

ANNUAL DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (ADoI)

(Please note that high quality of scientific expertise is by nature based on prior experience and that therefore having an interest does not necessarily mean having a conflict of interest)

Name: SZEKACS, Andras

Title: Prof

Profession: Specialist in pesticide chemistry and biochemistry

Current EFSA involvements: Member-Management Board (MB)

Nature of Activities	Period	Organisation	Subject matter
I. Economic interest			NO INTEREST
II. Member of a managing entity or equivalent structure			NO INTEREST
III. Member of a scientific advisory entity	02/2013 - now	-Name: Gene Technology Advisory Committee (GEVB), Budapest, HUNGARY	<p>The Committee advises the Hungarian Gene Technology Authority (Ministry of Agriculture) on issues related to authorization of the use of genetically modified organisms and facilities involved in such activities in Hungary, in accordance with the current Hungarian legislation. The Committee is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss GM variety documentation. Participation appointed by the Minister of Agriculture is voluntary.</p> <p>Meetings are scheduled monthly. Opinions of the Committee are reached by voting in sub-committees.</p>

	03/2012 - now	-Name: Hungarian Codex Alimentarius Committee, Budapest, HUNGARY	<p>The The Committee advises the Minister and State Secretaries of Agriculture on issues related to food safety and registration of food products and components. The Committe is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss manufacturer documentation. Participation appointed by the Minister of Agriculture by law is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>Meetings are scheduled according to the needs of the Ministry. I am a Member in the Committee on behalf of the Hungarian National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre. In such capacity, I cover issues related to food analysis, biochemical, environmental and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of food components.</p>
	11/2011 - now	-Name: Expert Committee of the National Association for Consumer Protection in Hungary, Budapest, HUNGARY	<p>The Committee advises the National Association for Consumer Protection in Hungary on issues related consumer concerns in food safety. Participation is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>Meetings are scheduled case by case. I am a Member as an independent expert in the Committee. In such capacity, I cover issues of consumer protection related to food analysis, biochemical, environmental and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of food components.</p>
	09/2011 - now	-Name: Plant Protection Committee, Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture	<p>The Committee advises the Minister and State Secretaries of Agriculture on issues related to the national plant protection strategy and policies, pesticide registration, integrated pest management (IPM), pesticides complying with IPM, national authorization guidelines for pesticide preparations, as well as technological, scientific and legislative issues related to plant protection practices. The Committee is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss manufacturer documentation. Participation appointed by the Minister of Agriculture by law is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>Meetings are scheduled according to the needs of the Ministry. I am a Member in the Committee on behalf of the Hungarian National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre. In such capacity, I cover analytical, biochemical, environmental and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of pesticides.</p>
	09/2010 - now	-Name: GMO Working Group, Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture	<p>The GMO Working Group advises the Minister and State Secretaries of Agriculture in issues related to authorization / moratorium / risk assessment of GM crops in Hungary, in accordance with the current European Union legislation. The Committe is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss GM variety documentation. Participation appointed by the Minister of Agriculture is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>Meetings are scheduled according to the needs of the Ministry. Opinions of the Working Groups are reached by voting by its certain (voting) members. I am a non-voting Member (Expert) in the GM Working Group, selected as an independent researcher of the National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre. In such capacity, I cover analytical, biochemical, environmental and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of GM crops.</p>

	07/2006 - now	-Name: Scientific Committee on Pesticides, Hungarian Food Safety Office	<p>The committee advises the Hungarian Food Safety Office on issues related to pesticide residues in food. Issues covered include the occurrence of food/feed/water contamination with pesticides, statistical requirements (number of analyses required, rate and range of outliers allowed in order to meet maximal residue level criteria). The Committee is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss manufacturer documentation. Participation is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>The committee holds regular meetings or E-mail discussions at occasions and on topics requested the Hungarian Food Safety Office. I am a Member in the Committee, selected as an independent researcher of the National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre. In such capacity, I cover analytical, biochemical, environmental and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of pesticides.</p>
	05/2006 - now	-Name: Scientific Committee on GMOs, Hungarian Food Safety Office	<p>The committee advises the Hungarian Food Safety Office on issues related to GM crops in food safety. Issues covered include the elucidation of the allowed 0.1% GM contamination limit, statistical issues related to GM determination (copy numbers of transgenes, methodological limits of detection, etc.). The Committee is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss GM crop documentation. Participation is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>The committee holds regular meetings or E-mail discussions at occasions and on topics requested the Hungarian Food Safety Office. I am a Member in the committee, selected as an independent researcher of the National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre. In such capacity, I cover analytical, biochemical, environmental and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of GM crops.</p>
	09/2005 - now	-Name: GMO Roundtable, Budapest, HUNGARY	<p>The GMO Roundtable advises the Agricultural Committee and the Committee on Sustainable Development of the Hungarian Parliament on issues related to authorization / moratorium / risk assessment of GM crops. The Committee is not a decision making body, and does not examine or discuss GM variety documentation. Participation is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>Meetings are scheduled case by case. I am a Founding Member of the GMO Roundtable, and serves as its Chair (2009-2013).</p>
	10/2004 - 12/2010	-Name: Pesticide Registration Harmonization Committee, Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	<p>The Committee advised the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development on issues related to chemical plant protection (pesticides) and partly to agricultural biotechnology (GM crops). Issues covered included the definition of the range of pesticides entitled to receive environmental subsidy (to the farmers), high education of plant protection products experts in Hungary, compliance of pesticides and GM crops with integrated pest management practices, compliance with EU pesticide regulations. The Committee was not a decision making body, and did not have authorization to examine or discuss manufacturer documentation. Participation was voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>I was a Member in the Committee, selected as an independent researcher of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. In such capacity, I covered analytical, biochemical and ecotoxicological scientific aspects of pesticides.</p>

