



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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

Brussels,
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SUMMARY RECORD

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIC PRODUCTION

Meeting via videoconference (Webex)

***on Wednesday 3 March 2021 from 09:15 until 17:30 and
on Thursday 4 March 2021 from 09:15 until 13:00***

Chair: Elena PANICHI

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

A. VOTES

Written procedure launched from 22 February 2021 to 26 February 2021:

- COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../... of XXX amending Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 as regards the date for receiving requests for the recognition of control authorities and control bodies for the purpose of equivalence under the arrangements for imports of organic products based on Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007

Positive vote: 26 Member States voted in favour, 0 against, 1 abstained.

B. POINTS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR FOR INFORMATION

B.1. Production rules – discussions on working documents

- Summary of comments on the presentation on plant reproductive material under Regulation (EU) 2018/848

- COM presented the responses received from Member States on some questions concerning the possible implementation of rules on plant reproductive material together with options for future actions to ensure a harmonised approach. Member States have been invited to send comments by 22 March 2021
- Summary of comments on working document on feed for particular nutritional purposes
- COM presented the comments received from Member States on the working document, and invited Member States to contribute.
- Working document on water quality
- COM called the attention of MS to the new provisions concerning quality of water for the production of shellfish and possible cumulative interpretation of such new provisions. Clarification will follow.

B.2. Letters of interpretation and other issues

- Follow-up on asparaginase

COM summarised the contributions received from several MS Recent letters of interpretation

- COM briefly referred to the recent uploaded letters concerning xylitol, polyalite, sulphur dioxide in organic balsamic vinegar, vertical farming and greenhouse conversion, heavy metals in soil, hydroponic production.

B.3. EGTOP

- Draft mandate on “factory farming” was presented
- Planning of meetings was explained: next week there will be the plenary
- New dossiers received were presented

B.4. COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) amending section 9 of the part II of the annex of Regulation (EU) 2019/723 regarding the organic data in the Annual Reports to be submitted by each Member State in accordance with Article 113(1) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 (PLAN/2020/8329; D071233)

COM presented the summary of replies of MS to the 5 questions and explained the way forward.

B.5. Conversion period for the use of former conventional greenhouses in the organic production

COM gave explanations on the conversion period for conventional green houses.

B.6. COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../... of XXX laying down certain rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the certificate for operators and groups of operators located in third countries and establishing the list of control authorities and control bodies recognised under Article 46(1) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 (PLAN/2021/10211; D070929)

COM explained MS about the state of play of the procedure for the adoption of this act.

B.7. COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../... of XXX amending Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 as regards the date for receiving requests for the recognition of control authorities and control bodies for the purpose of equivalence under the arrangements for imports of organic products based on Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 (PLAN/2020/9896; D071066)

COM presented the outcome of the vote for the amendment reopening the possibility to apply for equivalency.

B.8. COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../... of XXX laying down rules on documents and notifications required for organic products intended for import into the Union (PLAN/2021/10567); (Certificate of Inspection, BCP issue)

COM presented the working document regarding provisions for the certificate of inspection.

B.9. International point

COM gave an update concerning the guidelines on additional controls on organic products originating in Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Turkey, Russian Federation and China. These have been partially and temporarily suspended in third countries until 1 July 2021 due to COVID measures.

COM informed MSs about the Japan and Mexico.

B.10. COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../... of XXX amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/977 as regards the period of application of the temporary measures in relation to controls on the production of organic products (PLAN/2021/10374; D071966)

COM informed about the state of play concerning the prolongation of COVID measures.

B.11. Irregularities and infringements

COM provided updates on non compliances and infringements and on horizontal measures.

COM informed on the publication of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/181 of 15 February 2021 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.

Several AOBs related to clarifications on production rules were raised by different Member States. All the AOBs related to clarifications on production rules were presented, COM will provide replies to the MS in the detailed minutes or in letters of interpretation.

One AOB related to the Organic Action Plan as Denmark and the Netherlands had asked for an update. The Commission had already provided a substantial overview of the draft plan in the previous COP meeting.



Nathalie SAUZE- VANDEVYVER

List of participants– Summary Record

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MEMBER STATE	MINISTRY OR ORGANISATION	NUMBER OF PERSONS
BE	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	2
	SPW ARNE	
BG	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forestry	2
CZ	Ministry of Agriculture	1
DK	Danish Ministry of Food, Danish Agricultural Agency	2
	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries - Danish Veterinary and Food Administration	
DE	Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung	6
	Landesamt für Natur, Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz (LANUV)	
EE	Agriculture and Food Board	2
	Ministry of Rural Affairs	
IE	DAFM	3
EL	Ministry of Rural Development and Food	2
ES	MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, PESCA Y ALIMENTACIÓN	3
FR	DGCCRF Ministère de l'Economie	5
	INAO	
	MAA / DGPE	
HR	Ministry of Agriculture	2
IT	MIPAAF	4
CY	Department of Cyprus, Ministry of Agriculture Rural Development and Environment	1

LV	Ministry of Agriculture	2
LT	Ministry of agriculture	1
LU	Administration des services techniques de l'agriculture	2
	ASTA	
HU	Ministry of Agriculture	1
MT	Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries, Food and Animal Rights	2
NL	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality	2
AT	AGES	2
	BMLRT	
PL	Main Inspectorate of Agriculture and Food Quality	2
	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	
PT	DGADR - Direção Geral de Agricultura e Desenvolvimento Rural	2
RO	MADR	3
SI	Administration for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection	3
	MAFF	
SK	Department of Fruit and Organic Production Central Control & Testing Institute in Agriculture	1
FI	Finnish Food Authority	4
	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland	
SE	Swedish Board of Agriculture	3
	Swedish Food Agency	
NO	Norwegian Food Safety Authority	2
	Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food	
CH	Federal Office for Agriculture	2
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