Message 103

Communication from the Commission - TRIS/(2024) 2657

Directive (EU) 2015/1535

Notification: 2024/0394/HU

Forwarding of the observations of a Member State (Czechia) (article 5, paragraph 2, of Directive (EU) 2015/1535). These observations do not have the effect of extending the standstill period.

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1. MSG 103 IND 2024 0394 HU EN 11-10-2024 01-10-2024 CZ COMMS 5.2 11-10-2024

2. Czechia

3A. Úřad pro technickou normalizaci, metrologii a státní zkušebnictví
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3B. Ministerstvo zemědělství ČR
Oddělení bezpečnosti potravin
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4. 2024/0394/HU - C50A - Foodstuffs

5. article 5, paragraph 2, of Directive (EU) 2015/1535

6. The Czech Republic disagrees with Hungary's proposal to ban the production and placing on the market of laboratory-grown meat. We believe that such a ban should be based on clear and science-based evidence, which has not yet been proven.

However, if laboratory-grown meat were to be approved in the future as a novel food for placing on the market throughout the European Union, the proposed ban would constitute an obstacle to the free movement of goods within the EU single market and would be contrary to the principles of free trade.

The Czech Republic supports the development of innovations in food technologies, including laboratory-grown meat, and stresses the need to respect the existing EU legal framework setting clear rules for the placing on the market of novel foods, including a thorough assessment of their safety. Products complying with these safety requirements should be able to enter the European single market under the same conditions as other approved foods.

We therefore consider Hungary's proposal to be a measure that could unduly restrict the free market and negatively affect the development of innovative technologies in Europe. It is important that any action at EU level respects existing legislation and allows for the free movement of goods in line with the principles of the single market.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs
Single Market Enforcement
Notification of Regulatory Barriers

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European Commission
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