

Mr Stéphane Séjourné  
Executive Vice-President for Prosperity and Industrial Strategy  
Rue de la Loi 200, 1040 Bruxelles, Belgium

02 April 2026

**Subject: Biotech Act II - a competitiveness deliverable to scale EU biomanufacturing and agri-food innovation**

Dear Executive Vice-President Séjourné,

I am writing to you on behalf of CropLife Europe, whose members are investing in innovative crop protection technologies that enable EU farmers to produce food sustainably while strengthening Europe's competitiveness and resilience.

We see strong merit in a Biotech Act Part II as a concrete competitiveness deliverable. Building on the Commission's December 2025 proposal, such an initiative could help Europe scale biomanufacturing and modernise authorisation processes so world-class science is translated more effectively into practical tools for agriculture and the wider agri-food chain.

The current framework does not yet allow Europe to fully capture the economic, environmental and strategic benefits that biotechnology can deliver. In practice, innovation is already moving faster than regulatory frameworks. This is increasingly evident for biopesticides, where advanced biomanufacturing processes are central to product development. A 2024 CropLife Europe survey shows that more than 80% of biopesticide applications in the EU are already, or will be, produced using technologies such as fermentation, including products based on microbial metabolites, peptides, proteins and microbial extracts. Yet regulatory uncertainty, duplicative requirements and insufficiently proportionate risk assessment approaches continue to delay approvals and discourage investment.

Similar structural challenges affect the GM food and feed authorisation process. Despite a long established safety record, approval processes remain lengthy and unpredictable, creating unnecessary burdens for both EFSA and applicants. This weakens predictability for operators and downstream sectors, particularly the EU livestock industry, and ultimately undermines the competitiveness of Europe's agri-food economy.

A Biotech Act Part II would provide a timely and strategic opportunity to address these challenges. By modernising governance and authorisation frameworks, while fully preserving the EU's high safety standards, Part II could introduce clearer, science-based requirements, proportionate risk assessment and more efficient procedures. This would improve predictability, reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens and accelerate the delivery of innovation to farmers.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss how a next phase of the Biotech Act could most effectively deliver agri-food innovation, biomanufacturing and Europe's wider competitiveness agenda. CropLife Europe stands ready to contribute technical expertise and practical insights in support of that objective.

Yours sincerely



Olivier de Matos  
Director General