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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
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Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) 1829/2003 as regards the possibility for Member States to restrict or prohibit the use of genetically modified food and feed on their territory

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With a view to the discussion in Council ("Agriculture and Fisheries") at its session on 13 July 2015, delegations will find in Annex the questionnaire drawn up by the Presidency on the above subject.

**Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending  
Regulation (EC) 1829/2003 as regards the possibility for Member States to restrict or prohibit  
the use of genetically modified food and feed on their territory**

As a part of the political guidelines presented before its appointment in 2014, the European Commission made a commitment to review the current legislation on the authorisation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). As a conclusion of that review, it decided to submit to the European Parliament and to the Council the above mentioned proposal which aims to introduce an opt-out clause allowing Member States to ban or restrict the use of genetically modified food and feed that have been authorised by the European Union.

With the view to structuring the exchange of views at the next meeting of the Council ("Agriculture and Fisheries") on 13 July, the Presidency invites Member States to reflect in particular upon the following questions:

- 1) To what extent do Member States consider that the proposed opt-out option would offer them a practicable and legally sound solution?
- 2) Do Member States consider that there is sufficient data available on the possible consequences of the proposed measure? If not, what type of information or analysis would they like to receive as a matter of priority?
- 3) Would Member States consider appropriate to examine alternative options, and if so, which ones?