

The background is a solid green color with a repeating pattern of white icons representing various organic products. These icons include fruits like apples, pears, grapes, and strawberries; vegetables like carrots, mushrooms, and leafy greens; grains like bread and wheat; and animals like cows, sheep, and ducks. The icons are arranged in a grid-like fashion across the entire page.

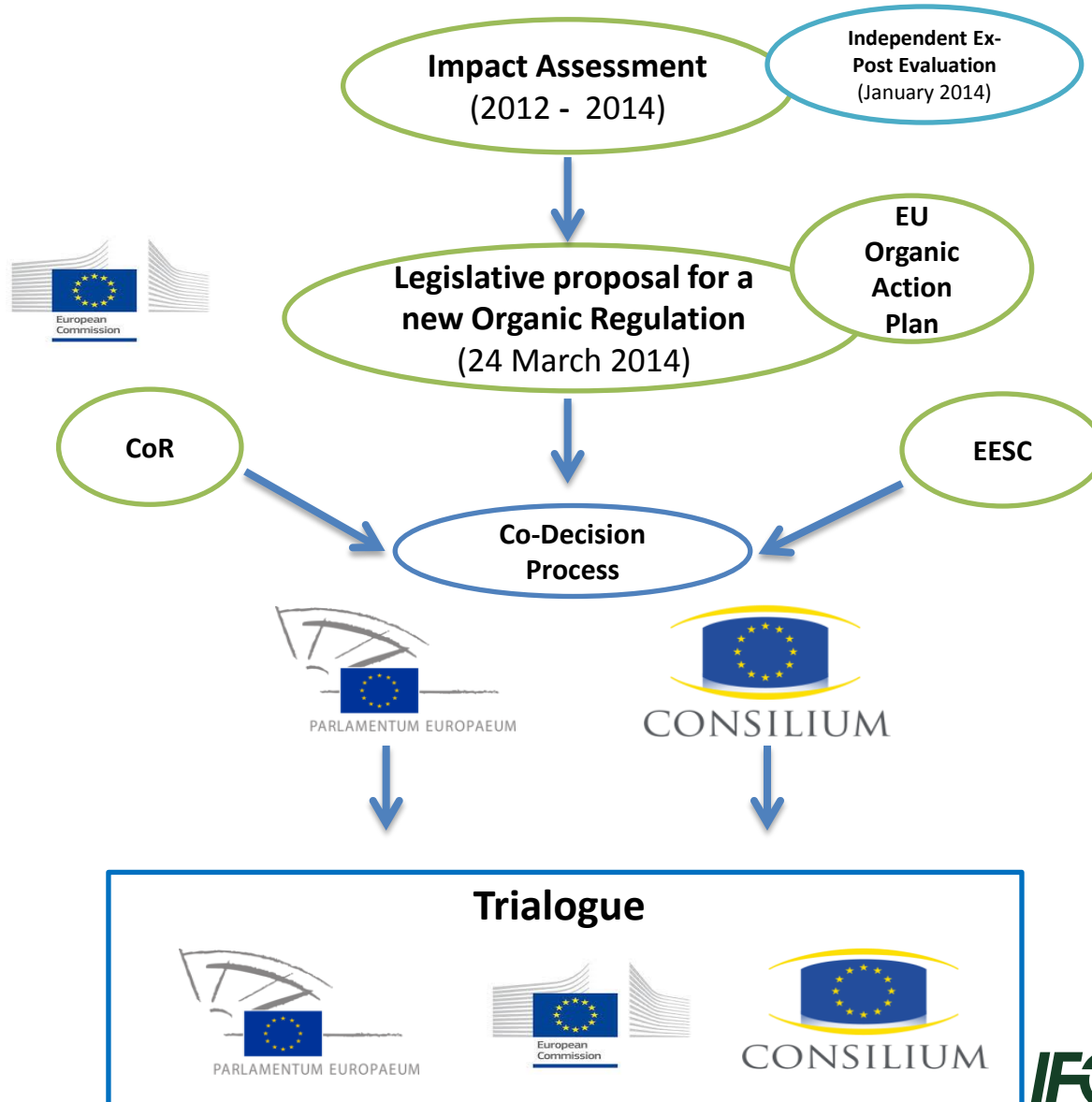
Review of the EU Organic Regulation

AREPO – Annual plenary meeting

12 November 2015

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The Process



State of play of the organic regulation review

Council of the EU

- During the Agrifish Council meeting of the 16 June 2015 the Ministers of Agriculture adopted a “general agreement” on the initial Commission proposal
- Current presidency is Luxembourg
- Next Presidency: Netherland, Slovakia.

