EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Multilateral relations, quality policy The Acting Director

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Short report of the 120th meeting of the Regulatory Committee on Organic Production of 08-09 July 2014

President: Michael ERHART

28 Member States were present. Norway and Switzerland were present as observers.

Section A - Opinion of the Committee

1. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 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 [Ares(2014)1896749]

All delegations voted in favour, totalling 352 votes.

Section B - Points for information and/or discussion

1. Draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 as regards the recognition of control authorities and control bodies for the purpose of compliance and equivalence in relation to the import of organic products [Ares(2014)432156]

A discussion with the delegations took place.

2. Presentation by EUROSTAT: Organic farming statistics – state of play of the data collection

The delegations were informed about the state of play of the data collection on organic farming.

3. Reporting and notifications under organic farming legislation

The delegations were updated on the reporting and notifications received.

4. Irregularities and controls

The delegations were updated on the notification of irregularities concerning imported products.

5. Presentation by delegations: Examination, according to Article 19 of Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008, of the import authorisations granted to operators concerned by the Vertical Bio operation

Discussion on the information provided by the delegations concerned.

6. Presentation by DG MARE of draft working document about Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 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. AQUACULTURE

The Commission presented a working document based on the recommendations included in an EGTOP report, and dealing primarily with the origin of organic aquaculture animals, husbandry practices, feed and products and substances allowed for use in organic aquaculture. Member States are invited to submit comments by 23/7, so that these can already be taken into account in this preparatory phase. A new document will be submitted to the Member States for discussion and possibly vote at the next meeting (22/9/2014).

- 7. Import regime (Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008)
 - a) Overview on third countries and CBs.
 - b) Korea, state of play.

The delegations were updated on the state of play of the negotiations on equivalence.

c) Information on the recent on-the spot missions carried out in Colombia, Ecuador & Chile.

The delegations were informed on the main results of the on-the-spot verifications carried out in Colombia (5-9/05), Ecuador (12-16/05) and Chile (19-23/05).

8. Miscellaneous1

Michael ERHART

Robert S

Annex: List of participants

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 Regulatory Committee on Organic Production.