



Brussels, 21 February 2014
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Short report of the 116th meeting of the Standing Committee on Organic Farming of 19 February 2014

President: Michael ERHART

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

The following Addendum is made at the Report of the 114th meeting of the Standing Committee on Organic Farming:

Section B, point 2 – Document discussion on working document on amendments to Reg. (EC) N° 889/2008

IT expressed its satisfaction for the document presented and underlined the urgency to vote the proposal as soon as possible as these substances are very important for both farmers and manufactures of the substances.

Furthermore IT stressed the importance to harmonized the proposal with the horizontal legislation on pesticides and announced the presentation of writing comments.

Section B, point 7 – EGTOP – greenhouse report

The Italian delegation requested the Commission to provide a detailed discussion on the critical points of the report before presenting the draft proposal. The report in fact shows that in some EU Countries greenhouse productions not fully in line with the OF principles are allowed. The critical points concern:

- the use of crop rotations not in line with the OF principles;
- the use of large amounts of carbon dioxide;
- the soilless productions (limited to a few special cases).

The following Addendum is made at the Report of the 115th meeting of the Standing Committee on Organic Farming:

Section B, point 7 – Rural development programs in CAP post 2013: Delegated and implementing acts

Poland requested information about the obligation to have a national strategy for organic farming to introduce measure “organic farming” art 30 according RDP 2014-2020.

Section A – Opinion of the Committee

- 1. Draft Commission implementing Regulation (EU) No .../..of XXX amending and correcting 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**

The document presented by the Commission received a favourable opinion from the Committee by Qualified Majority Vote with BE, NL and FI abstaining.

Section B – Points for information and/or discussion

- 2. Presentation of working document: Amendment of Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008: Update of Annex IV**

Presentation and discussion of the document took place.

- 3. Reporting and notifications under organic farming legislation**

Delegations were provided with updated information concerning the different notifications and reports that are required according to the EU legislation on organic production and labelling of organic products.

- 4. Review of EU organic framework – state of play**

The representative of the Commission gave a brief update on the process of the review of the European Union's organic production policy.

- 5. Irregularities and controls**

- a) Update on notification of EU irregularities**

An update concerning EU irregularity notifications and other relevant cases was provided to the delegations.

- b) Update on notification of irregularities concerning imported products**

Delegates were briefed on irregularities found in imported products.

- 6. EGTOP – update information about the different subgroups, new members of permanent group, 2014 programme and mandates on PPP, Feed and Food.**

Delegations were provided with updated information concerning the different aspects about EGTOP: new Commission Decision (2013/ C 360/9) appointing new members of the group, mandates for PPP II, Feed II and Food III in 2014 first semester and reasons for delaying Aquaculture II mandate.

7. Import regime (Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008)

a) Overview on third countries and CBs.

Delegations were provided with an overview on listed and applicant third countries for the purpose of equivalence.

8. Miscellaneous

Michael ERHART

signed

Annex: List of participants

List of participants
Standing Committee on Organic Farming of 19 February 2014

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	2
CZ	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF CZECH REPUBLIC	1
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	4
	GERMAN FEDERAL OFFICE FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE	
	LANDESAMT FÜR NATUR, UMWELT UND VERBRAUCHERSCHUTZ	
EE	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE	1
IE	DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND THE MARINE	1
EL	MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD – DIRECTORATE OF ORGANIC FARMING Unit of Organic Products of Animal Origin	1
ES	MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, ALIMENTACIÓN Y MEDIO AMBIENTE – SUBDIR. GEN. DE CALIDAD DIFERENCIADA Y AGRICULTURA ECOLÓGICA	1
FR	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE	3
	MINISTRY OF FINANCE	
	INAO PARIS	
CR	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE	1
IT	MINISTERO DELLE POLITICHE AGRICOLE ALIMENTARI E FORESTALI – UFFICIO PQA5 – AGRICOLTURA BIOLOGICA	2
CY	PERMANENT REPRESENTATION	1
LV	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE	1
LT	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE –RESOURCES AND QUALITY POLICY DEPARTMENT – AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL AND ORGANIC FARMING DIVISION	1
LU	–	
HU	MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT – DEPARTMENT OF FOOD CHAIN CONTROL	1
MT	–	
NL	MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS	2
AT	BUNDESMINISTERIUM FÜR GESUNDHEIT (BMG)	2
	INSTITUTE OF ORGANIC FARMING AND FARM ANIMAL BIODIVERSITY	

Country	Organisation	Number of Participants
PL	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT – DEPARTMENT OF PROMOTION AND COMMUNICATION	1
PT	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, SEA, ENVIRONMENT AND REGIONAL PLANNING – MAMAOT	1
RO	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT	1
SI	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT	1
SK	CENTRAL CONTROL & TESTING INSTITUTE IN AGRICULTURE - DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ORGANIC PROTECTION	1
FI	PERMANENT REPRESENTATION	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 TEAM	2
EFTA	–	
IS	–	
NO	NORWEGIAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY	2
	NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD - DEPARTMENT OF FOOD POLICY	
CH	MISSION OF SWITZERLAND TO THE EUROPEAN UNION	1