



EGTOP 2017 MANDATE submitted for agreement by COP meeting 1 December 2017

## 1. DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE FOOD GROUP

In light of the most recent technical and scientific information available to the experts, the Group is requested:

1. To answer if the use of the below listed substances/techniques are in line with the objectives, criteria and principles as well as the general rules laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and, hence, can be authorised to be used in organic production under the EU organic legislation:

a) Substances:

1. UK dossier : **Glycerol** for moisturizing gelatin capsules food supplements
2. BE dossier : **Glycerol** for moisturizing tablets food supplements
3. BE dossier: **Lecithin** clarification if this is the same as "organic lecithins"
4. BE dossier: **Bentonite** clarification if this is the same as calcium bentonite potassium bentonite. Similarly for calcium sulfate and Silicon oxide"
5. BE dossier: **SiO<sub>2</sub> in spices**
6. BE dossier: **Lactic acid** for pH regulation in peas
7. BE dossier: **NaOH** for pH regulation in peas; covered by the earlier evaluation for a more general use?
8. BE dossier **PGPR**-polyglycerol polyricoleate for production of bisquits etc
9. IT dossier : **NaOH**, for debittering of olives;
10. FR dossier: **Vegetable carbon** for cheese making
11. IT dossier: **Potassium aspartate** (for wine making)

In preparing the final report, the Group may also assess if food processing methods included in the EU organic regulation are in line with the organic production principles.

## 2. DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE FERTILISER SUBGROUP

In light of the most recent technical and scientific information available to the experts, the Group is requested to answer if the use of the below listed substances are in line with the objectives, criteria and principles as well as the general rules laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and, hence, can be authorised to be used in organic production under the EU organic legislation.

### Substances:

- Biochar – soil conditioner (AT) EN translation uploaded
- Structure liming (SE)- is this in line with the principle in article 4 (b) (iii) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 "only low solubility fertilisers".
- Mussel waste (SE)
- Leonardite and potassium bicarbonate (IT)

The Commission would also like to get the **additional clarification** from the group as regards the following:

- In view of the SE concern with using animal by-products as biofertilisers the Commission would like to have the opinion of the group; Clarification needed about the "sanitary reasons" mentioned in the report.
- Leonardite (CZ) is the issue to be reopened? Clarification needed on the statement from EGTOP that "not enough data are available so the product could not be evaluated" contrasting with the recommendation that "this is just another form of leonardite which is already authorised". Clarity is also needed about the principle of low solubility: with in article 4(b)(iii) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 "only low solubility fertilisers". Liquid leonardite seems highly soluble.

For the preparation of its report the group is invited to examine technical dossiers provided to the Commission by the Member States and suggest amendments to the current list in Annex I of the Regulation 889/2008.