#### **FINAL MINUTES**

# Meeting of the Civil Dialogue Group Organic Farming Date: 19 October 2020

Chair: Ms Marian BLOM (IFOAM Organic Europe)

Organisations present: All Organisations were present, except BEUC and EFFAT.

#### 1. Approval of the agenda

Adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting (10/07/2020) by written procedures

#### 2. Nature of the meeting

The meeting was non-public. Meeting organised by videoconference Interactio.

#### 3. List of points discussed

#### 3.1 Approval of the agenda

**Luigi Tozzi** asked to add a point on swine fever in Germany and its consequences on the organic sector. The chair accepted to add it as AOB.

#### 3.2 Election of the chairpersonship of the CDG

The current chair, Marian Blom, from IFOAM OE applied to continue as chair, Luigi Tozzi from COPA COGECA and Kolb Norbert from SACCAR applied also to continue as vice chairs. Online election of the above-mentioned chair, vice chair and second vice chair with majority in favour.

#### 3.3 New regulation

#### a) State of play of the Postponement of the Application to 1 January 2022

**COM** presented the state of play of the postponement of the date of entry into application of the new organic regulation: COM proposed a one year postponement due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council and EU parliament are in favour with a publication foreseen in November 2020. Some dates of previous DAs and IAs already published should also be aligned with the new date of entry into application.

**Luigi Tozzi** (COPA COGECA) asked about the alignment of secondary acts as regards to the application dates. **COM** clarified that all dates of application (production rules, control and trade) will be postponed by one year.

**Emanuele Busacca** (IFOAM OE) asked about the time plan for the secondary legislation, when will it finally published and how many DAs and IAs will be adopted at the end.

**Laurence Bonafos** (COM) informed that the commitment agreed among EU institutions is to have IAs and DAs ready before the end of the first trimester (March 2021). The number of IAs/DAs might be around 18 but it is hard to give a concrete number at this stage. For the DAs amending, she added that they will be directly integrated in the text of the new Regulation (EU) 2018/848. Whereas DAs supplementing and IAs, will be

standalone actes. COM added that for the sake of clarity and better readability, there might be more acts to be developed.

**Antoine Faure** (EOCC) welcomed the idea of having the publication of acts as soon as possible as it is important to have the control measures in the EU and in the third countries no later than end of March as CBs need to have time to adapt their procedure, train their staff, ask for their accreditation and their recognition by national authorities and/or COM.

# b) Presentation and discussions on issues related to the Basic Act, including the interpretation notes (e.g. withdrawal periods of vet medicines, controls of retailers, etc.)

Laurence Bonafos (COM) presented the interpretation notes and clarified that the paper on veterinary medicine and withdrawal period is an example of a working document and does not state the definitive COM positions on this issue, it is meant for discussion with MS. The end outcomes of such working documents can be notes of interpretation to stakeholders or can be a basis for further consultation. In this regard, she added that some documents are still under discussion: Control of retailers, veterinary medicines, and derogations for organic juveniles. The closed documents are on pet food and prepacked food and were made available to CDG members.

**Federico Facchin** (COPA COGECA) asked about updates on the veterinary medicines' topic. **Laurence Bonafos** (COM) answered that there are two issues linked to this topic which are still under discussion. The first request is linked to the withdrawal period for vaccines and the second is linked to the withdrawal period of 48 hours for the anti-parasitic treatments. On the last point, she informed that there is a legal issue, and COM is working with MS and DG SANTE. However, she noted that considering the lack of consensus, COM will probably extend the discussion also with legal services. The plan is to collect information on the veterinary treatments that are used in particular for poultry and dairy cows production and how many of parasitic treatments have 0 withdrawal period under their marketing authorization. No conclusion has been made so far.

**Chris Atkinson** (IFOAM EO) IFOAM OE agrees that this issue is very crucial and involves the principles of organic farming. Such issue is not a detail, but part of the broader context related to animal health and welfare in organic farming. For this reason, IFOAM OE would like to have more time to discuss it internally and try to find a compromise that fits all contexts and Member States.

