



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
Directorate H. Sustainability and Quality of agriculture and rural development
The Director

Brussels, **15 03. 2013**
VB/sam agri.ddg3.h.3(2013)388243

**Short report of the 112nd meeting of the Standing Committee on
Organic Farming of 12 and 13 March 2013**

President: María Ángeles BENÍTEZ SALAS

27 Member States were present. Croatia, Norway and Switzerland were present as observers.

Section A – Opinion of the Committee

- 1. Draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, as regards supervision and controls**

The draft Regulation was presented for the opinion of the Committee.

Vote: positive opinion (261 in favour, 70 against, 14 abstentions).

Section B – Points for information and/or discussion

- 2. Working document on a proposal for amendment of 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 a working document to amend Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 as regards the arrangements for imports of organic products from third countries. A discussion with the Delegations took place.

- 3. Reporting and notifications under organic farming legislation**

An overview of notifications and reporting in 2012 was presented.

- 4. Irregularities and controls**

An overview of irregularities concerning EU products as well as products imported from

Third Countries was provided together with the latest developments concerning OFIS.

- 5. Codex Alimentarius – state of play of electronic working groups**

The Commission (DG MARE) informed the Delegations about the final report of the electronic working group on the revision of the Guidelines for the Production, Processing,

Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods to include Aquaculture and Seaweed.

6. Import regime (Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008)

- a) Overview on third countries (Update regarding India)
- b) Update on co-reporting Member States
- c) Assessment of applications of control bodies with the assistance of Member States

An overview on third countries was given as it relates to the working document discussed. A presentation was given on India, on the current state of play and the available options for import of processed products. The Commission presented the nominations of Member States as co-reporters. An assessment of applications of control bodies took place with the assistance of the Member States.

7. Review of the organic farming and action plan: Issues paper on organic farming political and legislative review

A presentation was given to the Delegations and a discussion took place.

8. Miscellaneous¹

- Histidine (a synthetic amino acid to prevent blindness in fish) and the possibility to prolong the transitional measures for aquaculture (R.889/2009, Article 95 (11))



María Ángeles BENÍTEZ SALAS

¹ Any subjects that the Member States wish to discuss under Point 'Miscellaneous' need to be submitted to the Commission and the other Member States at the latest one week before the meeting of the Standing Committee on Organic Farming.