

#### **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Quality, Research & Innovation, Outreach **The Director** 

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### SUMMARY RECORD

#### MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIC PRODUCTION

Meeting via videoconference (Webex) on Thursday 28 October 2021 from 11:30 to 18:00

Chair: Elena PANICHI

Delegations present: All Member States were present. Iceland, Norway and Switzerland were present as observers.

#### A. PROPOSED MEASURES ON WHICH AN OPINION MAY BE REQUESTED

#### B. POINTS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR FOR INFORMATION

B.1. COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../... of XXX laying down detailed rules on certain records and declarations required from operators and groups of operators and on the technical means for the issuance of certificates in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1378 as regards the issuance of the certificate for operators, groups of operators and exporters in third countries (PLAN/2021/11099, D074518)

COM presented the last changes of the text following the comments received from MS before launching the vote by written procedure

### **B.2.** Discussions on EGTOP report on salt

COM recalled the rules governing the functioning of EGTOP subgroups and publication of EGTOP reports. Several Member States had sent ahead of the meeting their positions on the EGTOP report on salt. COM will start working on a delegated act setting production rules on salt.

### **B.3.** EGTOP on-going requests update

COM presented an update of the on-going requests which will be submitted to the new EGTOP group. Requests linked to pet food are planned to be addressed together.

B.4. India – Follow-up by the Commission of irregularities concerning hulled sesame seeds from India, contaminated with ethylene oxide (ETO)

COM informed MS about the content of the letter it received from the Indian authorities (Apeda), as a response to its request for information, concerning Indian control bodies under the supervision of Apeda, and involved in sesame seeds contaminated with ethylene oxide.

### **B.5.** Guidelines on additional official controls on products originating from certain third countries

COM presented to, and discussed with, the MS the approach proposed for the guidelines on additional official controls for 2022. A note recapping the proposed approach will be sent to the MS as a follow-up.

B.6. Letter of the Commission (DG SANTE): Designation of border control posts and of control points for import controls on organic products pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2017/625. Registration in TRACES of points of release for free circulation - organic products exempted from BCP checks.

COM provided some additional information in relation to the designation of border control posts and control points and the registration in TRACES of the points of release for free circulation for import controls on organic products.

**IMPLEMENTING B.7. COMMISSION** REGULATION (EU) ESTABLISHING, PURSUANT TO REGULATION (EU) 2018/848 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL, THE LIST OF THIRD COUNTRIES AND THE LIST OF CONTROL AUTHORITIES AND CONTROL BODIES THAT HAVE BEEN RECOGNISED UNDER ARTICLE 33(2) AND (3) OF COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) NO 834/2007 FOR THE PURPOSE OF **IMPORTING ORGANIC PRODUCTS INTO** THE **UNION** (PLAN/2020/6712).

The new organic Regulation (EU) 2018/848, repealing Regulation (EC) 834/2007, grants the possibility for third countries as well as control authorities and control bodies already recognised for the purpose of equivalence under Article 33(2) and 33(3) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, and listed in Regulation (EC) 1235/2008, to continue performing their activities of certification and control for the purpose of equivalence during their respective transition periods. Regulation (EC) 1235/2008 is repealed by the end of 2021.

COM shared with MS the draft implementing act listing all third countries, control authorities and control bodies that have been recognised under Article

33(2) and (3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 for the purpose of importing organic products into the Union.

#### B.8. AOBs

Several AOBs were raised by MS in relation to the the authorisation of nonorganic agricultural ingredient and the articulation between the previous and the new system of authorisation, on the use of Lithothamnium and enrichment of organic product, on the implementation of the provisions on flavourings, on the substances to be assessed by EGTOP for pet food, on the possibility or not to grant a derogation for non organic feed in case of lack of supply of organic soya, on the consolidation of the EU Regulation, on the sampling requirements for organic heterogeneous plant reproductive material, on EGTOP factory farming report, and on sampling and TRACES.

All AOBS were discussed during the meeting. On flavourings, COM committed to reply in writing before the end of the year.

Nathalie SAUZE-VANDEVYVER

## List of participants—Summary Record MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIC PRODUCTION

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MEMBER STATE	MINISTRY or ORGANISATION	N° of Participants
BELGIQUE/BELGIË (Belgium)	Departement Landbouw en Visserij	1
БЪЛГАРИЯ (Bulgaria)	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forestry	2
ČESKO (Czechia)	Ministry of Agriculture	1
DANMARK (Denmark)	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries - Danish Veterinary and Food Administration	3
DEUTSCHLAND (Germany)	Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft	3
DEUTSCHLAND (Germany)	Landesamt für Natur, Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz (LANUV)	1
EESTI (Estonia)	Agriculture and Food Board	1
EESTI (Estonia)	Ministry of Rural Affairs	1
ÉIRE/IRELAND (Ireland)	DAFM	3
ΕΛΛΆΔΑ (Greece)	Ministry of Rural Development and Food	2
ESPAÑA (Spain)	MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, PESCA Y ALIMENTACIÓN	3
FRANCE (France)	DGCCRF	1
FRANCE (France)	INAO - Service Contrôles	3
FRANCE (France)	Ministère Agriculture et Alimentation (DGPE)	1
HRVATSKA (Croatia)	Ministry of Agriculture	2
ITALIA (Italy)	MIPAAF	2
KΥΠΡΟΣ (Cyprus)	Department of Agriculture	1
LATVIJA (Latvia)	Ministry of Agriculture	2
LIETUVA (Lithuania)	Ministry of Agriculture	1
LUXEMBOURG (Luxembourg)	Administration des services techniques de l'agriculture	2

MAGYARORSZÁG (Hungary)	Ministry of Agriculture	1
MALTA (Malta)	Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries, Food and Animal Rights	1
NEDERLAND (Netherlands)	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality	1
NEDERLAND (Netherlands)	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate control	1
ÖSTERREICH (Austria)	AGES	1
ÖSTERREICH (Austria)	BMLRT	1
POLSKA (Poland)	Main Inspectorate of Agriculture and Food Quality	1
POLSKA (Poland)	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	2
PORTUGAL (Portugal)	DGADR - Direção Geral de Agricultura e Desenvolvimento Rural	1
ROMÂNIA (Romania)	MADR	2
SLOVENIJA (Slovenia)	Administration for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection	1
SLOVENIJA (Slovenia)	MAFF	3
SLOVENSKO (Slovakia)	The Central Control and Testing Institute in Agriculture - Ústredný kontrolný a skúšobný ústav poľnohospodársky v Bratislave (ÚKSÚP)	2
SUOMI/FINLAND (Finland)	Finnish Food Authority	1
SUOMI/FINLAND (Finland)	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	1
SVERIGE (Sweden)	Swedish Board of Agriculture	2
SVERIGE (Sweden)	Swedish Food Agency	1
ÍSLAND (Iceland)	Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority	1
NOREG/NORGE (Norway)	Norwegian Food Safety Authority	1
NOREG/NORGE (Norway)	Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food	2
SUISSE/SVIZZERA/SCHWEIZ (Switzerland)	Federal Office for Agriculture	2