**Laurence Bonafos** (COM) informed that during the work on this paper they look closely on the previous documents. For vaccines, a reply was sent to clarify that the 48 hours withdrawal period does not apply.

**Denis Froidmont** (COM) presented the working documents with the relevant legal provisions on (i) the exemption of notification of operators that sell prepacked organic products directly to the final consumer (ii) on organic pet food .Those documents are available on circabc.

Luigi Tozzi (COPA) asked about organic products sold online.

**Denis Froidmont** (COM) confirmed that the web shops are also under the same control legal requirements and under the specific rules detailed in particular in Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 (FIC Regulation).

**Luca Capodieci** (Fefana) asked the reasons for drawing a limit of 95% of dry matter for organic food and 100% for organic pet food

**Denis Froidmont** (COM) replied that organic pet food should satisfy the rules on organic feed production: to be labelled organic, all of the ingredients of agricultural origin that are contained in the processed feed must be organic.

**Aira Sevon** (ECVC) ask about the label of organic pet animals?

**Denis Froidmont** (COM) answered that the use of national and private organic logos should satisfy the organic EU rules.

- c) <u>Presentation, working plan and discussions on delegated and implementing acts on:</u>
- Production rules and technical Annexes (issues related to Quassia amara and additives/processing aids)

**Laurence Bonafos** (COM) Presented the state of play of the secondary legislation production rules which can be found on circabc.

**Gonzalez Cesar** (Euroseeds) asked if the entry in force of the secondary legislation will be postponed to first of January 2022, including the DA on organic heterogeneous material. COM confirmed this.

**Aurélie Quentin** (EOCC) asked if the timeline of the COM is to have all secondary acts published by the first trimester of 2021.

**Laurence Bonafos** (COM) clarified that COM is committed to deliver by the first semester of 2021 (until June). She informed that COM cannot speak about other EU institutions which are also highly involved in the adoption process of DAs. It would be possible that the EP would like to extend the scrutiny period for an additional 2 months due to the actual pandemic.

**Aurélie Quentin** (EOCC) followed with the issue of the recognition of CBs and asked COM to consider the period for the recognition of CBs to be in line with the new Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

**Antoine Faure** (EOCC) welcomes the idea to have the control measures ready end of March (even not published) which will give enough time to enable the change of the current control systems (be accredited by ABs, recognised by MS in EU and the Commission in TC).

**Denis Froidmont** (COM) presented the IA authorising products and substances for use in organic production and establishing their lists and the complementary certificate on the non-use of antibiotics in organic livestock production and repealing Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008. (Presentation available on Circabc)

**Emanuele Busacca** (IFOAM OE) welcomed the progress made on the Quassia issue. He asked about the fertilizers as in the draft annexes there is a reference to the horizontal legislation on the CE market fertilizers. What about the non-CE market organic fertilizers?

**Bas Drukker** (COM) informed that the CE market fertilizers are not the only type authorised on the market, the intention is not to exclude but to allow the national authorized fertilizers as long as they comply with the minimum requirements expressed in the organic and horizontal regulations.

**Luca Capodieci** (FEFANA) informed that regarding annex III Part B, it is critically important to ensure that terminologies and other aspects in both EU legislations on organic farming and feed are aligned. He noted that EU horizontal legislation does not provide an authorisation system for processing aids used in feed and feed additives. FEFANA therefore suggests removing "and processing aids" from the title as processing aids used in feed additives are authorised with the feed additive so the reference to the authorised feed additive (or feed additive preparation) also covers the processing aid (associated with the feed additives).

**Luca Capodieci** (FEFANA) highlighted that processing aids are already defined in the EU legislation and that they are substances which are not consumed as feeding stuff by itself.

