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 DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Quality, Research & Innovation, Outreach
B.4. Organics

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According to our understanding of your email of 26 July 2017, you ask for information regarding the approval process for the design of the EU organic logo on packaging of organic food.

Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007¹ of 28 June 2007 lays out the rules on organic production and labelling of organic products. All organic production products using terms referring to organic production must adhere to this legislation. Article 24 of the same Regulation lays down the required compulsory labelling indications; and Article 25 the requirements for the use of the EU organic logo.

Operators selling organic products must adhere to the organic control system in accordance with Article 28 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007. Article 28(1) lays down the provisions for adherence to the control system by operators:

"Any operator who produces, prepares, stores, or imports from a third country products in the meaning of Article 1(2) or who places such products on the market shall, prior to placing on the market of any products as organic [...]:

(a) notify his activity to the competent authorities of the Member State where the activity is carried out;

(b) submit his undertaking to the control system referred to in Article 27."

If the product is produced in accordance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and if you, as operator, have complied with the requirements of the control system, the EU organic logo can be used on the packaging of the product following the requirements of Articles 57, 58 and Annex XI of Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008². Our website gives further details, including technical guidance in the "user manual", downloadable graphics in various formats, and a useful Q&A section:

¹ Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 of 28 June 2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91, OJ L 189, 20.7.2007, p. 1–23

² Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 of 5 September 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. OJ L 250, 18.9.2008

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/downloads/logo_en.

Regarding "approval of the process of the design" on your packaging as you ask in your email, controls on the operator are undertaken in accordance with the above-mentioned Article 27 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007. For full information and specific requirements related to labelling and the control system, I invite you to take contact with the relevant competent authority. A list of the EU competent authorities in each Member State is available at: http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/consumer-trust/certification-and-confidence/controls-and-inspections/control-system_en

I trust this has answered your question.

Yours sincerely,