European Parliament

- 6 may – COM ENVI adopted its opinion: 153 amendments.
- Com Agri meeting May 26, 2015 Martin Häusling (Green MEP, rapporteur) has presented his report : 353 Amendments
- Other MEPs have tabled amendments in June 2015
- Totally around 1480 amendments
- The report was adopted on 13 October by the EP Committee of Agriculture. Direct mandate was given to the Rapporteur (no vote in Plenary)

Trilogue

- 2 trilogue meetings planned under the Luxembourg Presidency (19 November, one in December)
- Dutch Presidency will take over from 1 January 2016

General Agreement VS Report?

Trilogue: find a compromise between the Position of the Council and the Parliament.

General Agreement – Towards the status quo.
Reintroduction of requirements from the current regulation

COM Agri report – Brings innovation compare to the COM proposal:

- Databases
- Improving harmonisation
- Environmental performance



IFOAM EU Position

- IFOAM EU opposed the initial COM proposal
- Major concerns:
 - Decertification threshold for non-authorized substances
 - Control system moved out
 - Import system shift toward compliance
 - End of the critical derogations (seed; mixed farms; non-organic animals...)



Thresholds for non-allowed substances and products

Commission proposal – Decertification threshold (0.01 ppm) for **any** non-allowed substances, not matter if the farmer used the substance.

Council and Parliament:

- ✓ Phasing out of the Decertification threshold
- ✓ Clarified and harmonised the preventive measures to avoid contaminations.
- ✓ Report and, if appropriate, new legislative proposal on this issue is foreseen in **2020**.

Council Agreement – Derogation for MS that establish a legal threshold by 2015 until 31 Dec. 2020.

European Parliament – Harmonised the investigation procedure when residues of non allowed plant protection products are detected

- Database for all non- compliances and a database recording every detection of residues.



Control system

Commission proposal – Moving control requirement into official control requirement.

- Extending the control activities on all the food chain, retailers included.
- Focusing on risk assessment by abandoning the annual inspection concept.

Council and parliament

- ✓ Reinsertion of control requirements in organic Reg
- ✓ Possibility of exemption for some retailers

Council of the EU – Mandatory annual inspection with derogation for low risk operators max 30-month between two inspections

Import regime

Commission and Council proposal – Phase out of the principle of equivalence for control bodies in international trade, replaced by the principle of compliance.

- Equivalence principle only within bilateral “trade agreement”

European Parliament – In line with the Commission and the Council apart for products that do not comply with the Regulation (climate and local conditions), the Commission is empowered to adopt rules laying down specific conditions according to which products may be imported from third countries.



Derogations

Commission proposal – **Transitional rule until 2021**: non-organic seeds & propagating material; Introduction of non-organic animals for breeding purpose;

- **Deleted exceptional rules**: Sourcing of young animals in poultry production; Use of a small percentage (5%) of non-organic protein feed; Mixed production; Use of non-organic beeswax

Council and Parliament – Reintroduce derogations for mixed farm under strict conditions.

European Parliament – Maintain the possibility to grant derogations – adding a dynamic system to phase out the exceptional rules.

Delegation of Power

- **Commission proposal** – Regulation proposal has granted to the Commission **31** possibilities to adopt delegated acts and **12** to adopt implementing acts.
- **Council of the EU** – Many delegated acts have been changed to implementing acts. Member states are involved in IA.
- **European Parliament** – Many delegated and implementing acts have been removed. Delegated acts are better framed.



Scope

Commission, Council and Parliament – Clarification of the scope for products like essential oils, beer and spirit drinks, maté. Addition of sea salt.

Council and Parliament – Addition of new products like raw cotton, raw wool, raw hides, skins and beeswax.

European Parliament – Included Mass catering into the scope and aromatised wine products, natural corks.



Merci pour votre attention