

The response reproduced below was submitted further to an invitation to comment on the draft Discussion Paper by the Nuffield Council on Bioethics: *The use of genetically modified crops in developing countries*, during June to August 2003. The views expressed are solely those of the respondent(s) and not those of the Council.

**Jan van der Steen: retired agronomist, Portugal**

COMMENT: Dear Sirs, I disagree with most of the statements in the Nuffield draft paper. In my opinion GM technology should only be used with genes from within the species in order to speed up breeding programmes. Using outside genes presents too great a risk of transferring this material into the environment. Improving the availability of farm inputs and the marketing of a surplus production will increase agricultural production.