



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Quality, Research & Innovation, Outreach
The Director

Brussels,
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SUMMARY RECORD

Meeting of the Committee on Organic Productions

1 and 2 April 2019

Chair: Nicolas VERLET

Delegations present: All Member States were present, except Cyprus. Switzerland and Norway present as observers

A. PROPOSED MEASURES ON WHICH AN OPINION MAY BE REQUESTED

N/A

B. POINTS FOR INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION

1. Follow up to irregularities and fraud allegations in the EU

- Overview of notifications, alerts and developments, period covered: 10 January to 23 March 2019
- Commission's presentation of its enquiries with individual Member States since the last meeting
 - 291/2017 DE-AT apple juice concentrate
 - 377/2018 DE-CZ hops
 - 158/2018 SK-CZ labelling of products
 - 366/2018 ES-DE honey
 - 353/2018 DK-NL strawberry juice concentrate
- Commission's request for action
 - Synthetic antioxidants in fishfeed/fishflesh
 - 287/2018 ES-RO (253/2018 BG-ES) sunflower seeds

- 403/2017 DE-ES oil seed rape
- 246/2018 HU-SK (215/2018 DE-HU) wheat
- 217/2018 SK - HU flax seed

2. Sharing best practices on traceability

Poland's presentation of traceability and crosschecks on apple production.

3. Implementing Act on Controls

The Commission analysed two elements of the proposed methodology under article 29 (8) (a):

- The official investigation
- sampling

The Commission also presented the content of the implementing act under article 29 (8) b) and the relevant legal provisions

The Commission will upload the document to CIRCABC and invites the MS to review it and provide feedback.

4. Certificate

The Commission made clarifications on the scope and the objective of the certificate and presented a first draft position on the list of notified activities for the box 4 of Annex VI, EU 2018/848.

The aim of the Commission is to harmonize the notified activities for the following purposes: (i) accreditation certificate, (ii) certificate (Annex VI), (iii) annual report under MANCP, (iv) notification to competent authority and (v) statistics of organic farming (Eurostat).

The Commission will upload the document to CIRCABC and invites the MS to review it and provide feedback

5. Harmonisation of catalogues of measures

The Commission continued to present first draft of guidelines for the third, fourth and fifth columns of the template for the national catalogue of measures: (i) type of measures (ii) administrative process and (iii) follow up.

The Commission will upload the document to CIRCABC and invites the MS to review it and provide feedback

6. ECA – Follow-up on report on Organics

The Commission presented the 3 recommendations from the report.

7. Draft Commission Implementing Regulation laying down detailed rules for implementation of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council on production rules of organic products

The Commission presented main changes to the draft implementing act. The Commission also informed about the comments received before the meeting, including comments from the sector. During the discussion, Member States provided additional remarks and requests for clarification based on which the Commission will introduce the final adjustments to the text.

Member States were informed that this is the final stage of the discussions therefore the next step is to start Interservice Consultations with other DGs, especially the Legal Service of the Commission in order to have their opinion on this compromise text possibly at the next meeting of the Committee.

8. Traces (Digital signature)

The future developments of the IT tools, mostly related to the introduction of the digital signature, were discussed.

9. Follow-up to irregularities on imported products

The Commission and Member States presented and discussed a number of cases of irregularities notified.

10. Import Regime (Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008)

The Commission informed the Committee concerning the annual reports of the control bodies for the activities 2018 that have been just received.

11. Review of Annexes - Draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending 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 (Dxxxxx)

- Annex I
- Annex II

- Annex VI

12. Letters of interpretation and specific issues

- Yeast
- Electrodialysis
- Wine
- Food additive not approved
- Conversion organic beehives
- Further clarifications on flavourings
- Olive oil

13. AOB

Member states raised the following points:

- RO (dates of meetings for expert group and COP)
- DK (letter of interpretation on yeasts)
- FR (labelling of primary ingredient)
- PL (accreditation of control bodies)
- IE supported by NO (feed for aquaculture produced in the UK and Brexit).

e-signed
p.o.Nicolas VERLET
in absence of
Nathalie SAUZE- VANDEVYVER

List of participants– Summary Record
Meeting of the Committee on Organic Production
1 and 2 April 2019

MEMBER STATE	Ministry Or Organisation	NUMBER OF PERSONS
BE	SPW - DGO3	1
	Vlaamse Overheid Departement Landbouw en Visserij	1
BG	PR	1
CZ	Ministry of Agriculture	1
DK	Danish Veterinary and Food Administration	2
DE	Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (BMEL)	2
	LANUV	1
	Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung	1
EE	Ministry of Rural Affairs	1
IE	The Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine	2
EL	PR	2
ES	Ministry of Agriculture	1
FR	Ministère de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation	1
	INAO	2
	DGCCRF	1
HR	Ministry of Agriculture	2
IT	MIPAAFT	3
CY		
LV	Ministry of Agriculture	1
LT	Ministry of Agriculture	1
LU	Administration des Services Techniques de l'Agriculture	1
HU	Ministry of Agriculture	1
MT	Agriculture Directorate	1
NL	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality	1
	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Klimate (RVO.nl)	1
AT	BMASGK	1
	AGES	1
	BMNT	1
PL	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	2
PT	DGADR	1
RO	Ministry of Agriculture	1
SI	MAFF	1
SK	Central control and testing institute in agriculture	1
FI	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	1
	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	1
SE	Swedish Board of Agriculture	1
	National Food Agency	2
UK	DEFRA	2
NO	Norwegian Food Safety	1
	Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food	1
CH	Federal Office for Agriculture	1
	Mission of Switzerland to the EU	1
<i>TOTAL</i>		52