**Denis Froidmont** (COM) informed that some product can be used as processing aid or as additive and that annex III may also include processing aids which would not fit as additive provided in article 24(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848. Then he followed with a presentation on Annex IV on authorizing products and substances for use in organic food production.

**Jorge Conesa** asked about the timeline by which TC would have to request for the authorisation for inclusive products and about the timeline for the commission and MSs to proceed and conclude.

**Antoine Faure** (EOCC) asked about the procedures for third countries as regard to the request of national authorization linked to Annex I on fertilizers.

**Denis Froidmont** (COM) answered that there is a specific procedures to grant particular authorization to use specific products. but there is no timeline yet. The revision of the annex should be done annually at least viaan IA.

**Emanuele Busacca** (IFOAM OE) asked about the time plan, as currently there is the annex of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008, but we are specifying the ones applying for 2022. He also asked if there will still be time to update these annexes by 2022 and if the annexes of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008, will be changed before the ones of 2022. Finally, he demanded the commission intention with regard to factory farming.

**Bass Drukker** (COM) answered that the annexes of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008, be changed and EGTOP will be consulted upon new requests and their advices will be taking into consideration. In parallel, the Annexes of the Implementing Act implementing Article 24 of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 will also be changed. He notified that the issue of factory farmers will be tackled in the future and EGTOP will be consulted in the coming year, but not before the implementation of the new regulation. In that framework,

a new call for more experts on fertilizers will be needed, likely when the new mandate of EGTOP will start.

#### - Seed/ PRM/ Heterogeneous material

**Thomas Weber** (DG AGRI) informed that the acts are still under Interservice consultation and are in the last stages of consultation on technical points. The discussions with MS should be concluded soon to make the acts available for public consultation. He added that, in the context of the temporary experiment of organic varieties, the COM started already the preparatory work with the objectives to explore specific variety testing regime to support organic variety suitable for organic cultivation. This requires work on testing protocols for varieties for cultivation and use etc... He highlighted that COM is committed to start the experiments half a year after the implementation of the new Regulation (EU) 2018/848, therefore, it might be a delay due to the postponement of the date of entry into application. The implementation date and starting time of the experiments is still under discussion with the stakeholders.

**Euroseeds** underlined that the focus was put much more on the criteria and not so much about the value and use of the crop and asked if the preparatory work already done will also be postponed to coincide with the new application date of the new organic regulation.

**Thomas Weber** (DG AGRI) clarified that the temporary experiment will have to cover the DUS testing and performance and value which still have some discussion to define the main direction. The commitment done by the commission as regard the date of application is to have 6 months starting from the implementation date of the new organic Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

**Luigi Tozzi** (COPA) asked about the section on self-production and exchange of seeds among organic farmers and questioned if this will be included in this work or will be included in the general regulation on seeds.

**Thomas Weber** (DG AGRI) clarified that the temporary experiments apply under the general provision of the seed's legislation, the general rules concerning the exchange of material will also continue to apply. He highlighted that some specificities are relevant in the case of varieties which can be marketed and were registered under this temporary experiment cannot be protected by plant variety rights.

**Aira Sevón** (ECVC) asked for seeds and raised the importance of OHM for farmers which will improve biodiversity and decrease the independence to external outputs as these varieties are much more resilient. They cited that there should be a legislation, considered as a vital instrument, which will ensure that organic producers are able to exchange and reseed their own organic seeds. **COM** answered that the current DA under the organic Regulation does not put any restriction on this.

**Federico Facchin** (COM) brought up an extreme simplification of the system in particular for cereals with the only criteria would be to have an absence of virus in the seeds.

**Emanuele Busacca** (IFOAM OE) said that itis crucial that the description of the type of technique used for breeding and the production method of the OHM in the Delegated Act is clear and workable for organic breeders and producers that select landraces from onfarm management practices. At the same time, we need to make sure that the material is

workable and attractive to use for farmers in organic production systems and that there is transparency regarding some minimum quality criteria, for example the germination rate.

