

**Short Report of the 104th meeting of the
Standing Committee on Organic Farming of 19-20 December 2011**

President: Mme M.A. Benitez Salas, Mr J-F Hulot

26 Member States were present or represented. Norway and Switzerland were present as observers.

Section A – Opinion of the Committee

1. Draft Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 as regards documentary evidence and amending Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 as regards the arrangements for imports of organic products from the United States of America

The draft Commission Regulation received a favourable opinion by qualified majority: 333 votes in favour.

Section B – Points for information and/or discussion

1. Commission Work Programme 2012

The Commission highlighted the legal proposal mentioned amongst the forthcoming initiatives for 2013 in the Commission Working Programme of 2012 and presented an outline of the activities foreseen in 2012 and in 2013 concerning organic farming.

2. Expert Group on Technical Advice for Organic Farming (EGTOP)

The state of play of the works of the EGTOP including mandates on Poultry and Food sub-groups was presented.

3. Implementing rules (Regulation (EC) No 889/2008)

The state of play concerning organic feed was presented by the Commission, which confirmed its intention to bring forward a proposal containing, among other elements, an allowance of 5% of non-organic protein feed for non-herbivores applying as from 1st January 2012. Information was also provided concerning organic wine as well as concerning a draft RIPAC note on control issues. The delegations were also informed concerning the reports and other information that the Commission received according to the organic farming legislation.

4. Review of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 (official food and feed controls) – overview of the key issues and state of play

A presentation was made concerning the key issues under review.

5. Import regime (Regulation 1235/2008)

Information on the applications by control bodies for the purpose of compliance in accordance with Art 32 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 was provided together with an update concerning applicant and recognised Third Countries under the equivalency regime.

6. OFIS, irregularities and controls

The Commission presented the state of play concerning irregularities on products coming from the EU as well as from Third Countries and a discussion took place concerning recent cases. The Commission also provided information concerning OFIS (Organic farming Information System).

7. Miscellaneous

At the request of a delegation, a discussion took place concerning improved detection levels of ethylene oxide.

María Angeles BENITEZ SALAS

signed

List of participants

Standing Committee on Organic Farming 19-20 December 2011

Country	Organisation	Number of participants
BE	SERVICE PUBLIC DE WALLONIE – DG AGRICULTURE, RESSOURCES NATURELLES & ENVIRONNEMENT – DIRECTION DE LA QUALITE	2
	VLAAMSE OVERHEID, AFDELING DUURZAME LANDBOUWONTWIKKELING	
BG	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD	1
CZ	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF CZECH REPUBLIC	2
DK	MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES – THE DANISH VETERINARY AND FOOD ADMINISTRATION – DIVISION FOR FOOD QUALITY, TECHNOLOGY AND MARKETING PRACTICES	2
	MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES – AGRI FISH AGENCY	
DE	BUNDESMINISTERIUM FÜR ERNÄHRUNG LANDWIRTSCHAFT UND VERBRAUCHERSCHUTZ - BMELV	5
	LANDESAMT FÜR NATUR, UMWELT UND VERBRAUCHERSCHUTZ	
	BUNDESANSTALT FÜR LANDWIRTSCHAFT UND ERNÄHRUNG – BLE	
EE	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE	1
IE	DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND THE MARINE	1
EL	-	-
ES	MINISTERIO DE MEDIO AMBIENTE Y MEDIO RURAL Y MARINO – SUBDIR. GEN. DE CALIDAD DIFERENCIADA Y AGRICULTURA ECOLÓGICA	1
FR	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE	2
	INAO PARIS	
IT	MINISTERO DELLE POLITICHE AGRICOLE ALIMENTARI E FORESTALI – UFFICIO SAQX – AGRICOLTURA BIOLOGICA	4
CY	DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	1
LV	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE	1
LT	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE – RESOURCES AND QUALITY POLICY DEPARTMENT – AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL AND ORGANIC FARMING DIVISION	1
LU	MINISTERE DE L'AGRICULTURE, DE LA VITICULTURE ET DU DEVELOPPEMENT RURAL – ADMINISTRATION DES SERVICES TECHNIQUES DE L'AGRICULTURE	1

Country	Organisation	Number of participants
HU	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT – DEPARTMENT OF FOOD CHAIN CONTROL	2
MT	MINISTRY FOR RESOURCES AND RURAL AFFAIRS – ORGANIC FARMING SECTION – AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRE	1
NL	MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND INNOVATION	3
	HPA	
AT	BUNDESMINISTERIUM FÜR GESUNDHEIT (BMG)	1
PL	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT – DEPARTMENT OF PROMOTION AND COMMUNICATION	2
PT	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, SEA, ENVIRONMENT AND REGIONAL PLANNING – MAMAOT	1
RO	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT	2
SI	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FOOD	1
SK	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT	1
FI	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY – FOOD AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT	1
SE	MINISTRY FOR RURAL AFFAIRS	3
	NATIONAL FOOD AGENCY – FOOD STANDARDS DEPARTMENT	
	SWEDISH BOARD OF AGRICULTURE	
UK	DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS (DEFRA) – ORGANIC FARMING UNIT	2
NO	NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD - DEPARTMENT OF FOOD POLICY	2
	NORWEGIAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY	
CH	FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS FDEA – FEDERAL OFFICE FOR AGRICULTURE FOAG – QUALITY AND SALES PROMOTION SECTION	1
	EUROPEAN COMMISSION	10