

#### **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate H. Sustainability and Quality of agriculture and rural development

Brussels, 1 3 JUIL. 2012 AGRI H3/MK/vc agri.ddg3.h.3(2012)1013838

## Short report of the 108 meeting of the Standing Committee on Organic Farming of 10 and 11 July 2012

President: Ms M A Benitez Salas, M. J. Onofre

26 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 on the basis of a working document concerning potential amendment of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 with regard to the possibility to use feed from holdings in conversion as well as with regard to Annex I (fertilizers, soil conditioners) and Annex II (plant protection products).

A discussion took place concerning the state of play on the implementation of the relevant provisions for the publication of lists of operators according to Article 92a of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.

## 2. EGTOP plenary meeting

The delegations were informed concerning the results of the last plenary meeting of 20-21 June 2012 as well as concerning the planned activities of the EGTOP (Expert Group for Technical Advice on Organic Production).

## 3. Use of the EU organic logo as of 1st July 2012

A discussion took place on the use of the EU organic logo following the end of the transitional period.

## 4. Codex alimentarius - electronic working group on aquaculture

Information was provided on the activities planned in relation to organic aquaculture following the meeting of the Codex Committee of 15-18 May 2012.

#### 5. Import regime (Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008)

The delegations received information and an exchange of views took place concerning relations with China, Japan, South Korea and the US. An overview of the requests from Third Countries to be recognised as equivalent was presented. The delegations were invited to apply as coreporters for some Third Countries and also participated in the assessment of applications of control bodies and control authorities to be recognised under the regime of equivalence. A draft working document in view of amending Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 with regard to the list of control bodies and control authorities to be recognised under the regime of equivalency was presented by the Commission.

#### 6. Reporting and notifications under organic farming legislation

An overview of notifications and reporting to be submitted in 2012 was provided to the delegations.

#### 7. Irregularities and controls

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

# 8. Impact Assessment of the review of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products

The delegations received information on the activities foreseen in the context of the planned Impact Assessment.

#### Miscellaneous

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

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