



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B – Sustainability  
**The Director**

Brussels,  
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## MINUTES

***MEETING OF THE Civil Dialogue Group ORGANIC FARMING  
Meeting via videoconference (Interactio)  
on 13 May 2022***

Chair: Elena PANICHI

Delegations present: All delegations were present, except BEUC, EUROCOOP, ECPA, EEB, EFFAT, EURAF, FTAO, PAN EUROPE, WWF

## 1. RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE CIVIL DIALOGUE GROUP

## 2. UPDATE ON FUTURE LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

**The Commission representatives** presented future activities for production rules. (The presentation is available on Circa).

The main future delegated and implementing acts will cover the following areas:

- Organic Pet food;
- Organic Sea salts and other salts for food and feed;
- Insects for organic food and organic feed;
- Authorised products and substances in organic production;
- Derogations non-organic protein feed for poultry and porcine animals following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

## 3. UPDATE ON THE EGTOP WORK

**The Commission representatives** presented the latest update on the functioning and the work plan of EGTOP.

(The presentation is available on Circa).

## 4. UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ORGANIC PRODUCTION

**The Commission representatives** provided a detailed overview, action by action, of the different steps taken so far to implement the action plan for the development of organic production, emphasizing the institutional reception of the plan, the establishment of an annual EU organic day, the establishment of an EU network of national organic ambassadors, the creation of EU organic awards and actions in the field of research and innovation. Stakeholders asked whether national organic action plans could be made available and whether the names of the national organic ambassadors could be shared. **The Commission representatives** will look into this.

## 5. PRESENTATION FROM THE STAKEHOLDERS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW ORGANIC LEGISLATION

Several organisations took the floor to present the main issues faced by the sector to implement the new organic rules.

On primary production, IFOAM mentioned the issue of inert materials suitable for sprouts production, the labelling rules for pet food, the lack of possibility to place on the market the products listed in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2018/848, many issues linked to poultry production, and feeding regimes for rabbits that are not adapted for pregnant and nursing does.

On processing, several organisations highlighted the difficulties created by the procedure and time constraints on authorisations of non-organic agricultural ingredients, the issue of the use of IERs' for glucose, the future list of cleaning and disinfectants asking the services to keep in mind the need for time for adaptation and the new rules related to flavourings.

EOCC made a presentation proposing to have remote audits.

## **6. PRESENTATION FROM THE STAKEHOLDERS ON THE IMPACT OF THE UKRAINIAN SITUATION ON EU PRODUCERS**

Several Organisations took the floor regarding the impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

OPTA highlighted the fluctuations in availability and prices, explained that the changes of ingredients imply changes in the labelling of feed, and the cumulative effects of availability and prices of ingredients with high energy costs.

IFOAM highlighted that there are immediate problems and these will continue for some time, there is a disruption of the supply chain in particular for organic protein feed and cereals.

COPA COGECA highlighted the differences in situations between Member States; the need to realise that with spring and summer coming the situation will improve but we may face again difficulties later in the year. Higher prices of feed and energy costs are really putting pressure on the sector.

COPA COGECA mentioned that although the situation is more critical in central European countries, this has a domino effect in other European countries with an increased demand for organic feed including coming from the conventional sector.

FEFAC highlighted the shortage of feed materials in particular organic protein feed; the situation varies from one MS to another. FEFAC fears that limiting the derogation to 5% of non-organic protein feed may not be sufficient in the future. The rules will need to be applied in a more harmonized way.

**The Commission representatives** referred to the ongoing procedure relating to adopt a draft delegated act for poultry and porcine animals. The Commission representatives explained that under these future rules MS will first have to recognise a situation of catastrophic circumstances and then have a possibility to grant derogations to use non organic protein feed for poultry and porcine animals under certain conditions; these member States will have to notify the Commission and share this information with other Member States. Several member states have notified the use of derogations for catastrophic circumstances in OFIS. DG AGRI B.4 will continue to monitor the situation.

Disclaimer

*"The opinions expressed in this report represent the point of view of the meeting participants from agriculturally related NGOs at community level. These opinions cannot, under any circumstances, be attributed to the European Commission. Neither the European Commission nor any person acting on behalf of the Commission is responsible for the use which might be made of the here above information."*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'P' followed by 'BASCOU' in a cursive script.

Pierre BASCOU

List of participants– Minutes  
**MEETING OF THE Civil Dialogue Group ORGANIC FARMING**  
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Member Organisations	Number of Persons
AREPO	1
CEJA	4
CELCAA	3
COPA-COGECA	7
ECVC	2
EEB	1
EFFAT	0
ELO	2
EOCC	2
ERPA	0
EURAF	2
EuroCommerce	1
Eurogroup for Animals	1
FEFANA	1
FoodDrinkEurope	4
IFOAM	4
PAN Europe	1
SACAR	3