



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Director-General

SANCO

19.02.2010

Brussels,
SANCO.03/MW/mhr D(2010) 30023

Dear Mr Then,

Subject: EFSA

I am replying to your letter to President Barroso of 21 January 2010 where you wrote on behalf of the Corporate Europe Observatory CEO (Brussels), Friends of the Earth FOE (Brussels), Lobbycontrol (Germany) and Testbiotech (Germany).

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is a scientific agency independent from the Commission as established in Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 of the European Parliament and the Council.

I would like to inform you that EFSA has recently briefed the Environment, Public Health and Food Industry Committee of the European Parliament concerning the move of a departing member of staff to a biotechnology company. The Committee's co-ordinators decided to close this specific case while retaining the option of further consideration of the issue as it applies to Union Agencies more generally.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Madelin

¹ Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety, OJ L 31, 1.2.2002

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