



Press Release
27 November 2009

Joined forces for organic inspection bodies

In December 2009, the European Organic Certifiers Council (EOCC) will be officially registered as non-profit association. This formal act stands for a more than 9-year steady development of collaboration among innovative and leading organic certification bodies. Starting as informal exchange platform the EOCC developed into a recognized solid partner within the organic sector. The EOCC represents about 40 certification bodies in and outside the EU.

Present targets

The EOCC aims at increasing trust in organic products by improving the quality of inspection bodies and harmonization of the control system.

Therefore, one major task of the EOCC is to serve as information exchange platform not only among certification bodies but also between them and other "players" in the organic sector. Recently the EOCC has become a frequently asked expert group in the anti fraud workshops and in residue and analysis-result topics.

Further more the EOCC is aiming for harmonizing the implementation and interpretation of the revised EU legislation for organic production. Particularly with respect to this process the EOCC should be the voice of the inspection bodies towards the European Commission and organic sector.

Future

The EOCC will enhance cooperation with policy makers, associations of producers & traders to keep reliance in organic products and in the end to prevent fraud. In parallel, EOCC will express critical points of the system whereas it also has to respect the flexibility and variability of organic systems.

A new and stable structure consisting of the board, working groups and a representative in Brussels will enable EOCC to tackle these challenges of the future.

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