

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 17 July 2014 10:09 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Report | Multilateral Meeting on NBTs [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear [REDACTED] – thank you for sending this report through.

I'm afraid it is not correct that Australia is publishing an official position on NBTs – so I am not sure where that information came from. We did publish a further report from a follow-up workshop held by FSANZ on NBTs – the report is on our website via this [link](#) – so perhaps people have confused this with an official Australian position. We are not planning any additional work at this stage, although we will be holding discussions with industry representatives to discuss what needs to happen next in terms of commercialisations, and what can be accommodated within our existing processes. You are possibly aware of the recent high court decision in New Zealand which overturned a determination made by the NZ EPA in relation to ZFN and TALENS. This has taken many by surprise and is generating significant uncertainty with companies seeking to commercialise products. While the high court decision has no bearing on FSANZ as we operate under completely different legislation, Australia and New Zealand do share a food regulatory system so there may be implications if certain crops are regarded as GMOs in New Zealand but food products are unregulated. We are therefore eager to see what the response of the New Zealand Government will be.

Best regards  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 15 July 2014 8:05 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Report | Multilateral Meeting on NBTs

Dear [REDACTED]

I hope this message finds you well. Enclosed, please find the report to the multilateral meeting on 'The Future of Plant Breeding Techniques in the European Union', which was hosted by the NBT Platform on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June in Brussels. Around 80 participants from 14 different European Member States attended the meeting, ranging from representatives from Member State national governments, the European Commission, industry, academia, and associations. The meeting was focused on providing decision makers and stakeholders with clear and precise information on NBTs, their socio-economic impact and the legal uncertainty that the sector currently faces. The meeting had a good atmosphere, and there were lively discussions between industry, associations, academia, Member State reps and the European Commission members that were present.

Please feel free to share the report with any interested persons in your network.

When we last spoke you mentioned that the FSANZ was working on a report with regards to NBTs. I recently heard some comments that Australia would be publishing an official position on NBTs, although I was not able to find out what was being referred to exactly (I think that maybe this was referring also to a position from the OGTR, but I'm unsure). Does this sound familiar to you? Could you tell me if there have been or will be any developments on this subject? Thank you in advance for your effort.

I look forward to hearing from you. Should you have any questions on the multilateral meeting, NBTs in general or the situation in the EU, please let me know.

Best regards, vriendelijke groet,  
[REDACTED]



The NBT Platform is a coalition of SMEs, large industry representatives and members of prominent academic and research institutes which strives to bring clarity to the European debate on NBTs. Its aim is to provide policy makers and stakeholders with clear and precise information on NBTs and to generate awareness about their widespread benefits for the European economy and society as a whole. NBT Platform Secretariat, Rue Belliard 199, bte 22, 1040 Brussels, T: +32-2-5022008, [info@nbtplatform.org](mailto:info@nbtplatform.org)