**Euroseeds** commented on heterogeneous material, we feel that these materials are very difficult to control. These materials are not varieties, nor populations, nor mixtures of varieties as described in the seed marketing directives, this should be made clear by the Commission.

**Thomas Weber** (DG AGRI) clarified that there is no derogation linked to plant health issues, the sanitary requirements should apply on seeds and reproductive materials.

#### - Controls and Certification

**Daria Hawat** (DG AGRI) presented the state of play of secondary acts on control (presentation available on circabc). There are secondary acts on controls (1 IA and 2 DA).

#### - International Trade

Alia Atitar De Fuente (DG AGRI) updated on the drafting of the secondary acts on international trade

**Michel Reynaud** (IFOAM OE) asked about the timeline of the process. He also asked about the time dedicated for stakeholders to react and about the communication ways: bilateral meetings or open discussions.

**Alia Atitar De Fuente** (DG AGRI) informed that the timetable already presented is still maintained and that discussion on trade was already initiated. She invited stakeholders to send out their position.

**Gianluca Nurra** (COCERAL) asked about the date of the entry into force of the IA on control of imported of organic products.

Alia Atitar De Fuente (DG AGRI) answered that it will be the same as the entry into force of the new organic Regulation (EU) 2018/848 taking into consideration the one-year postponement context. She followed that as regard trade rules, there will be transitional measures already foreseen in the basic act. All rules should be clarified by the first semester of the next year.

**Antoine Faure** (EOCC) notified that according to article 11 of Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008, the deadline for CBs to submit the update of the scope of recognition for the purpose of equivalence is 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. Therefore, he asked if there is a possibility to postpone the deadline of the scope of recognition to be aligned with the deadline of June 2021. Moreover, he reported that such a request for an update can no longer be feasible via OFIS.

**Alia Atitar De Fuente** (DG AGRI) answered that the COM will take some actions to make sure that in 2021 there will be possibilities to introduce requests for recognition as soon as the regulation on postponement will be adopted. She followed that after the adoption of the regulation on the postponement, COM will also issue an amendment to MSs on this topic.

**Emanuele Busacca** (IFOAM OE) asked if there is any possibility for some exchanges or change in the current equivalency agreement on international trade as negotiations will officially start only after the implementation of the new organic Regulation.

**Alia Atitar De Fuente** (DG AGRI) confirmed that the COM cannot initiate the negotiation on international trade of the new organic Regulation before exchanging with the council. So far, COM is in touch with the equivalent third countries to inform them about the main changes and procedures.

**Aurélie Quentin** (EOCC) asked about the issue as regard the trade agreement with Chili which will expire end of this year and demanded an update about Brexit as regard the recognition of CBs under DEFRA and the negotiation of an equivalence agreement with the EU on organic.

Alia Atitar De Fuente (DG AGRI) notified that COM is in contact with the competent authorities in Chili to maintain the agreement. As regard the Brexit, from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, the UK will be considered as third country. The provisions and rules for third countries are clear and COM will make sure that these provisions apply also for the UK. Some CBs have asked to be recognized in order to certify import from the UK, these applications are under assessment.

#### 3.4 EU Organic Action Plan: discussions with the stakeholders

**Diego Canga Fano** (DG AGRI) informed that sustainable agriculture has gained a political relevance in the EU with the publication of the new green deal and the public release of F2F and biodiversity strategies. These strategies represent the milestone in the EU agriculture history specially with the target of 25% of organic land by 2030 aiming for a more sustainable food system. The action plan will develop the necessary tools to stimulate the organic sector and go beyond the current rules. The OAP are considered major initiatives that need to undergo the full better regulation process to allow citizens and stakeholders to have their say and to build up the AOP in a transparent way.

He added that the most important point for the Commission is to find the equilibrium among the union in terms of supply, demand, production, surface and consumption which would need to increase parallelly and encourage MS to convert to organic.

The previous OAP gave birth to the electronic certificate of inspection which turns out to become a pillar for traceability, triggered the anti-fraud activities at EU level and increased funding for research on organic sector.

