The World of Organic Agriculture:

Regulations and Certification

Emerging Trends 2015

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Organic Regulations by Continent (2013)

No of Countries with Organic Regulations: 2002 versus 2014

Europe: Regulations 2003 (35), Regulations 2014 (10)
America and Carribean: Regulations 2003 (5), Regulations 2014 (15)
Asia and Pacific: Regulations 2003 (10), Regulations 2014 (15)
Africa: Regulations 2003 (1), Regulations 2014 (2)

National standards 2014: Europe (5), America and Carribean (1), Asia and Pacific (2), Africa (0)

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Countries Drafting Organic Regulation

- Russia, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Pakistan
- Algeria, Egypt, Kenya, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan
- Jamaica, St Lucia
- North America
- South America
- Africa
- Asia
- Australia
US: 101 approved CBs

Certification Bodies recognized for US NOP certification

Source: www.ams.usda.gov; access 10.02.2015
EU: 223 approved CBs

Certification Bodies recognized for Imports to the EU

Trends in Regulations: US (NOP)

Focus:

- Compliance and enforcement
  - Data and information technology
  - Guidance documents
  - Clearer standards
- Broader scopes
- Market access
  - Local and regional producers
  - Equivalency arrangements
Trends in Regulations: EU

New import scheme is implemented

- Import authorizations expired by 01.07.2014
- Certification has to be done by certification bodies authorized by the EU (third country list, list of CB’s)
- In-conversion products can no longer be imported from most countries
  - CB recognition does not include in-conversion products
- For most Non-EU countries CB’s are only approved for plant products and partly processing (no animal husbandry, no feed, no seeds)
Trends in Regulations: EU

Complete Revision in negotiation

- In negotiation since 2014, strong opposition by some Member States, IFOAM
- Reduction of exemptions
  - e.g. part conversion, tethering of animals…
- Introduction of residue limits for organic products
- Bilateral agreements with other countries
  - Replacing the unilateral recognition
- Unlimited recognition of CB’s
  - no scopes and countries restrictions
- Introduction of compliance scheme for imports
  - Replacing the equivalence approach
Trends in regulations:
Bilateral agreements among governments

- Based on Equivalency
  - US –
    - US - EU (2012)
    - US - Japan (2014)
    - US – Korea (2014)

- Critical points are usually excluded (e.g. antibiotics)
  - EU -
    - Switzerland (2002 – trade agreement)
    - US (2012)
    - Korea (2015)

- CAN –
  - Switzerland
  - EU
  - Costa Rica
  - Japan

Quelle:
Trends in regulations:

- Equivalence within the main markets
- Compliance for third countries
- Asia, Africa: national standards/frameworks instead of labeling legislation
Trends and Conclusions

- Mutual recognition arrangements among main markets (US, EU, Canada…)

- Compliance for imports: hurdles for smaller players increase
Thank you very much!

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