



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Brussels
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I would like to thank you for your email¹ of 12 August 2021 by which you ask [REDACTED] how to be registered, as an observer organisation, for the future meetings of the Expert Group for Technical advice on Organic Production (EGTOP).

Article 10 of Commission Decision C(2021) 5722 final of 4 August 2021 setting up the expert group for technical advice on organic production (EGTOP)² lays down the rules for observers as follows “1. *Organisations may be granted an observer status, in compliance with the horizontal rules, by direct invitation. 2. Organisations appointed as observers shall nominate their representatives. 3. Observers’ representatives may be permitted by the chair to take part in the discussions of the group and provide expertise. However, they shall not have voting rights and shall not participate in the formulation of recommendations or advice of the group*”. These rules are also repeated in the recent published call for applications for the selection of members of the future EGTOP³. Consequently, the granting of observer status to an organisation in the future EGTOP will be done by direct invitation from the Commission when deemed necessary.

Yours faithfully,



¹ Ares(2021)5075885

² This decision is scheduled to be published in the Official Journal of the European Union by the end of August 2021

³ <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/expert-groups-register/screen/calls-application?lang=en>

