

GENE EDITING TECHNIQUES
AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL OF THE SOUTH
CONSEJO AGROPECUARIO DEL SUR (CAS)
XXXV ORDINARY MEETING

CAS/ Council, Declaration II (XXXV 2018)
Buenos Aires, Argentina, 20 September 2018
Original. Spanish

MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

The Ministers of Agriculture from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, members of the Agricultural Council of the South (CAS), assembled in Buenos Aires, Argentina,

Consider that:

1. Crops improved by gene editing have the potential of playing a key role to address the challenges faced by agricultural production, thereby helping increase the supply of food and other farm products in a sustainable manner.
2. Gene editing may create similar crops to those delivered through other conventional breeding methods.
3. CAS member countries make substantial public and private investments in the development of crops improved by gene editing. This is due to the fact that genome editing may speed up the access of farmers and consumers to new traits of interest for production and agribusiness. At the same time, it means an opportunity to transfer technologies developed by national agricultural research institutes and biotech SMEs.
4. It is appropriate to avoid making arbitrary and unjustifiable distinctions between farm products delivered by gene editing and products delivered through other breeding methods.

Declare that:

1. They will share information on the development of products and the existing regulatory frameworks applicable thereto, by exploring science-based opportunities for regional and international rule standardization.
2. They will seek to work jointly and with third countries to avoid non science-based trade barriers to farm products improved by gene editing.



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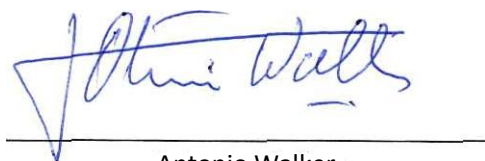
Signed on behalf of
CAS by:



Luis Miguel Etchevehere
Government Secretary of
Agribusiness
ARGENTINA



Blairo Maggi
Minister of Agriculture, Livestock
and Supply
BRAZIL



Antonio Walker
Minister of Agriculture
CHILE



Denis Lichi
Minister of Agriculture and Livestock
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