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HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
Safety of the Food Chain
Biotechnology and Plant health

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Belgian Presidency of the
Council of the European Union

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Open invitation to the conference "Towards a new EU plant health law" on 28 September 2010

The European Commission and the Belgian Presidency are organising a conference on 28 September 2010 concerning the review of the Common Plant Health Regime. The conference will be opened by Mr John Dalli, Commissioner for Health and Consumers, and Ms Sabine Laruelle, Federal Minister of Belgium responsible for Agriculture.

The conference concerns the ongoing comprehensive review of the legislation of the EU to protect the EU against the entry, establishment and spread of invasive foreign pests and diseases. As a consequence of globalisation and climate change, such harmful organisms have sharply rising impacts on agriculture, forests, the landscape and the environment. The current review aims at improved prevention and control.

The conference will take place in the Wolubilis Centre, Avenue Paul Hymans 251, 1200 Woluwe-Saint-Lambert, Brussels (at the metro stop Roodebeek). Interpretation will be provided in and to FR/EN/DE/NL. Please note that the costs for participation in this meeting will not be reimbursed.

Participation is open to Member State officials, stakeholders of the regime, NGOs, third country representatives, and all other interested parties and persons.

Participants should register through the on-line registration form available at http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/strategy/conf_280910_en.htm, which will be activated by mid July and be available up to 8 September. Contact persons for further information are Ms Heidi Torppa (heidi.torppa@ec.europa.eu), tel. +32 229 84336 and Mr Robert Baayen (robert.baayen@ec.europa.eu), tel. +32 229 20483.