



CEPM
maiz'EUROP'

Paris, 31st May 2016

PRESS RELEASE

ENABLING MAIZE PRODUCERS TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE

During their Board Meeting on 31st May 2016 in Paris under the chairmanship of Daniel Peyraube, European maize producers expressed concerns regarding two issues crucial for their activities: agricultural inputs, in particular plant protection products, and international trade negotiations.

Concerning plant protection products, CEPM considers that the on-going talks on glyphosate send a negative signal to Europe and to agricultural producers. The political exploitation of this issue, alongside the fact that EFSA clearly dismissed any risks to human health and the lack of any viable available alternative, will drive producers to disaster. It would add to the ban on other molecules of the neonicotinoids family. This situation will only strengthen CEPM's fears against the background of T-TIP and Mercosur trade talks.

Indeed, European maize is already facing market distortions vis-à-vis its main competitors on an extremely volatile market. And soon it is likely to be taken hostage by internal European decisions: this is unacceptable!

CEPM therefore asks the European Commission and Member States to take on their responsibilities and enable maize producers to continue producing in the same quantities and at the same quality standards, in order to meet the objectives set for European agriculture. The availability of production inputs, based on their scientific assessment, therefore remains a priority.

Contact:

- Céline Duroc, *Permanent Delegate*