

SYNGENTA AG
Form SC14D9C
February 09, 2016

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14D-9

(RULE 14d-101)

SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT

UNDER SECTION 14(D)(4) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

SYNGENTA AG

(Name of Subject Company)

SYNGENTA AG

(Name of Person(s) Filing Statement)

Common shares, nominal value CHF 0.10 per share (“Common Shares”)

**American Depositary Shares (“ADSs”), each representing one-fifth of a Common Share of Syngenta AG, nominal value CHF 0.10 per share
(Title of Class of Securities)**

CH0011037469 (Common Shares)

87160A100 (ADSs)
(CUSIP Number of Class of Securities)

Christoph Mäder

Group General Counsel

Syngenta International AG

P.O. Box

CH-4002 Basel, Switzerland

+41 61 323 1111

**(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications
on Behalf of the Person(s) Filing Statement)**

With copies to:

Louis L. Goldberg

H. Oliver Smith

Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP

450 Lexington Avenue

New York, NY 10017

(212) 450-4000

Check the box if the filing relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer.

This Schedule 14D-9 filing consists of the communications listed below related to the proposed tender offer by a newly-incorporated company that is directly or indirectly controlled by China National Chemical Corporation (“**ChemChina**”) for all of the issued and outstanding common shares, nominal value CHF 0.10 per share, and all outstanding American Depositary Shares, each representing one-fifth of a common share of Syngenta AG (the “**Company**”), nominal value CHF 0.10 per share, in the Company.

| Exhibit Number | Description |
|-----------------------|---|
| 99.1 | Key Messages for Tradeshows with Media and Customers regarding the Proposed Acquisition of the Company by ChemChina |
| 99.2 | Key Messages regarding the Proposed Acquisition of the Company by ChemChina |
| 99.3 | Letter to Customers from the Company |
| 99.4 | Frequently Asked Questions about the Proposed Acquisition of the Company by ChemChina for the Company’s Commercial Organization and Resellers |
| 99.5 | Form Letter to Stakeholders of the Company |
| 99.6 | Compensation & Benefits related Questions and Answers on the ChemChina offer |

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

SOME OF THE STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT ARE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS, INCLUDING STATEMENTS REGARDING THE EXPECTED CONSUMMATION OF THE ACQUISITION, WHICH INVOLVES A NUMBER OF RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES, INCLUDING THE SATISFACTION OF CLOSING CONDITIONS FOR THE ACQUISITION, SUCH AS REGULATORY APPROVAL FOR THE TRANSACTION AND THE TENDER OF AT LEAST 67% OF THE OUTSTANDING SHARES OF THE COMPANY, THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE TRANSACTION WILL NOT BE COMPLETED AND OTHER RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES DISCUSSED IN THE COMPANY’S PUBLIC FILINGS WITH THE SEC, INCLUDING THE “RISK FACTORS” SECTION OF THE COMPANY’S FORM 20-F FILED ON FEBRUARY 12, 2015, AS WELL AS THE TENDER OFFER DOCUMENTS TO BE FILED BY CHEMCHINA AND THE SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT TO BE FILED BY THE COMPANY. THESE STATEMENTS ARE BASED ON CURRENT EXPECTATIONS, ASSUMPTIONS, ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS, AND INVOLVE KNOWN AND UNKNOWN RISKS, UNCERTAINTIES AND OTHER FACTORS THAT MAY CAUSE RESULTS, LEVELS OF ACTIVITY, PERFORMANCE OR ACHIEVEMENTS TO BE MATERIALLY DIFFERENT FROM ANY FUTURE STATEMENTS. THESE STATEMENTS ARE GENERALLY IDENTIFIED BY WORDS OR PHRASES SUCH AS “BELIEVE”, “ANTICIPATE”, “EXPECT”, “INTEND”, “PLAN”, “WILL”, “MAY”, “SHOULD”, “ESTIMATE”, “PREDICT”, “POTENTIAL”, “CONTINUE” OR THE NEGATIVE OF SUCH TERMS OR OTHER SIMILAR EXPRESSIONS. IF UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS PROVE INACCURATE OR UNKNOWN RISKS OR UNCERTAINTIES MATERIALIZE, ACTUAL RESULTS AND THE TIMING OF EVENTS MAY DIFFER MATERIALLY FROM THE RESULTS AND/OR TIMING DISCUSSED IN THE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS, AND YOU SHOULD NOT PLACE UNDUE RELIANCE ON THESE STATEMENTS. CHEMCHINA AND THE COMPANY DISCLAIM ANY INTENT OR OBLIGATION TO UPDATE ANY FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AS A RESULT OF DEVELOPMENTS OCCURRING AFTER THE PERIOD COVERED BY THIS ANNOUNCEMENT OR OTHERWISE.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND WHERE TO FIND IT

THE TENDER OFFER FOR THE OUTSTANDING SHARES, AMERICAN DEPOSITARY SHARES AND OTHER OUTSTANDING EQUITY INSTRUMENTS IN THE COMPANY HAS NOT BEEN COMMENCED. THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN OFFER TO PURCHASE OR A SOLICITATION OF AN OFFER TO SELL COMPANY SECURITIES. THE SOLICITATION AND OFFER TO BUY COMPANY SECURITIES WILL ONLY BE MADE PURSUANT TO AN OFFER TO PURCHASE AND RELATED MATERIALS. AT THE TIME THE OFFER IS COMMENCED, CHEMCHINA WILL FILE A TENDER OFFER STATEMENT ON SCHEDULE TO WITH THE U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (“SEC”) AND THEREAFTER, THE COMPANY WILL FILE A SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT ON SCHEDULE 14D-9 WITH RESPECT TO THE OFFER. INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THESE MATERIALS CAREFULLY WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE SINCE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE OFFER. THE OFFER TO PURCHASE, SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT AND RELATED MATERIALS WILL BE FILED BY CHEMCHINA AND THE COMPANY WITH THE SEC, AND INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS MAY OBTAIN A FREE COPY OF THESE MATERIALS (WHEN AVAILABLE) AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED BY CHEMCHINA AND THE COMPANY WITH THE SEC AT THE WEBSITE MAINTAINED BY THE SEC AT WWW.SEC.GOV. INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS MAY ALSO OBTAIN FREE COPIES OF THE SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC BY THE COMPANY AT WWW.SYNGENTA.COM.