

7th European Workshop on Organic Seed Regulation 9th & 10th October 2013 Brussels

Ellipsgebouw Building, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Sustainable Agricultural Development Division, Koning Albert II-laan 35, bus 16, 1030 Brussels

Program of the 7th European Workshop on Organic Seed Regulation

Wednesday 9th October 2013

13:00	Registration and light lunch sponsored Flemish Government, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Sustainable Agricultural Development Division (Room K1 VIP B Floor -1)
14:00	Welcome and Opening by <i>Mr. Johan Verstrynge</i> , head of Sustainable Agricultural Development Division from the Flemish Ministry (Room 0.04 Floor 0)
14:10	The aim of this meeting and a short update of the results of the previous ECOPB workshop on Organic Seed 2011 by <i>Monika Messmer</i> (chair of ECO-PB) and <i>Sally Howlett</i> (Organic Research Centre, host of last workshop)
14:30	The revision of the organic regulation process and the opportunities this offers to change and optimise the rules on organic seed by <i>Mr. L'Her</i> from the organic unit of the European Commission
14:50	Country reports Summary of online survey by <i>Maaïke Raaijmakers</i> , Bionext and short presentations of some selected EU countries to discuss the current state of the art on the organic seed regulation regime in their country Belgium (<i>Mrs. Laurence Chateau</i> , <i>Mr. Lieven Delanote</i>), Germany (<i>Klaus-Peter Wilbois</i>), Netherlands (<i>Maaïke Raaijmakers</i>), France (<i>Frederic Rey</i>), Czech Republic (<i>Jan Gallas</i>), Italy (<i>Francesco Riva</i>), Greece (<i>Kostas Koutis</i>), Spain (<i>Juanma Gonzalez</i>) <i>Questions to focus on:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What is the current situation regarding the organic seed regulation in your member state?</i> • <i>Are there any changes since the last meeting in 2011 concerning: derogation numbers, species or sub-species in category with no derogation, management of the derogations, databases etc. ?</i> • <i>Are there any ongoing or future projects to improve organic seed use and/or supply?</i>
16:15	Coffee break
16:45	The perspective of seed and breeding companies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the preliminary results of a survey among organic breeders and seed companies organized by the Solibam project by <i>Frederic Rey</i> ITAB. • Presentation from the European Seed Association (ESA) by <i>Garlich von Essen</i> about their vision on the use and production of organic seed. • Presentation by <i>Mr. Amadeus Zschunke</i>, organic seed company Sativa Rheinau AG • Feedback from other seed companies
17:45	The perspective of the organic farmers organisations Spain seed network (<i>Juanma Gonzalez</i>), Italian farmers network (<i>Riccardo Bocci</i>) etc
18:15 – 19:00	Plenary discussion on favourable options to further improve availability and harmonize the policies on organic seed (based on online country surveys completed by the participants beforehand)
20:00	Common dinner (on own costs) at the Ethiopian restaurant KoKoB (www.kokob.be).

Thursday 10 October 2013

8:30	IFOAM seed position paper and IFOAM EU role in influencing EU policies , how we coordinate positions within the organic sector and how we are working in advocacy, by <i>Emanuele Busacca</i> from the IFOAM EU group
9:00	Three case studies (plenary presentations) <i>Production and use of organic seed and planting material in EU member states, difficulties encountered, proposed solutions and suggestions to increase availability of organic seed and planting material</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Potatoes presented by director <i>Jan van Hoogen</i> from Agrico, NL• Cereals presented by <i>Ellen Muehlhausen</i> seed company KWS, Germany• Vegetables presented by <i>Henk Haitsma</i> seed company Vitalis, NL
10:00	Coffee break
10:30	Discussions in subgroups on key issues raised by participants <i>For instance: Improve derogation system and reports, include horticultural material, increase production of (cytoplasm fusion free) organic seed from cabbage crops, shift of potato to category 1</i>
12:00	Short presentation of outcome of group discussions
12:15	Plenary discussion and development of roadmap for future activities
13:00 - 14:00	Closing and light lunch sponsored Flemish Government, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Sustainable Agricultural Development Division (Room K1 VIP B Floor -1)