DECISIONS

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION of 1 June 2011
(notified under document C(2011) 3733)
(Text with EEA relevance)
(2011/328/EU)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Directive 91/414/EEC of 15 July 1991 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market (1), and in particular Article 6(1) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Regulations (EC) No 451/2000 (2) and (EC) No 1490/2002 (3) lay down the detailed rules for the implementation of the second and third stages of the programme of work referred to in Article 8(2) of Directive 91/414/EEC and establish a list of active substances to be assessed, with a view to their possible inclusion in Annex I to Directive 91/414/EEC. That list included flurprimidol.


(3) The original notifier (hereinafter ‘the applicant’) submitted a new application pursuant to Article 6(2) of Directive 91/414/EEC requesting the accelerated procedure to be applied, as provided for in Articles 14 to 19 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 33/2008 of 17 January 2008 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Directive 91/414/EEC as regards a regular and an accelerated procedure for the assessment of active substances which were part of the programme of work referred to in Article 8(2) of that Directive but have not been included into its Annex I (5).

(4) The application was submitted to Finland, which had been designated rapporteur Member State by Regulation (EC) No 1490/2002. The time period for the accelerated procedure was respected. The specification of the active substance and the supported uses are the same as were the subject of Decision 2009/28/EC. That application also complies with the remaining substantive and procedural requirements of Article 15 of Regulation (EC) No 33/2008.

(5) Finland evaluated the additional data submitted by the applicant and prepared an additional report. It communicated that report to the European Food Safety Authority (hereinafter ‘the Authority’) and to the Commission on 10 March 2010. The Authority communicated the additional report to the other Member States and the applicant for comments and forwarded the comments it had received to the Commission. In accordance with Article 20(1) of Regulation (EC) No 33/2008 and at the request of the Commission, the Authority presented its conclusion on flurprimidol to the Commission on 16 December 2010 (6). The draft assessment report, the additional report and the conclusion of the Authority were reviewed by the Member States and the Commission within the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and the Animal Health and finalised on 5 May 2011 in the format of the Commission review report for flurprimidol.


The additional report by the rapporteur Member State and the conclusion by the Authority concentrate on the concerns that lead to the non-inclusion. Those concerns were the risk to operators and workers in all evaluated scenarios and conditions of use, because the exposure was greater than 100% of the acceptable operator exposure level (AOEL), and the lack of data on the impurity profile of batches used in toxicological studies.

Additional information was submitted by the applicant, in particular as regards new calculations for the operator and worker exposure risk assessment. Furthermore, in order to reduce the risk to the environment, the applicant has limited its support to uses restricted to high technology glasshouse production systems with irrigation/excess water management systems that guarantee no release of contaminated water to the environment.

However, the additional information provided by the applicant did not permit to eliminate all of the specific concerns arising in respect of flurprimidol.

In particular, based on the information available and calculated on the basis of the uses supported by the applicant, estimated worker exposure still exceeds the AOEL, irrespective of the use of personal protective equipment. The environmental data package was not sufficient to perform an environmental risk assessment for realistic scenarios and conditions of use. The described greenhouse uses, for which exposure would be acceptable, do not reflect normal greenhouse practice and therefore cannot be considered to be representative.

The Commission invited the applicant to submit its comments on the conclusion by the Authority. Furthermore, in accordance with Article 21(1) to Regulation (EC) No 33/2008, the Commission invited the applicant to submit comments on the draft review report. The applicant submitted its comments, which have been carefully examined.

However, despite the arguments put forward by the applicant, the concerns identified could not be eliminated, and assessments made on the basis of the information submitted and evaluated during the expert meetings of the Authority have not demonstrated that it may be expected that, under the proposed conditions of use, plant protection products containing flurprimidol satisfy in general the requirements laid down in Article 5(1)(a) and (b) of Directive 91/414/EEC.

Flurprimidol should therefore not be included in Annex I to Directive 91/414/EEC.

Decision 2009/28/EC should be repealed.

This Decision does not prejudice the submission of a further application for flurprimidol pursuant to Article 6(2) of Directive 91/414/EEC and Chapter II of Regulation (EC) No 33/2008.

The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1
Flurprimidol shall not be included as active substance in Annex I to Directive 91/414/EEC.

Article 2
Decision 2009/28/EC is repealed.

Article 3
This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 1 June 2011.

For the Commission
John Dalli
Member of the Commission