full responsibility for the seed-bearer ones which asked for the authorization of dissemination or importation of transgenic constructions identified either automatic in all the cases of contamination, of the simple fact of this identification. In the event of impossibility of identifying a precise construction, this responsibility must be assumed collectively by the whole of these seed-bearer. With them to be turned over against a possible nearby farmer of GMO which would have made a fault.**
- **that right of the peasant to resow the grain which it collected cannot be restricts in any manner.**
- **that the country seeds of traditional, local, biological varieties... not registered with the common catalogue, can be exchanged freely between peasants. –**

the prohibition of any form of patent on the alive one and any Terminator technique Each time the right protects us insufficiently, civil disobedience is a duty.