



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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

Brussels,  
agri.ddg1.b.4(2021)6928651

## MINUTES

### *MEETING OF THE Civil Dialogue Group ORGANIC FARMING Meeting via videoconference (Interactio) on 7 October 2021*

Chair: Elena PANICHI

Delegations present: All delegations were present, except EEB, EFFAT, ERPA, EURAF and PAN Europe.

#### **1. Approval of the agenda**

#### **2. Nature of the meeting**

The meeting was non-public.

#### **3. List of points discussed**

##### **3.1. State of play of secondary legislation.**

Commission presented the state of play of secondary legislation. A table with all the acts of the secondary legislation was presented and made available to the CDG members. More detailed explanations on each act were then presented by the Commission in separate presentations. The presentations on the acts on production rules and on controls were made available to the CDG Members.

A session of question and answers followed; on production rules questions were raised on how to solve the issue of plant reproductive material for fruit trees and horticulture, on the labelling of compound feed “suitable for organic production” and feed, and on fertilizers authorized at national level.

##### **3.2. Issues and priorities to be dealt with after the implementation of new regulation**

Commission presented the issues and priorities for production rules after 1 January 2022. The presentation was made available to the CDG members.

A session of questions and answers followed; questions were raised on insects, on innovative systems for livestock and a statement was made asking for meaningful future rules for organic salt.

### **3.3. Update on the amendment of 1235/2008.**

The Commission provided an update concerning the proposal to amend Regulation (EC) 1235/2008. Such amendment includes updates in Annex III of that Regulation concerning third countries and in Annex IV concerning control bodies and control authorities recognised for the purpose of equivalence. It also aims to align the EU legislation with the provisions of the EU-UK TCA relevant agreement on equivalency. In response to an enquiry concerning the evaluation of the impact, the Commission reminded of the aim of the proposed amendment and also referred to the information that was provided to the stakeholders to prepare on the UK's withdrawal from the EU.

### **3.4. Update on EU Action Plan for the development of organic production.**

The Commission presented an update on the Action Plan for the Development of Organic Production.

It provided an overview of institutional developments (e.g. European Parliament opinion, Council conclusions, EESC opinion, CoR opinion) and of the state of implementation of different actions in the Action Plan (e.g. EU organic day, organic awards, information and communication measures, promotion activities, research and innovation actions).

Questions from the attendees related to the means at the disposal of the Commission to ensure a sufficient level of ambition at Member State level as concerns organic production and to the use of Green Public Procurement to fuel the demand for organic products.

### **3.5. EGTOP; dossiers and state of play with the renewal of the mandate**

Commission presented in a ppt the situation for EGTOP, regarding the last meetings and reports of the previous mandate and the preparations for the new mandate. The approach regarding observers was explained. Questions were raised regarding the definition of factory farming, the authorisation of products and substances for pet food and for slow growing poultry.

### **3.6. Presentation from IFOAM: Outcomes of the Symposium on Animal Husbandry and Grazing Management in Organic Farming of 10th June 2022-**

IFOAM presented the outcome of the symposium on animal husbandry and grazing management in organic farming and mentioned that different situations exist according to a survey they carried out in 19 Member States.

IFOAM would like to discuss further with the Commission the implementation of the rules when the legal provisions are sufficiently open to lead to different applications in the Member States.

**3.7. Presentation from the sector: Organic protein feed gap and insufficient protein plant/ oil seeds production: how to deal with the incumbent problem as of 01/01/2022.**

COPA COGECA made a presentation on the organic protein feed gap.

A session of questions and answers followed on new possibilities offered by processed proteins derived from insects for poultry and pigs and also from agroforestry and by research projects. One participant highlighted that the problem should be addressed the other around by ensuring that breeds and strains are fit to be raised under organic production, making the most of organic feed.

**3.8. New Breeding Techniques.**

DG SANTE is lead on this file and made a comprehensive presentation on new genomic techniques. The presentation was made available to the members of the CDG

A session of questions and answers followed.

**3.9. Update on African Swine Fever.**

DG SANTE is lead on this file and made a presentation of the state of play on African Swine fever. The presentation was made available to the members of the CDG.

**4. Conclusions/recommendations/opinions**

All the points of the agenda were covered.

**5. Next meeting**

The next meeting or CDG are planned for 13/05/2022 and 14/10/2022.

**6. List of participants - Annex**

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."*



Nathalie SAUZE-VANDEVYVER

List of participants– Minutes  
**MEETING OF THE Civil Dialogue Group ORGANIC FARMING**  
*Meeting via videoconference (Interactio)*  
*on 7 October 2021*

Member Organisations	Number of Persons
AREPO	1
CEJA	2
CELCAA	2
COPA-COGECA	2
ECVC	1
EEB	0
EFFAT	0
ELO	2
EOCC	2
ERPA	0
EURAF	0
EuroCommerce	1
Eurogroup for Animals	1
FEFANA	1
FoodDrinkEurope	4
IFOAM	3
PAN Europe	0
SACAR	1