



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Quality, Research & Innovation, Outreach  
Director

Brussels,  
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## SUMMARY RECORD

*Meeting of the Committee on Organic Productions*

*28-29 November 2018*

Chair: Nicolas VERLET

Delegations present: Delegations present: All Member States except CY and the delegation of NO were present

### A. PROPOSED MEASURES ON WHICH AN OPINION MAY BE REQUESTED

1. n/a

### B. POINTS FOR INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION

#### B.1. Production rules for poultry - outcome of the technical discussions

Commission presented to Member States the outcome of the technical discussions.

Clarifications were provided regarding the obligation to access to open air areas for breeders and the restrictions and obligations related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of Union legislation by DG SANTE.

#### B.2. Production rules for rabbits - outcome of the technical discussions

Commission presented to Member States the outcome of the technical discussions. Member States were asked to provide comments on the systems for housing rabbits.

#### B.3. Production rules for pigs - outcome of the technical discussions

Commission presented to Member States the outcome of the technical discussions.

Discussions took place on the floor of the outdoor areas and on the stocking densities for fattening pigs and sows.

Member States were asked to provide comments in particular on stocking densities.

#### B.4. Production rules for cervine - outcome of the technical discussions

Commission presented to Member States the outcome of the technical discussions.

Clarification was provided on removal of antlers. Member States were asked to provide comments in particular on stocking densities.

#### **B.5. Production rules for aquaculture - outcome of the technical discussions**

Commission informed Member States on recent comments received after the dedicated Committee meeting of 26 October. The comments are currently examined and with DG MARE cooperation a draft proposal for implementing provisions under Article 15(3) will be presented in January together with a feed-back table on comments received.

#### **B.6. Production rules for bovine, ovine, caprine, equine – first discussions**

Commission presented to Member States for the first time the main technical points to be covered in the future implementing act on production rules. Most Member States agreed for a conservative approach.

Clarification was requested regarding maternal milk from other species and milk replacers.

Member States were asked to provide comments in particular on stocking densities taking into account the weight of the animals.

#### **B.7. Techniques authorised in processing of food and feed – report from the sub-group**

Commission presented to Member States the outcome of the technical discussions at the expert group on techniques authorised in processing of food and feed. Member States were asked to provide comments on the approach chosen.

#### **B.8. Data bases and systems for organic animals – outcome of the technical discussions for livestock and aquaculture**

Commission gave a presentation to Member States concerning implementing provisions under Article 26(7) which was based on approach discussed in previous meetings. Descriptive information on data to be collected and reported in future was proposed in line with Regulation requirements. Several Member States asked for a flexible and simple template in OFIS to be elaborated.

#### **B.9. Documents for retroactive recognition of conversion period – preliminary discussion**

Member States were requested to send their proposals for a list of documents that should be required when retroactive recognition is requested.

#### **B.10. First draft for Annex IX non organic agricultural ingredients**

Member States discussed the draft document.

### **B.11. Letters of interpretation**

COM brought the attention of MS to some of most recent questions and replies uploaded in the specific folder in CIRCA BC (COP/Interpretation letters) concerning fertilisers' components, steviol glycosides, equipment fumigation, stocking density laying hens, sanitiser.

### **B.12. EGTOP**

The outcome of the latest meetings and reports were presented, Member States were requested to submit new requests asap.

### **B.13. Follow up on the harmonisation exercise-national catalogue of measures**

COM reminded MS that the harmonization exercise is is voluntary, and relates to the current organic regulation.

COM presented an overview of replies received from MS on the template proposed at the October COP.

COM will write to COP delegates shortly to ask them if they have other comments or suggestions on how to proceed and develop this harmonization exercise

### **B.14. EU certificate – preliminary considerations**

COM informed COP delegates that background information on EU certificate is now available in CIRACBC in the form of two documents:

- i) Background information on the discussions with Member States at the SCOF/COP meetings
- ii) Recap of the Member States' responses to the EC questionnaire "Model of documentary evidence (Annex XII of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008)

COM presented the two empowerments under article 35 of the New Organic Regulation regarding the certificate and the main topics for discussion.

### **B.15. Flavourings**

Clarification has been provided on the provision related to flavourings in Reg. (EU) 2018/848.

### **B.16. Feedback on the annual meeting with Control Bodies and Accreditation Bodies on 8-9 November**

COM informed MS about the meeting that it organised on 8 and 9 November with accreditations bodies and control bodies.

### **B.17. Electronic certificate of inspection**

The future developments of the IT tools were discussed.

**B.18. Controls – first discussion on the list of IA and DA to be adopted by 2021.**

COM reminded COP delegates that the new control system in organics will be governed by both the Official Control Regulation and the New Organic Regulation.

COM presented in groups per subject the IA/DAs on controls and labelling under the New Organic Regulation and the IA under article 25 of Official Control Regulation.

COM presented the list of IA/DA foreseen in the basic act concerning trade of organic products.

**B.19. Guidelines on additional official controls on products originating from certain Thirds Countries**

The Commission presented the extension for 2019 of the guidelines for Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Russia, and Moldova was added.

In addition, the Commission also presented new guidelines for China for 2019.

**B.20. Draft Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) amending Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 laying down detailed rules for implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 as regards the arrangements for imports of organic products from third countries**

The Commission presented the proposed amendment of Annexes III & IV of Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008. A written vote will be launched by the Commission.

**B.21. AOB**

Exchange of views on the following topics:

- LV, ES: use of lactase enzyme, as a processing aid, for the production of organic lactose free dairy products.
- ES: Imports of organic xylitol with the CN code 2905 49 00.
- Clarifications from FR, IT on the use of Lithothamium in organic production.
- NL: Milk replacers.
- AT: Vitamin B2

e-signed

Nathalie SAUZE- VANDEVYVER

List of participants– Summary Record  
**Meeting of the Committee on Organic Production**  
**28 & 29 November 2018**

Member State	Ministry Or Organisation	Number of persons
BE	SPW - DG Agriculture Natural Resources & Environment Departement Landbouw en Visserij	1 1
BG	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry	1
CZ	Ministry of Agriculture	1
DK	Ministry of Food and Agriculture Veterinary and Food Administration	1 1
DE	Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung (BLE) Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (BMEL) Landesamt für Natur, Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz (LANUV)	1 1 1
EE	Ministry of Rural Affairs	1
IE	Department of Agriculture, Food and The Marine	2
EL	Ministry of Rural Development and Food Permanente Representation	1 1
ES	Ministerio de agricultura, pesca, y alimentación Generalitat Valenciana	2 1
FR	Ministère de l'agriculture Ministère de l'Economie INAO	1 1 1
HR	Ministry of Agriculture	1
IT	MIPAAFT MIPAAF	2 1
CY		
LV	Ministry of Agriculture	2
LT	Ministry of Agriculture Public Institution Ekoagros	1 1
LU	Administration des services techniques de l'agriculture	1
HU	Ministry of Agriculture	1
MT	Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change	1
NL	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate (RVO.nl)	1 1
AT	AGES BMASGK BMNT	1 1 1
PL	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	2
PT	DGADR - Direção Geral de Agricultura e Desenvolvimento Rural	2
RO	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	1
SI	MAFF	1
SK	Central control and testing institute in agriculture	1
FI	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	1
SE	National Food Agency Swedish Board of Agriculture	1 1
UK	DEFRA	2
NO	Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food Norwegian Food Safety	1 1
	<i>total</i>	50