IV. Employment	11/2011 - now	<p>-Name: Agro-Environmantal Research Institute (AERI), National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre (NARIC), Budapest, HUNGARY</p>	<p>- Director-General of CFRI (name of institute changed to Central Environmental and Food Science Research Institute in 2012). - As of Jan 1, 2014, CFRI was merged with other research institutes of the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture into legal successor National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre (NARIC). Within NARIC, Director of the Agro-Environmantal Research Institute (AERI). - Head of the Extension Department of Ecotoxicology of Szent István University operating at the Institute (the Extension Department Head position does not involve employment by the university,it is being served as a full-time NARIC employee).</p> <p>Research topics (AERI NARIC): research on environmental and food safety; chemical and genetic safety of agricultural technologies; residue analysis and ecotoxicology of pesticides and mycotoxin, environmental risks of GM crops.</p> <p>Disclaimer of involvement in official pesticide registration issues: the National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre (NARIC) is not involved in decision-making regarding registration of any particular pesticide or GM crop. Scientific opinion on pesticide or GM crop issues may be requested on a voluntary and non-honorary basis, but decision-making is the competency of the national authority (National Food Safety Office of the Hungarian Government). In particular - NARIC has no rights/ownership on any published RA guidance, methodology, software and/or computational model used in regulatory processes of PPPs, - NARIC is not involved in the authority regulatory assessment process of pesticides, and - NARIC has no official capacity of Risk Management (authorisation of PPPs, MRL setting, control activities). Pesticide and GMO monitoring carried out at NARIC serve fundamental aspects in environmental science, and does not constitute part of any official regulatory process.</p>
V. Occasional consultancy	09/2001 - now	<p>-Name: Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary</p>	<p>In certain occasions, delegated environmental expert of the Ministry (earlier Ministry of Rural Development and its predecessor Ministry of the Environment and Water). Participation is voluntary and non-honorary.</p> <p>In this competency, the Ministry has occasionally delegated me, selected as an independent researcher of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences or later the National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre, to: - EFSA discussion meetings at Parma and Brussels (re-registration of MON 810, discussion of EFSA ERA guidelines on GMOs) - the Open ended Expert Group on Risk Assessment and Risk Managment of LMOs (GMOs) to the Cartagena Biosafety Protocol - OECD Co-operative Research Programme (CRP) Governing Body, delegate (04/2011 - now); Scientific Advisory Body, member (12/2014 – now) My participation at these events have been advisory and did not include formal membership in Standing Committees.</p>
VI. Research funding	02/2015 - now	<p>-Name: NATO</p>	<p>Science for Peace and Security project 'Development of optical bio-sensors for detection of bio-toxins', international collaboration (Hungary, UK, France, Ukraine, Israel) Role: coordinator</p>

	09/2013 - now	-Name: Hungarian Scientific Research Fund	- Research on side-effects of pesticide adjuvants and detergents, their possible combined toxicological and ecotoxicological effects with pesticide active ingredients Role: principal investigator
	06/2013 - now	-Name: FP7 project 'SPICED' (Coordinated by BfR, Germany)	- Research on environmental and food safety in spice production and distribution in Europe within FP7 project 'Securing the spices and herbs commodity chains in Europe against deliberate, accidental or natural biological and chemical contamination (SPICED)' Role: principal investigator
	01/2004 - now	-Name: Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture	Annual budgets for research on environmental risk identification/assessment of GM crops. Role in the projects: Subcoordinator for Cry1Ab toxin analysis in GM crop (MON 810 maize)
	05/2005 - 04/2011	-Name: Hungarian National Research and Technology Office	- Research projects on pesticide analysis and bioanalysis, immunoassay development for pesticides, mycotoxins, microbial toxins (Cry1Ab), immunosensor development Role: principal investigator - Research projects on pesticide contamination in various modes of agriculture including intensive and ecological (organic) agriculture Role: participant, subcoordinator - Research projects on agricultural biotechnology, environmental assessment of GM crops MON 810 and DAS 59122-7 (the latter followed by a study for Pioneer Hi-Bred, Inc., see at bottom *) Role: participant, subcoordinator - Projects on endocrine disrupting effect monitoring/endocrine disruptor detection Role: principal investigator - Projects on environmentally friendly mosquito control, use/analysis of <i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> toxins. Role: participant * as a follow-up Pioneer Hi-Bred, Inc. has entered a research collaboration (2009-2011) with our institute (PPI) to carry out insect exposure studies on DAS 59122-7. The Lead Researcher at PPI was Prof. Balázs Barna. As Head of Department, I was a participant.
	01/2008 - 12/2009	-Name: NATO	Collaborative Linkage Grant development of immunosensors for toxins international collaboration (UK, Italy, Czech Republic, Hungary) Role: subcoordinator
VII. Intellectual property rights			NO INTEREST
VIII. Other memberships or affiliations	06/2011 - now	-Name: Hungarian Society of Ecotoxicology	- Member - Member of the Control Committee - Editor-in-Chief of Biokontroll since 2010
	09/2009 - now	-Name: European Network of Scientists for Social and Environmental Responsibility	Critical assessment of emerging technologies Member and Non-Executive Trustee
	09/1990 - now	-Name: Hungarian Biochemical Society	- Member - Secretary of Environmental Biochemistry Division since 1992 - Editor of Biokémia (Quarterly Bulletin of the Hungarian Biochemical Society) since 1995; Editor-in-Chief 1998-2008
IX. Other relevant interest			NO INTEREST
X. Interests of close family members			NO INTEREST

I hereby declare that I have read both the Guidance Document on Declarations of Interests and the Procedure for identifying and handling potential conflict of interests and that the above Declaration of Interests is complete.

Date: 13/08/2015 Signature: SIGNED