



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Quality, Research & Innovation, Outreach
B.4. Organics

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[redacted]

Thank you for your email of 13 April 2017, in which you are asking about the use of the EU organic logo on restaurant menus.

The rules on organic production and the use of the EU organic logo in the labelling, presentation and advertising of products which are placed on the EU market as organic are set out in Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.

The scope of these Regulations is set out in Article 1(2) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 covering live or unprocessed agricultural products, processed agricultural products for use as food, feed, vegetative propagating material and seeds for cultivation and yeast used for food or feed. However, according to the second subparagraph of Article 1(3) mass catering¹ operations are not subject to the organic legislative framework. Member States may apply national rules on labelling and control of products originating from mass catering operations.

Therefore, mass catering operations are not covered by the scope of the EU organic legislation and thus the organic logo of the European Union cannot be used to advertise products produced by mass catering.

The present opinion is provided on the basis of the facts as set out in your email and with the understanding that in the event of a dispute involving Union law, it is, under the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union, ultimately for the Court of Justice of the European Union to provide a definitive interpretation of the applicable Union law.

Yours sincerely,



¹ Mass catering operations means the preparation of organic products in restaurants, hospitals, canteens and other similar food business at the point of sale or delivery to the final consumer (Article 2(aa) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007

