



Consejería Agrícola
Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería, Pesca
Embajada Argentina ante la Unión Europea



Ministerio de
Agricultura, Ganadería y Pesca
Presidencia de la Nación

UE Conference

***"Endocrine Disruptors: criteria for identification
and related impacts"***

Session 4: Potential impacts on trade

Brussels, 1st June 2015

GASTON FUNES
Minister Counselor Agricultural Affairs
Embassy of Argentina to the EU



Stakeholders' opportunities to participate:

- ✓ EC Public Consultation;
- ✓ Round Tables;
- ✓ EU Conference;
- ✓ Bilateral communications;
- ✓ Multilateral fora;

How will the EC effectively consider third parties' inputs?

“Unilateral decisions Vs. General Consensus”



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Possible effects of ED on health and the environment



Concerns!

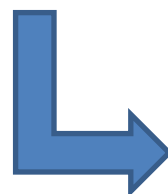


Protection of public health and the environment



Priority for Policy Makers!

But.... any decision or regulatory proposal



Science-based !



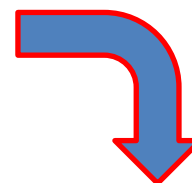
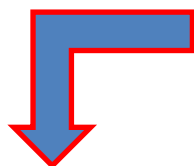
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Argentine legislation  no identification of substances with ED properties:

-No specific official impact assessments developed by Argentina on:



- **Criteria to identify ED substances:**

Option 1: No policy change

Option 2: WHO/IPCS definition (hazard identification)

Option 3: WHO/IPCS definition + additional categories

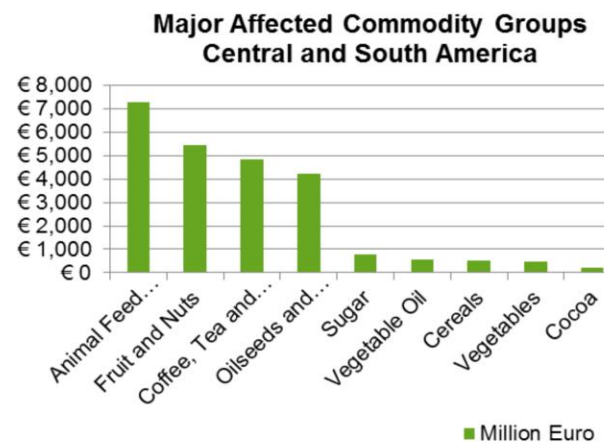
Option 4: WHO/IPCS definition + potency (hazard identification and characterization)

- **Policy Options:**

Option A: no changes to BPR and PPRR

Option B: Further introduction of elements of risk assessment)

Option C: Further socio-economic considerations





- ✓ (Case by case) Risk assessment (SPS Agreement) Vs “hazard identification” ??
- ✓ Principles agreed on the multilateral level (WTO SPS & TBT Agreements):
 - Not trade restrictive (unnecessary trade obstacles),
 - Proportionate to the regulation objectives,
 - Risks evaluated considering the existing scientific and technical information (relevant international standards),
- ✓ Alternative measures (risk management elements):
 - GAP,
 - Controls,
 - MRLs (international standards),
 - Exposure to hazards criteria,
 - New technologies,
- ✓ **To avoid restrictive non-science based approaches.**



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“Precautionary Principle” in the EU:

- ✓ Customary international law
- ✓ Base-ground of sanitary & phyto-sanitary policies and legislation
 - EU general food law (Regulation 178/2002 - Article 7);
 - PPP Regulation 1107/2009, Article 1: provisions based by the precautionary principle.

Sometimes beyond the criteria of the SPS Agreement...?



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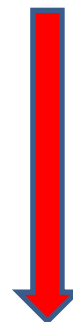
Cut off criteria



EU MRLs established by default 0,01ppm



Substances falling under the Endocrine Disruptor criteria



International MRL standards (CODEX)?

Whole risk assessment approach?

Negative impact on agriculture and international trade.

Removing substances on the sole basis of "identifying a potential hazard", but not in a "case by case" basis, could result in unnecessary or unjustified barriers to trade.



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Whole revision of its pesticides MRLs



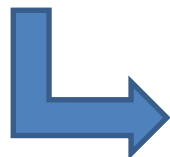
Regulation 396/2005



more than 650 substances (safely used in the EU) withdrawn

“Import tolerance”???

EU initiative on ED substances



Import tolerance: the only way out ?



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Argentine Government & Argentine Private Sector worries

Potential negative impacts:

- ✓ Decrease of the agricultural production and productivity and its consequent impact on food security;
- ✓ Economic and environmental costs associated to the lack of replacement or substitution substances (development of pests, less productivity);
- ✓ Impact on international trade (EU & other markets);
- ✓ Discouragement on innovation and investment.
- ✓ Socioeconomic impact (including job losses), especially in developing countries (exporters to the EU).

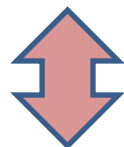


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Criteria for identification of Endocrine Disrupting Substances



Transparency during the whole process

Awareness and cooperation among different (public and private sectors; To encourage further development and research and to monitor the progress of scientific evidence on this matter at multilateral fora



***OECD, WHO, FAO and Codex,
leading bodies on international standards setting or legislation***



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Thank you !

GASTON FUNES

Minister Counselor Agricultural Affairs

Embassy of Argentina to the EU

funes@agricola-ue.org

225 Avenue Louise - 1050 Bruxelles – Belgium

 **+ 32 2 640 33 33** -  **+32 2 640 00 08**