



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
Directorate H. Sustainability and Quality of Agriculture and Rural Development
The Acting Director

Brussels, **20 SEP. 2013**
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**INVITATION TO THE MEETING OF EXPERT GROUP FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND QUALITY
OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS OF PDO/PGI/TSG
DEVOTED TO PDO/PGI/TSG CONTROL ISSUES**

In order to work towards a common control "culture", a seminar devoted to sharing information about PDO/PGI/TSG control issues between Member States experts has been identified as a useful additional measure. I have the honour to invite experts from the appropriate departments in Member States to attend the meeting of the Expert Group for Sustainability and Quality of agriculture and rural development. The experience sharing event will be held on **16/10/2013 from 9.30 to 17.00**

AT THE ALBERT BORSCHETTE CONFERENCE CENTRE – Room AB-3D

36 RUE FROISSART, Brussels

Simultaneous interpretation: from FR - DE - EN - IT - ES - NL - PT - EL - DA
to FR - DE - EN - IT - ES - NL

AGENDA

Morning – 9:30 h – 13h

1. Welcome by Director in charge of Sustainability and quality of agriculture and rural development
2. Introduction by AGRI H2: New quality Regulation (Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012), H2 Control strategy
3. Presentation by the FVO of lessons learned from the five PDO/PGI/TSG audits in the Member States

Pause

4. Presentation on planning and reporting of control activities (MANCP and AR)
5. Presentation by a national expert on accreditation (national experience)

Afternoon – 14h – 17h

6. Brief introduction of working groups
7. Working groups (in CC AB-3D and CC AB-5B):

A: Verification of compliance with the product specification/Control plans

B: Controls in the market place/ how to organise controls?

Pause

8. Presentation of the results of the discussion by working groups, discussion
9. Presentation of "Better Training for Safer Food" (BTSF) training courses on Quality schemes for 2013-2014
10. Closing – key messages from the seminar

There are two aspects regarding controls in the framework of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012:

- A) Verification that a product complies with the product specification;
- B) Monitoring of the use of registered names to describe product placed on the market (Art. 36(3) (b)).

Very often a different competent authority is responsible for the controls in the market place (point B) than the one responsible for controls linked to point A (see above, respect of the product specification).

In order to ensure that both control levels (producers and market place) are covered, two experts in charge of PDO/PGI/TSG controls from the competent authorities of Member States are invited as participants to this pilot seminar on controls.

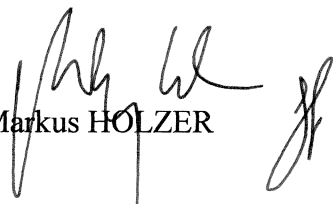
The two informal working groups will take place in English and participants should be sufficiently competent/ fluent in English to follow the discussion and to actively participate in practical exercises. Each group will have a specific agenda, tasks and activities to fulfil. The idea is to share different PDO/PGI/TSG control approaches implemented across the EU Member States and the elaboration on these during detailed group discussions.

Therefore participants are expected to have the required technical and linguistic knowledge, as well the commitment to further disseminate seminar content on return to their place of work.

For organisational purposes, we would appreciate receiving contact information (such as name, email and workplace) of participants and an indication which working group the participant will attend by Tuesday, **1 October** to **agri-h2@ec.europa.eu**

The participants will receive then another email with the topics proposed for the respective working group, so that each participant can reflect and bring good examples for sharing of their best practice.

Yours faithfully,


Markus HOLZER

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The Agenda is available also to CIRCA users through the Internet.

The Commission will meet the travel expenses of two people per Member State based on the cost of a train ticket or, where applicable, the cost of a plane ticket in economy class.

Please bring the ticket with you to the meeting as well as a photocopy so that it can be attached to the reimbursement form.

Where a first payment is being made by the Commission or in the case of a new bank account, please see the attached instructions (2 documents).

In consideration of the capacity of the meeting – room, Member States are requested to limit their delegation to two representatives only.

Please find in attachment the information sheet on the reimbursement of expenses incurred by people from outside the Commission invited to attend meetings in an expert capacity.

Please also read the "Specific Privacy Statement for processing of personal data related to Comitology Committees" on the CIRCA website for Agriculture/Quality denominations group:

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<https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/325f9c5f-6ae7-49ee-b7ed-6f1b23d01f04>