



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Quality, Research & Innovation, Outreach  
The Director

Brussels,  
EP/nb/agri.ddg1.b.4(2020)8193248

## SUMMARY RECORD

**MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIC PRODUCTION**  
**Meeting via videoconference (Webex)**  
**on Tuesday 01 December 2020 from 09:30 to 16:30 and**  
**on Wednesday 02 December from 9:30 to 13:00**

Chair: Elena PANICHI

Delegations present: All Member States were present.  
Norway, Switzerland and Iceland were present as observers.  
Two representatives of FIBL were present.  
A representative of COISPA was present.  
A representative of CREA was present.

- Written procedure (vote from 20 to 27 November 2020):

**Draft COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../... amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/464 as regards its date of application and certain other dates that are relevant for the application of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council on organic production**

Positive vote: 27 Member States voted in favour, 0 against, 0 abstained.

- Written procedure (vote from 24 to 27 November 2020):

**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**

Positive vote: 27 Member States voted in favour, 0 against, 0 abstained.

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

N/A

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

### **1. COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../... OF XXX CONCERNING THE AUTHORIZATION OF PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES FOR USE IN ORGANIC PRODUCTION AND REPEALING REGULATION (EC) NO 889/2008 (ARTICLE 24) (PLAN/2020/7799; D067068)**

- The text and the annexes were presented. MS had no more comments on the text neither on the annexes III to VII. On Annex I only minor issues were raised. On Annex II MS had comments on the provisions regarding nationally specified fertilisers.

### **2. COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../...OF XXX AMENDING REGULATION (EC) NO 889/2008 LAYING DOWN DETAILED RULES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) NO 834/2007 ON ORGANIC PRODUCTION AND LABELLING OF ORGANIC PRODUCTS WITH REGARD TO ORGANIC PRODUCTION, LABELLING AND CONTROL (PLAN/2020/8924)**

- The COM presented the summary of the results of the feedback mechanism and informed MS about a potential vote by written procedure in mid-December

### **3. PRESENTATION BY IT ON THE DATABASE ON ORGANIC JUVENILES FOR AQUACULTURE**

A presentation was made on a database on organic juveniles for aquaculture by CREA. The presentation was welcomed by MS and was made available on Circa bc.

### **4. PRESENTATION BY FIBL ON THE DATABASES FOR ORGANIC ANIMALS**

A presentation was made on a database on organic animals by FIBL. The presentation was welcomed by MS and was made available on Circa bc.

### **5. DISCUSSIONS ON BOTH PRESENTATIONS ON DATABASES**

An exchange of questions and answers took place between the speakers from FIBL and CREA on the practical aspects of developing and running the databases and their potential availability to the MS.

### **6. PRODUCTION RULES – DISCUSSIONS ON WORKING DOCUMENTS**

- Concomitance organic and non-organic ingredients: presentation of a draft interpretation according to additional comments received from MS
- On seedlings and derogation following request for clarification from IT, the COM gave a short explanatory presentation.

### **7. LETTERS OF INTERPRETATION AND OTHER ISSUES**

- The COM brought the attention to the content of recent replies uploaded in CIRCA BC, plus two replies concerning control in particular cases of irregularities. A MS intervened to update on actions taken.

- It was confirmed that from first January 2022 products listed in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 can be organically produced in accordance with the principles and applicable rules in that Regulation.

## **8. EGTOP**

- The COM gave an overview of past and future EGTOP meetings and reports.

## **9. COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../... LAYING DOWN DETAILED RULES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATION (EU) 2018/848 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL ON CONTROLS AND OTHER MEASURES ENSURING TRACEABILITY AND COMPLIANCE IN ORGANIC PRODUCTION AND THE LABELLING OF ORGANIC PRODUCTS (PLAN/2018/3297)**

- Current state of play

The COM presented the changes introduced into the text after the last comments received from MS and briefly explained the reasons for not accepting some of the comments. COM informed the MS that the next step is the written vote.

## **10. TEMPLATE FOR THE ANNUAL CONTROLS**

- Presentation of the text of the act and revised template

The COM presented a revised template after the integration of comments from the MS. The COM informed the MS that both the act and the template will be uploaded in CIRCA.

