

Mr Norbert LINS, MEP
European Parliament
60, rue Wiertz
1047, Brussels
Belgium

Brussels, 17.09.2020

Subject: Equivalence of field inspections carried out in Ukraine on cereal seed-producing crops and on the equivalence of cereal seed produced in Ukraine

Dear Mr Lins,

Herewith, Euroseeds and the Seed Association of the Ukraine would like to confirm their full support for the proposal to establish equivalence of field inspections carried out in Ukraine on cereal seed-producing crops and on the equivalence of cereal seed produced in Ukraine (file 2020/0053(COD)).

Euroseeds represents more than 34 national member associations from the EU Member-States and other European countries, including the Seed Association of Ukraine, and with that several thousand seed businesses as well 67 direct company members, including from seed related industries.

Ukraine has successfully brought its legislation and systems in line with those of the European Union. Consequently, the proposed recognition of equivalence of the Ukrainian seed certification system to EU requirements is fully backed by the relevant audit conducted and made public in 2015. This was also confirmed by the European Commission during the European Parliament's AGRI committee meeting on 2 September 2020 and is recognized with the positive decision of EU Member States, in particular by the Council's Working Party on Agricultural Questions (Seeds and Propagating Material) where the draft decision was approved already on 12 May 2020.

EU-based companies have made significant investments in the past years in seed production facilities and collaboration in the Ukraine to reduce risks by producing in several climatic zones. The recognition of equivalence of Ukrainian seed certification system with the EU requirements will further contribute to the stability of seed supply and support the development of new market opportunities for the seed sector in both the EU and Ukraine.

Before this background, Euroseeds and the Seed Association of Ukraine jointly underline the strong interest of the seed sector in a positive decision on the Commission's legislative proposal.

Yours faithfully,



Garlich von Essen
Secretary General
Euroseeds



Siuzana Grygorenko
Executive Director
Seed Association of Ukraine