The OAP will be approved at the beginning of 2021, until its enforced, we would need to monitor on yearly basis the process. The contribution is welcomed until 27<sup>th</sup> of November for stakeholders.

**Marian Blom** (CDG chair) asked participants to come forward with their demands for the OAP focusing on: (1) general issues, (2)GPP& promotion policies, (3) CAP, (4) Plant protection product PPP, (5) knowledge and innovation.

**Luca Capodieci** (FEFANA), referring to the mentioned existing unbalance of the growth of the sector among MS, argued that most likely this is also due to different interpretation of common rules, specifically referring to the feed sector. Referring to the focus of the Organic Action Plan, which appears to be "sustainable food production", he pointed out that organic production certainly has some positive aspects but should not necessarily be

seen as the only way to produce sustainable food. This because some sustainable technologies are prohibited from use in organic production. Any possible green claim should be based on science, substantiated on scientific parameters, so to increase consumer awareness. Via F2F strategy, the EC is "pushing" on facilitating market introduction of feed additives useful to lower the environmental impacts of animal production but at the same time that innovation cannot be fully exploited in organic farming. He was asking to comment on this.

**Diego Canga Fano** (DG AGRI) does not agree with the fact that various rules apply. He opposed saying that regulations apply instead of rules. He informed that regulations, including DA and IA, are directly applicable by definition and do not need to be transposed to national laws but more uniformed interpretations of European laws are needed. As regard the unbalanced growth of the sector within the MS, she answered that the issue is more linked to cultural traditions, but COM is working to decrease the gap. Organic farming is a sustainable food production system and the use of additives is foreseen under precise conditions, it is however true that there are also other production systems that are sustainable.

**Luigi Tozzi** (COPA) mentioned that the increase in surface area does not guarantee production, as uncultivated areas are counted. Raising 25% of organic area might not increase the production. He added that people are starting to stop investing on organic farming. He asked what the COM will do to ensure fair prices for organic operators. Moreover, he questioned about the COM plans to increase the organic production without increasing the import from non-EU countries. Finally, he remarked that promoting organic protein feed seems to not be very investigated whereas it is a raising issue in the organic area.

**Diego Canga Fano** (DG AGRI) notified that COM is asking stakeholders for ideas and that the questionnaire contains open questions for further inputs. As regard the import, he informed that the main items are tropical fruits and that the focus of AOP is to reach 25% internally.

**Emanuele Busacca** (IFOAM OE) gave the first inputs of IFOAM OE as regard the general issues: First, IFOAM OE had identified that this plan had certain limitations, namely the absence of quantitative, time-bound objectives as well as the absence of a dedicated budget. Therefore, we suggest that the next AOP include quantitative, specific, and time-bound objectives with a dedicated budget, where possible. Objectives should be accompanied with lists of concrete actions and timetables. The institution or stakeholder

responsible for the implementation of each action should also be clear. Member States are encouraged to develop their own national organic action plans with concrete, time-bound actions.

Second, IFOAM OE highlighted that the 2014-2020 action plan mainly focuses on actions that the European Commission should carry out, without focusing on how the national, regional, or the local level could support organic farming. IFOAM OE therefore welcomes that the roadmap sees the new organic action plan as "a common enabling framework to foster initiatives taken by Member States, regional or local authorities". Indeed, it is important to ensure that the relevant actions are decided with and followed through in cooperation with regional and local governments. This is particularly true when it comes to initiatives related to public procurement.

Finally, IFOAM OE believes that it is crucial for an organic action plan to include activities related to monitoring and evaluation from the outset. Therefore, the Commission should monitor the implementation of the action plan and produce a its midterm review. If there are major gaps in the implementation of the action plan, the European Commission should evaluate how to close these gaps.

**Diego Canga Fano** (DG AGRI) highlighted the importance of the cooperation with local and regional authorities. COM directly exchanges directly with MS as natural interlocuter and is inviting stakeholders to spread their experiences with the ministries.

