



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
Directorate H. Sustainability and Quality of agriculture and rural development  
The Director

Brussels, **05 OCT. 2012**  
AGRI H3 VB/vc/ Ares (2012) 1362383

**Short report of the 109<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee on Organic Farming  
of 2 and 3 October 2012**

**President: M. J. Onofre**

27 Member States were present. Croatia, Norway and Switzerland were present as observers.

**Section A – Opinion of the Committee**

(p.m.) no point

**Section B – Points for information and/or discussion**

**1. Implementing rules (Regulation (EC) No 889/2008)**

An exchange of views took place concerning the potential amendment of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 as regards Annex I (fertilizers, soil conditioners) and Annex II (plant protection products).

A discussion took place and a working document on a proposal for amending Regulations (EC) No 889/2008 and 1235/2008 as regards supervision and controls was presented.

A discussion and an exchange of views took place concerning the implementation of the relevant provisions for the publication of lists of operators (Article 92a)

**2. Codex Alimentarius – electronic working group on aquaculture**

Information was provided on the current activities in relation to organic aquaculture, discussed at the meeting of the Fish and Fisheries products Codex Committee of 1-5 October 2012, currently taking place in Indonesia.

**3. Import regime (Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008)**

An assessment of the applications of control bodies and control authorities to be recognised under the regime of equivalence for some Third Countries took place with the assistance of co-reporting Member States. Information was provided on the draft European Accreditation guidelines for accreditation of organic production certification. An overview of the pending requests from Third Countries to be recognised as equivalent and an assessment of 2011 Annual reports were presented. The delegations received information on on-going activities with the following Third Countries: India, Japan, US, Canada, China and Korea. An exchange of views

took place concerning the new EU wine standard in relation to third countries. An information point was made to the delegations on the technical adaptations to the EU legislation as a result of Croatia's accession to the EU next year.

#### **4. Evaluation of the EU legislation on organic farming**

Information was provided on the current activities taking place in relation to the Evaluation of the EU legislation on organic farming. An information point was also made on Impact Assessment.

#### **5. Reporting and notifications under organic farming legislation**

An overview of notifications and reporting in 2012 was presented to the delegations.

#### **6. Irregularities and controls**

An overview of irregularities concerning EU products as well as products imported from Third Countries was provided. The delegations received information on the latest developments concerning OFIS and the notification of irregularities on imported products and an exchange of views took place.

#### **7. Research**

The delegations received information on the joint RTD-IFOAM Conference in Larnaca (24-26 September 2012).

#### **8. Paperless customs procedure**

A presentation was given by the French authorities on Paperless customs procedures

#### **Miscellaneous**

A series of issues related to organic farming were presented by the Commission and/or the delegations for discussion.



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**Annex:** List of participants