



## **Short report of the 117<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee on Organic Farming of 7-8 April 2014**

**President: Michael ERHART**

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

### **Section A – Opinion of the Committee**

- 1. Draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 as regards requests for inclusion in the list of third countries recognised for the purpose of equivalence in relation to the import of organic products**

The draft Regulation was presented for the opinion of the Committee.

Vote: positive opinion.

### **Section B – Points for information and/or discussion**

- 2. Draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 as regards the recognition of control authorities and control bodies for the purpose of compliance and equivalence in relation to the import of organic products**

A discussion with the delegations took place.

- 3. Follow-up of greenhouse report. Socio-economic Data from MS**

A table with the MS data on organic greenhouse production was presented by the Commission. The table will be updated for the next SCOF.

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

An update of the notifications due by 31 March (list of control bodies and control authorities and annual summary report of authorisations on the use of non-organic seeds and seed potatoes) was provided to the delegations.

## **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.

### **c) Follow-up to information on the operation "Vertical Bio"**

The Commission invited the delegations that have not yet replied to do so; requested the MS concerned by the circulation of allegedly fraudulent products to communicate all necessary information on transactions, and all MS that granted import authorisations to the operators concerned to consider all necessary measures in the light of the currently increased risk profile – so as to examine at next SCOF whether the conditions are still fulfilled; recalled the need to indicate reception of EU funding; and provided examples of good practices. A discussion followed.

## **6. EGTOP – update information about the different subgroups, new mandates on Feed and Food. Publication of Aquaculture report.**

The COM updated the SCOF delegates with the latest news from EGTOP. .

The publication of the Aquaculture report was presented by DG MARE.

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

An overview of situation of relations with Third countries was presented, including for China, India, US, Korea and the pending applications.

## **8. Miscellaneous**

End of the derogation to use non-organically reared pullets for egg production of not more than 18 weeks.

Inclusion of hydrochloric acid in Annex VIII of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 for the use as a reagent for dextrin production (preparation of foodstuffs of plant origin)

Michael ERHART

*signed*

**Annex:** List of participants

**List of participants**  
**Standing Committee on Organic Farming of 7-8 April 2014**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>
<b>BE</b>	<b>SERVICE PUBLIC DE WALLONIE – DG AGRICULTURE, RESSOURCES NATURELLES &amp; ENVIRONNEMENT – DIRECTION DE LA QUALITE</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>FPS FINANCES – GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE; ATTACHÉ – NON FISCAL LEGISLATION</b>	
	<b>MINISTERIE VAN DE VLAAMSE GEMEENSCHAP, AFDELING DUURZAME LANDBOUWONTWIKKELING</b>	
	<b>VLAAMSE OVERHEID, AFDELING DUURZAME LANDBOUWONTWIKKELING</b>	
<b>BG</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>CZ</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF CZECH REPUBLIC</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>DK</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES – THE DANISH VETERINARY AND FOOD ADMINISTRATION – DIVISION FOR FOOD QUALITY, TECHNOLOGY AND MARKETING PRACTICES</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES – AGRI FISH AGENCY</b>	
<b>DE</b>	<b>BUNDESANSTALT FÜR LANDWIRTSCHAFT UND ERNÄHRUNG – BLE</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>BUNDESMINISTERIUM FÜR ERNÄHRUNG LANDWIRTSCHAFT UND VERBRAUCHERSCHUTZ - BMELV</b>	
	<b>LANDESAMT FÜR NATUR, UMWELT UND VERBRAUCHERSCHUTZ</b>	
<b>EE</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>IE</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND THE MARINE</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>EL</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD - DIRECTORATE OF ORGANIC FARMING Unit of Organic Products of Animal Origin</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>ES</b>	<b>MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, ALIMENTACIÓN Y MEDIO AMBIENTE – SUBDIR. GEN. DE CALIDAD DIFERENCIADA Y AGRICULTURA ECOLÓGICA</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>GOBIERNO DE EXTREMADURA</b>	
<b>FR</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>MINISTRY OF FINANCE</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>INAO PARIS</b>	
<b>CR</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE</b>	
<b>IT</b>	<b>MINISTERO DELLE POLITICHE AGRICOLE ALIMENTARI E FORESTALI – UFFICIO PQA5 – AGRICOLTURA BIOLOGICA</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>CY</b>	<b>PERMANENT REPRESENTATION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>LV</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE</b>	<b>1</b>

<b>Country</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>
<b>LT</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE –RESOURCES AND QUALITY POLICY DEPARTMENT – AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL AND ORGANIC FARMING DIVISION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>LU</b>	<b>MINISTERE DE L’AGRICULTURE, DE LA VITICULTURE ET DU DEVELOPPEMENT RURAL – ADMINISTRATION DES SERVICES TECHNIQUES DE L'AGRICULTURE</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>HU</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT – DEPARTMENT OF FOOD CHAIN CONTROL</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>MT</b>	<b>MINISTRY FOR RESOURCES AND RURAL AFFAIRS – ORGANIC FARMING SECTION – AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRE</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>NL</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND INNOVATION</b>	
<b>AT</b>	<b>INSTITUTE OF ORGANIC FARMING AND FARM ANIMAL BIODIVERSITY</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>PL</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT – DEPARTMENT OF PROMOTION AND COMMUNICATION</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD QUALITY INSPECTION</b>	
<b>PT</b>	<b>MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND SEA – MAM</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>RO</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>SI</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>SK</b>	<b>CENTRAL CONTROL &amp; TESTING INSTITUTE IN AGRICULTURE - DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ORGANIC PROTECTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>FI</b>	<b>PERMANENT REPRESENTATION</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY – FOOD DEPARTMENT</b>	
<b>SE</b>	<b>NATIONAL FOOD AGENCY – FOOD STANDARDS DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>SWEDISH BOARD OF AGRICULTURE DIVISION FOR HORSES, POULTRY AND FARMED GAME</b>	
<b>UK</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS (DEFRA) – ORGANIC TEAM</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>EFTA</b>	–	–
<b>IS</b>	–	–
<b>NO</b>	<b>NORWEGIAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD - DEPARTMENT OF FOOD POLICY</b>	
<b>CH</b>	<b>FEDERAL OFFICE FOR AGRICULTURE FOAG - QUALITY AND SALES PROMOTION UNIT</b>	<b>1</b>