**Gianluca Nurra** (COCERAL) asked how the Commission is willing to proceed in order to sustain the organic trade. He informed that the answer could be to find a good balance between the offer and demand.

**Diego Canga Fano** (DG AGRI) answered that the budget of promotion is available, and the green public procurement is offered since years and is a matter on regional and local authorities to use current opportunities in the organic sector. He also added that the COM is considering to use school schemes and hospital canteens but this is on the hand of EU MS.

Chris Atkinson (IFOAM OE) The Commission should build strong knowledge networks (face to face and online) for organic farming. We need to get the knowledge to the farmers. We need good advisory services for organic farming, independent from companies selling inputs and geared towards agroecology. Farmers should be better connected to researchers, and to colleagues abroad. As such, Member States should set up a dedicated budget to ensure the availability and preparation of organic advisers; demonstration of best practice in organic farming; collaboration on knowledge sharing and market development. Research and innovation budgets for organic farming under Horizon Europe should be in line with the target of organic farmland. The European Commission should strive to dedicate 25% of the budget for food & farming R&I to organic research needs such as organic approaches for plant health (i.e. increased use of functional biodiversity and resilient cultivars), organic approaches to sustainable animal production (i.e. use of resilient and robust breeds, herbal medication, husbandry practices respecting animal behaviour), minimal and careful food processing, and strengthening organic knowledge and innovation systems.

**Emanuele Busacca** (IFOAM OE) underlined the need for a mandatory, progressive, sustainable food procurement in all EU schools and kindergartens with at least 20% of products from organic agriculture by 2022; this percentage would increase year after year. IFOAM OE emphasized that, when assessing the CAP strategic plans, the Commission should ensure that enough budget of the CAP is dedicated to environmental, climate, and animal welfare actions, including sufficient support for organic conversion and maintenance, either through eco-schemes or rural development measures, or through a combination of both. Member States must integrate organic innovation/education, and market development/consumer awareness schemes in their rural development programmes.

As regard to the issue of pesticide restudies, IFOAM OE proposed to increase the budget for research and innovation for organic agricultural methods in order to find R&I solutions to this issue1 and (2) put forward concrete actions that aim at simplifying the registration of plant protection products (PPPs) suitable for organic, such as natural substances, (3) promote further harmonisation regarding the handling of pesticide residue findings, by taking into account the damage that a zero-tolerance approach would do to

the organic sector, (4) investigate possibilities for placement of liability on pesticide producers and users, on the basis of the polluter pays principle; (5) investigate findings of pesticides (such as prosulfocarb) in organic fruit and greens (from rain and dew) as basis for placement of possible liability or ban on these substances. Generally, all inputs needed for the upscaling of organic farming should be available in sufficient quality and quantity.

**Aira Sevón** (ECVC) insisted on the obligation for the MS to include organic stakeholders to the preparation to the CAP & CAP must be aligned with F2F as a unique possibility to succeed. COM statistics show that organic is the only sector that has been improving in imports, EU is producing more protein: e.g. in areas where organic soya could be produced in EU there are other more financially sound plants for the farmers. She added that ECVC supports organic retailers, the processors and industries.

**Luca Capodieci** (FEFANA) said that organic production has some positive aspects but should not be seen as a sustainable model as it prohibits the use of certain sustainable technologies, FEFANA is asking for a fact-based assessment of sustainability parameters for different ways of organic productions and there should be a need to educate consumers about sustainable consumption.

**Diego Canga Fano** (DG AGRI) informed that the new organic Regulation (EU) 2018/848 defines clearly in a legal framework the technologies allowed in organic farming system. The scope of the work is how can we increase the organic sector.

## 3.5 Presentation of the EGTOP report on Cleaning and Disinfection Products and short discussion with the stakeholders

**Bass Drukker** (COM) presented the EGTOP report proposing criteria for cleaning and disinfection which is available on circabc.

