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Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
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Pursuant to Art. 24(6) of Regulation 767/2009¹, the first time a Feed Business Operator (FBO) places a new feed material on the market, it must notify this to the Feed Chain Task Force (EUFCTF), which is required to publish and update a register of these notifications. As a consequence, the Register is a list of notifications to the EUFCTF by FBOs that certain substances are placed on the market as feed materials, but the Register itself does not grant such status.

The Commission, the Member States and the EUFCTF are currently verifying some Register entries in order to identify those that are not feed materials but other substances, such as feed additives. The misclassification of additives as feed materials can allow companies to bypass the required authorisation procedure, granting an unfair advantage over compliant competitors. This procedure is not intended to remove genuine feed materials from the Register, but only substances erroneously entered as such. Notifiers of questionable entries are given the opportunity to clarify the status and use of the substances concerned, and as a rule the removal occurs only with the notifier's agreement.

Regarding the Catalogue of Feed Materials², the ongoing revision is mostly aimed at adding new entries, rather than removing them; the only few that could be removed are substances on which all involved parties agree that they are not feed materials.

This verification measure prioritises innovation and competitiveness by preventing substances from circumventing the procedures laid down by law, to the detriment of compliant companies.

¹ ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2009/767/oj>.

² Commission Regulation (EU) No 68/2013 of 16 January 2013 on the Catalogue of feed materials (ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2013/68/oj>).