



**Short report
of the 95th meeting of the Standing Committee on Organic Farming (SCOF) held
on 24 and 25 January 2011**

President: Mr. Jean-François Hulot

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

Section A – Opinion of the Committee

No subject was proposed for the opinion of the Committee.

Section B - Points for information and/or discussion

1. Organic legislation

The Commission presented a working document on the amendment of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008. It proposed to include further clarifications as regards labelling and control. The Commission informed that after the positive internal approval, a written procedure to receive the opinion of the Committee is foreseen.

The Commission gave an overview of the situation concerning the re-examination of the use of substances mentioned at Article 27(3) of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.

An exchange of views took place concerning animal feed as well as labelling of organic products during the transitional period ending 1 July 2012.

2. Import regime

The Commission presented the situation concerning the assessment of applications of control bodies for the purpose of equivalence and gave information on the state of play concerning relations with Third Countries. Member States were asked to provide information on concrete difficulties the exporters face to export organic products to Japan.

3. Codex Alimentarius

An update was provided on the preparation of the next Codex Committee on Food Labelling from 9 to 13 May in Québec, Canada.

4. Report to the Council and the Parliament foreseen by Article 41 of the Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007

The delegations were informed concerning the objectives and scope of the report and the necessary information to provide to the Commission.

5. Irregularities and controls

The delegations received information and an exchange of views took place on the notifications of irregularities from EU and from Third Countries.

6. Expert Group for technical advice in organic production

Information was provided to the delegations concerning the state of play and the future activities of the Expert Group for technical advice in organic production.

7. Miscellaneous

The Commission provided information concerning different requests from the delegations. Subject to confirmation, the next meeting of the SCOF is scheduled on 29-30 March 2011.

María Angeles BENÍTEZ SALAS
Director
(signed)

List of participants

Standing Committee on Organic Farming 24 and 25 January 2011

Country	Ministry/Organisation	Number of Participants
BE	Service public de Wallonie, DG Agriculture, Ressources naturelles & Environnement, Direction de la Qualité Ministerie van de Vlaamse Gemeenschap, Afdeling Duurzame Landbouwontwikkeling	2
BG	Permanent Representation	1
CZ	Ministry of Agriculture	1
DK	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Danish Veterinary and Food Administration and Danish Plant Directorate.	2
DE	Bundesministerium für Ernährung, Landwirtschaft und Verbraucherschutz – BMELV, Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung – BLE, Landesamt für Natur, Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz	3
EE	Ministry of Agriculture	1
EL	Ministry of Rural Development and Food – Directorate of Organic Farming	1
ES	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Medio Rural y Marino Subdir. Gen. de Calidad Diferenciada y Agricultura Ecológica	1
FR	Ministère de l'agriculture, de l'alimentation et de la pêche - Dir. gen. des politiques agricole, agroalimentaire et des territoires, Bureau de la gestion des signes de qualité et de l'agriculture biologique, Ministère des Finances	3
IE	Department of Agriculture and Food	1
IT	Ministero delle Politiche Agricole, Alimentari e Forestali Ufficio SAQX – Agricoltura biologica	1
CY	Department of Agriculture	1
LV	Ministry of Agriculture	1
LT	Resources and Quality Policy Department - Agri-Environmental and Organic Farming Division, Ministry of Agriculture	1
LU	Ministère de l'Agriculture, de la Viticulture et du Développement rural – Administration des Services Techniques de l'Agriculture	1
HU	Ministry of Rural Development	1
MT	Organic Farming Section – Research & Development Centre	1
NL	Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation, HPA	2
AT	Bundesministerium für Gesundheit (BMG), Institut für Biologische Landwirtschaft und Biodiversität HBLFA	2
PL	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - Department of Agricultural Markets	1
PT	Ministerio da Agricultura, do Desenvolvimento Rural e das Pescas - GPP	1

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RO	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	1
SI	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food	1
SK	Central Control and Testing Institute in Agriculture, Permanent Representation	2
FI	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Food and Health Department	1
SE	National Food Administration – Food Standards Department Swedish Board for Accreditation and Conformity Assessment	2
UK	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs – DEFRA	2
NO	Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Department of Food Policy, Norwegian Food Safety Authority	2
CH	Federal Department of Economic Affairs FDEA - Federal Office for Agriculture FOAG - Quality and Sales Promotion Section	1
IS	The Icelandic Mission to the EU	-
COM	European Commission	9