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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Regulation on new genomic techniques (NGT) – comments from Czechia and Ireland

Delegations will find in annex submissions from delegations on the above subject, concerning questions and comments on the proposal for a Regulation on new genomic techniques (NGT) and on the accompanying impact assessment.

CZECHIA

The Czech Republic generally welcomes the Commission's draft Regulation. We agree with the chosen legal form of the regulation and thus with the uniform and harmonised approach within the EU.

We also appreciate the already compromised solution of dividing the products into two groups NGT1 and NGT2, taking into account the risk potential of these products.

More detailed comments will be presented at the Council working meetings. We are currently analysing the draft Regulation at national level.

IRELAND

- NGTs can ensure plants are available that contribute to challenges such as food security, climate change and biodiversity reduction.
 - Ireland supports new technologies and innovation that enhance the competitiveness of Ireland's agri-food sector, that contribute to biodiversity and sustainability of food production, while also ensuring a high level of protection of human and animal health and the environment.
 - Food Vision 2030 Strategy, which is Ireland's 10-year Strategy for the Irish agri-food sector, highlights the need to embrace new technology and innovation to meet various environmental, climate change and biodiversity challenges and to remain competitive economically.
 - NGTs can make a significant contribution towards meeting the targets set out in the Farm to Fork strategy and in counteracting the decreasing toolbox of Plant Protection Products available on the market. This is of particular importance for Ireland's tillage sector given that yields can be severely reduced due to high disease pressure as a result of our climate.
 - The Commission's initiative on NGTs is currently being examined by relevant Government Departments and State Agencies in Ireland. Ireland will engage fully with the discussions on the proposal under the Spanish Presidency.
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