The World of Organic Agriculture:

Regulations and Certification

Emerging Trends 2010

Beate Huber
# Organic Regulations by Continent (2009)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Countries with regulations</th>
<th>Countries per continent</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>America and Caribbean</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>70</strong></td>
<td><strong>193</strong></td>
<td><strong>36%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Countries Drafting Regulations

- Europe: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Russia, Ukraine
- Asia: Armenia, Hong Kong, Lebanon, Sri Lanka, Syria
- America and Caribbean: Cuba, Nicaragua, St Lucia
- Africa: Egypt, Morocco, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe
# Certification Bodies by Continent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>117</td>
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<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
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<td>160</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America and Caribbean</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>North America</td>
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<td>83</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>489</strong></td>
<td><strong>481</strong></td>
<td><strong>468</strong></td>
<td><strong>395</strong></td>
<td><strong>419</strong></td>
<td><strong>385</strong></td>
<td><strong>364</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The Organic Standard 08/08
The Organic Certification Directory
Trends in Regulations: A move towards mutual recognition

**US**
- First equivalency agreement with Canada
- Exemption for animals treated with antibiotics
- Negotiations with the EU

**Canada**
- Approval of accreditation bodies
  - First equivalency agreement with the US
  - Exemption: Sodium Nitrate, hydroponic or aeroponic production, livestock stocking rates

**Australia**
- Unilateral acceptance of US NOP, EU Reg, JAS, New Zealand, Canada for imported products
European Union

- List of control bodies for equivalence
  - 72 applications until 31.10.2009
  - Publication expected in 2010
  - Evaluation by the Commission

- Third Country List
  - 8 countries listed (Tunisia added in June 2009)
  - next country to be added: Japan
  - 19 applications
  - soon expected: Canada, negotiations with the US
  - recent progress on other countries (China, Turkey, Peru, Chile)

19.02.2010
South Korea

- From 2011 accreditation according to South Korean standards required (no equivalence agreements)

Taiwan

- Unilateral acceptance of 17 countries including US and several EU countries for crop products, for livestock only US, AUS, NZ

Chile

- Accreditation only by an IAF member
Global Organic Market Access (GOMA)

- Initiative of FAO, IFOAM, UNCTAD
- Based on achievements of International Task Force on Harmonization
  - Accepting diversity in organics by equivalency approach
  - Elaboration of Equitool
  - Adoption of the International Requirement for organic certification bodies (IROCB)
Summary

- Dynamics in approval of national regulations and approval of CB‘s slowed down
- More countries are working on import schemes
- Progress in mutual recognition among main market players
- The world’s first fully reciprocal agreement between regulated organic systems (CAN – US)?
- Increase of accreditation requirements but also increased opportunities for getting multiple certification with one inspection