Moscow Legislative Experience of Regulating GMO expansion

2008

Stebenkova Liudmila
Moscow City Duma (council)
State documents

- The Russian Federation law “On State Regulation of Genetic Engineering Activities”
- The Government Order “On the State Registration of Animal Feed, manufactured from genetically-modified organisms”
- The Government Order “On the State Registration of genetically-modified organisms”
- The Ecological Doctrine of Russia
- Priorities of the State Biodiversity Policy
Before 2008 – 0% level

The Russian Federation Law “On the Protection of Consumer Rights”, Art. 10:

“Labels on goods (including works and services) should contain: (...) concerning food stuffs: information on the make-up of the food (including the name of the food ingredients and food additives used during manufacturing, biologically active additives, and information on the presence of components produced with the application of genetically-modified organisms)".
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“Labels on goods (including works and services) should contain: (...) concerning food stuffs: information on the make-up of the food (including the name of the food ingredients and food additives used during manufacturing, biologically active additives, and information on the presence of components produced with the application of genetically-modified organisms, in case quantity of the specified organisms in such component makes more than 0,9%).”
The difference

• Unlike in Europe, there’s no GMO crops grown in Russia.

• Unlike in Russia, in Europe controlling system works well.
Legislative changes 2008

• Whole legislative course has become more friendly for GMO-manufacturers
• Level of state control is still weak
• There’s no will from most of federal politics to improve the situation
• No complex Federal Law on Biosafety of Russian Federation has been developed
Local measures of Moscow authorities
Legislative measures

- Adoption of Moscow City’s law “On Food Safety in Moscow” in July 2006, that prohibits buying products containing GMOs on public funds.
- Adoption of The Governmental Order of Moscow in February 2007 “On Additional Measures on maintenance of quality and safety of foods, informing of consumers in Moscow”
The Governmental Order of Moscow from February 2007

• 16 independent laboratories, where all products in Moscow are checked according to necessity.
• results of checks are absolutely open for public;
• system of voluntary labeling “Does not contain GMO”, the registration is free.
Voluntary labeling

- Label “Does not contain GMO”
Expansion of Moscow initiatives in regions

Archangelsk region

Krasnodarskiy kray

Belorussia – former USSR state

Belgorod region

Kurgansk region

Kostroma region
Next steps:

• To initiate introductions of the strict state control over acceptance of the federal law on biological safety;
• To carry out the independent large-scale scientific researches of GM-products and GM-plants influence on organisms of animals, people and environment;
• To create commission between former-USSR states on biological safety and organic food;
• To enter the moratorium in Russia.
Thank You for Your Attention!