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Genetically Modified Foods and Their Regulatory Framework

Genetically modified foods, also known as genetically modified organisms (GMOs), have been a subject of controversy since their introduction into agriculture and the food chain. These genetically modified foods, designed to enhance resistance to pests, diseases, and adverse environmental conditions, have sparked debates about their impact on health and the environment. In this context, legal analysis becomes essential to understand how these products are regulated and how consumers are protected.

Health is one of the primary concerns in the debate over genetically modified foods. The lack of scientific consensus at the international level has led to a precautionary approach in many jurisdictions, where strict regulations are adopted to protect public health while research continues. These measures include conducting comprehensive risk assessments before allowing the commercialization of GMOs and implementing continuous monitoring programs to detect possible adverse effects.

On April 18, 2024, one day after its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation, the General Law on Adequate and Sustainable Nutrition came into force. This law, in addition to contemplating actions to ensure citizens' food security with access to quality products, establishes that food companies will be required to inform consumers about the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). Furthermore, the law prohibits the planting of genetically modified corn and the use of glyphosate, the most widely used herbicide globally.

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