



European Organic Certifiers Council

Downgrading and follow up : some cases

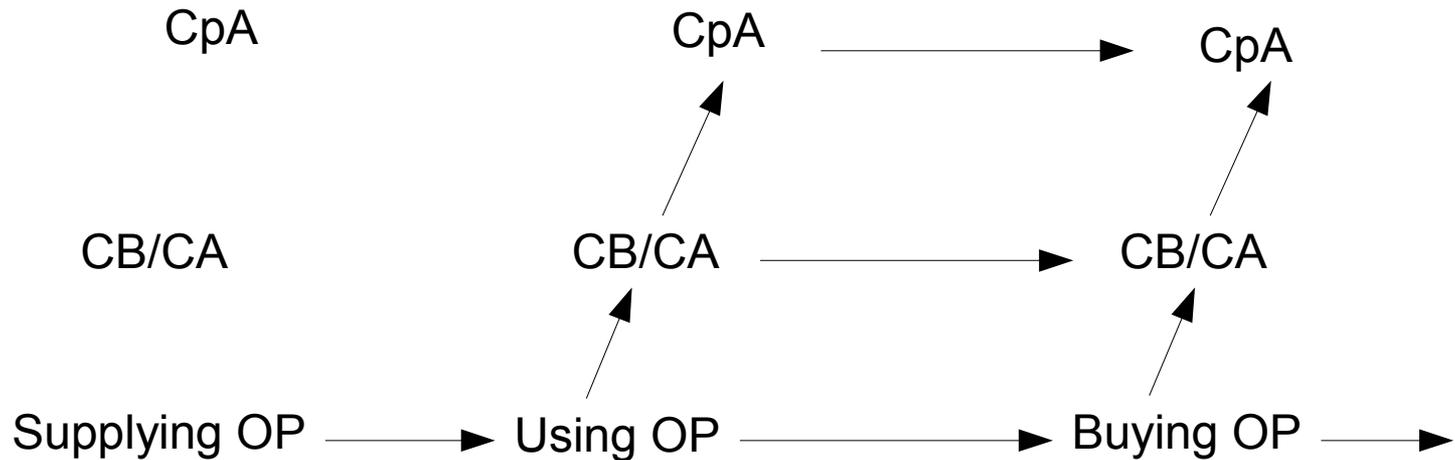
**Civil Dialogue Group meeting
European Commission
April 17th 2015**

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0. Exchange of information



1. Vegetable oil

Downgrading from organic to non organic after investigation and due to lack of traceability

Before and during the investigation, vegetable oil has been sold and used as an ingredient by other OP

=> different actions at the level of different OP regarding organic status of products in which this vegetable oil has been used as an ingredient

2. Cereals for feed

Downgrading from organic to non organic (first year of conversion) after investigation and due to mixing of harvests from organic fields and fields in first year of conversion

Cereals have been sold and stored with other organic cereals from other farmers

=> downgrading of whole stock of organic products, sanctions against farmer, no sanction against storing company

3. Cacao beans

Information about downgrading from organic to non organic after investigation due to mixing of organic and non organic cacao

Before and during the investigation, cacao beans have been sold and used as an ingredient by other OP
After an appeal, new information that downgrading is from organic to “in conversion”

=> Different actions at the level of different OP regarding organic status of products in which these cacao beans have been used in different MS

4. Cereals for flour

Four different farmers supply cereals to a mill. One farmer has falsified its certificate and sold non organic cereals as organic.

Before and during the investigation, fraudulent cereals have been mixed in with organic cereals.

=> downgrading of the flour, no sanctions against the mill

5. Next steps

Collection of information about practices of blocking, downgrading and suspension of organic certificates under different CpA

Efforts to improve exchange of information at CB level and with different CpA to be more complete and faster

Thank you for your kind attention

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