## **11. IMPLEMENTING ACT ON TRADE (PLAN/2020/6783)**

- Certificate of operators – art. 45(4)

The COM presented a new version of the provisions and the model or the third country operator certificate taking into account the comments received and highlighting the differences in comparison with the EU operator certificate.

List of recognised CB under compliance – art. 46(1)

## **12. AMENDMENTS OF REG. 1235/2008**

An update on the state of play of the 1235 was given to the Committee:

## **13. INTERNATIONAL ISSUES**

The COM presented the import statistics and notified irregularities in OFIS concerning the guidelines on additional official controls. The scope of the guidelines in terms of countries was discussed concerning putting the guidelines in place for 2021.

The COM presented the information received from MSs regarding the follow up of export of livestock to Japan.

The COM informed the MS about suspensions of CB's

#### **14. EU & INTC IRREGULARITIES**

- Ethylene oxide in products labelled 'organic'

The COM provided an overview, shared a preliminary risk assessment, requested reinforced controls and action given that several notifications in the Organic Farming Information System show products from Third Countries which are labelled as 'organic', but contain ethylene oxide, often above the Maximum Residue Level.

#### **15. ORGANIC ACTION PLAN**

The COM presented the first results of the public consultations on Action Plan for the development of the organic sector that took place from 4 September 2020 until 27 November 2020. Discussion followed.

#### **16. AOB AND CONCLUSION**

##### **(i) Accreditation of Control Bodies**

The COM informed the MS that both standards ISO 17065 and ISO 17020 apply for the purpose of the accreditation of control bodies certifying organic operators.



Nathalie SAUZE- VANDEVYVER

List of participants– Summary Record  
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MEMBER STATE	MINISTRY OR ORGANISATION	NUMBER OF PERSONS
BE	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	2
	SPW ARNE	
BG	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forestry	2
	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry	
CZ	Ministry of Agriculture	1
DK	Ministry of Environment and Food	2
	Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark - Danish Veterinary and Food Administration	
DE	Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft	5
	Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft	
	Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft	
	Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft	
	Landesamt für Natur, Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz (LANUV)	
EE	Ministry of Rural Affairs	2
	Ministry of Rural Affairs	
IE	DAFM	3
	DAFM	
	DAFM	
EL	Ministry of Rural Development and Food	2
	Ministry of Rural Development and Food	

ES	GOBIERNO VASCO	4
	MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, PESCA Y ALIMENTACIÓN	
	MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, PESCA Y ALIMENTACIÓN	
	MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, PESCA Y ALIMENTACIÓN	
FR	DGCCRF Ministère de l'Economie	5
	INAO - Service Contrôles	
	INAO - Services Contrôles	
	Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation / DGPE	
	Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation / DGPE	
HR	Ministry of Agriculture	2
	Ministry of Agriculture	
IT	COISPA	4
	CREA	
	Mipaaf	
	MIPAAF	
CY	Department of Cyprus, Ministry of Agriculture Rural Development and Environment	2
	Ministry of Agriculture Rural Development and Environment, Department of Agriculture	
LV	Ministry of Agriculture	2
	Permanent Representation of Latvia to EU	
LT	Ministry of Agriculture	1
LU	Administration des services techniques de l'agriculture	3
	ASTA	
	ASTA	

HU	Ministry of Agriculture	1
MT	Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Animal Rights	2
	Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Animal Rights	
NL	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality	4
	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality	
	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality	
	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate control	
AT	AGES	2
	BMLRT	
PL	Main Inspectorate of Agriculture and Food Quality	2
	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	
PT	DGADR - Direção Geral de Agricultura e Desenvolvimento Rural	1
RO	MADR	1
SI	Administration for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection	2
	Financial administration of the Republic of Slovenia	
	MAFF	
SK	Central Control and Testing Institute in Agriculture	2
	Central Control and Testing Institute in Agriculture	
FI	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	3
	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	
	National Food Safety Authority Evira	
SE	Swedish Board of Agriculture	3
	Swedish Board of Agriculture	

	Swedish Food Agency	
IS	The Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority	1
NO	Norwegian Food Safety Authority	2
	Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food	
CH	Federal Office for Agriculture	2
	Federal Office For Agriculture	

CREA		1
COISPA		1
FIBL		2