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To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comment

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December 18, 2009

US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in advance of the Department of Justice's workshops on "Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy."

As an organic consumer, I am outraged by Monsanto's control over the seed supply here and in other parts of the world.

The Monsanto monopoly practices are NEO COLONIAL , causing food insecurity, destroying traditional peoples in tacit ETHNOCIDE.

By buying seed companies and aggressively patenting life, Monsanto has gained control over as much as 90 percent of seed genetics. This is anti-competitive behavior that skews markets and subjects farmers and consumers to the unchecked power of a company that can raise prices at will.

But, my main concern is that, while Monsanto has acquired a diverse store of seed genetics, they are only making available a few seeds that are genetically modified to be dependent on their chemicals.

The vast bounty of food crops that farmers have cultivated and improved upon over the last 10,000 or so years should not be allowed to be bought up and put out of commission by a company bent on whittling down food varieties to a few pesticide-dependent genetically modified crops.

Monsanto's business model of seed cross-pollination with organic and traditional varieties, destroys unique characteristics, infecting them with genetically engineered chemical dependence.

"Terminator" or "Traitor" technology renders seeds sterile, a literal death sentence for seeds maintained through conventional breeding.

Monsanto is consciously eliminating biodiversity.

PLEASE include in your investigation:

- the diplomatic and foreign relations impact of failing to address the

importance of keeping seeds in the public domain where they truly belong.

Sincerely,

Meg Kidd