**Emanuele Busacca** (IFOAM OE) informed that IFOAM OE is working a lot on this topic and created an internal working group dedicated to cleaning and disinfection products authorised for use in organic processing. He reported that IFOAM OE sent already some proposals and would like to know if the COM has considered that a positive list of criteria is possible instead of a positive list of substances and products. He notified that IFOAM OE is working on this perspective and making a survey in different EU countries to assess the proposed system.

**Laurence Bonafos** (COM) informed that COM is taking into consideration all received suggestions. She answered that there is no legal possibility to have a positive list of criteria as Article 24 of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 asks COM to provide list of authorized products and substances. However, we should have common criteria as presented.

**Dr. Norbert Kolb** (SACAR) notified about country of origin of chlorine for disinfection of water to clean the vegetables. He followed that the substance is described as biocide aiming to kill the micro-organisms. He asked if Chlorine will be a prohibited substance and advised COM to take this kind of procedure into account in the new list.

**Bass Drukker** (COM) informed that chlorine is mentioned in the list of EGTOP report. It should, therefore, be prohibited. However, on the other hand, it is a recommendation. We will evaluate each case according to its special need.

#### **3.6 AOB**

#### a) Extension of the flexibility of controls due to Covid-19 pandemics

**Elena Panichi** (COM) informed regulation derogating rules on the application of frequency and way of controls where low risk farmers were exempted from on the spot farms. Substitutions based on documentary checks were referred to with a potential on the spot control as soon as Covid-19 measures will be lifted specially for high risk farmers. The rules will be extended to first February 2021 to be aligned with the regulation on official control.

COM updated regarding the provisions related to sampling and additional inspections and unannounced visits which will end by the end of the year to facilitate the calculation of the reduced percentages. The provisions regarding the flexibilities for low and high-risk operators will end by first February 2021. And the COM will think of the follow up to ease the calculation of the percentages.

#### b) African Swine Fever

**Laurence Bonafos** (COM) DG SANTE and German competent authorities in animal health are dealing with the African Swine Fever situation in Germany

Regarding access to open air areas, Article 14 (1) (iii) of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 states that the livestock shall have permanent access to open air areas, preferably pasture, whenever weather conditions and the state of the ground allow this unless restrictions and obligations related to the protection of human and animal health are imposed on the basis of Community legislation;

Measures necessary to fight against African Swine Fever in pig holdings are laid down in decisions from DG SANTE and also from competent authorities in the zones affected.

So organic pig producers should follow the recommendations of animal health experts in DG SANTE and Germany.

## List of participants- Minutes

## Meeting of the Civil Dialogue Group Organic Farming

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Member organisation	NUMBER OF PERSONS
Association des régions européennes des produits d'origine (AREPO)	2
ERPA	1
EU Association of Specialty Feed Ingredients and their Mixtures (FEFANA)	1
Euro Coop - European Community of Consumer Co-operatives (EUROCOOP)	1
EuroCommerce	1
Eurogroup for Animals	1
European agri-cooperatives (COGECA)	4
European Agroforestry Federation (EURAF)	2
European Coordination Via Campesina (ECVC)	2
European Council of Young farmers (CEJA)	3
European Crop Protection Association (ECPA)	1
European Environmental Bureau (EEB)	1
European farmers (COPA)	4
European Landowners' Organization asbl (ELO asbl)	2
European Liaison Committee for Agriculture and agri-food trade (CELCAA)	3
European Organic Certifiers Council (EOCC)	2
Fair Trade Advocacy Office (FTAO)	1
FoodDrinkEurope (FoodDrinkEurope)	3
International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements EU Regional Group (IFOAM EU Group)	5

Pesticide Action Network Europe (PAN Europe)	1
SACAR - Secrétariat des Associations du Commerce Agricole Réunies / Joint Secretariat of Agricultural Trade Associations (SACAR)	3
WWF European Policy Programme (WWF EPO)	1