

PRESS RELEASE

Change of directors at IFOAM EU

Brussels, 8 April 2016 – Today long-term IFOAM EU Director Marco Schlüter officially stepped down and Eduardo Cuoco was appointed to be the new director.

IFOAM EU President Christopher Stopes said: “I have had the honour of working with Marco Schlüter for the last 7 years. In his time as director, Marco has truly built the organisation: from being the only staff member in 2003 to a powerful advocacy organisation and the voice for the organic movement in the EU. On behalf of the entire board and membership, we would like to thank Marco for his tireless work and dedication, and congratulate him on his achievements.”

Outgoing IFOAM EU Director Marco Schlüter said: “It was my great honour to serve the organic movement and sector to make its voice heard in Brussels and to bring our messages to policy makers at highest level. After thirteen years at IFOAM EU, it is now time for me to move on to new challenges. I would like to thank all those who have generously devoted their time and energy to making IFOAM EU what it is today: the current and former board, council, and staff members and our great membership. I am very confident in the future development of the organisation under its new board and director Eduardo Cuoco.”

Christopher Stopes continued: “Eduardo Cuoco has been with the organic movement for 18 years and has vast experience with farming, certification and business, not to mention a deep understanding of the food industry and EU policy. He has led the development of the European Technology Platform for Organic Food and Farming, TPOrganics, from its infancy to an important player on the research and innovation scene. Eduardo is the right person for the job and on behalf of IFOAM EU, we are very happy to welcome him as the new IFOAM EU director.”

The new IFOAM EU Director, Eduardo Cuoco, commented: “Organic is who I am and leading the EU representation for organic food & farming is an extraordinary opportunity. It will not be easy to follow in Marco’s footsteps but I look forward to the future and I am confident in the IFOAM EU team, their dedication and skills. I would like to thank the board for their confidence in me.”

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IFOAM EU represents more than 160 member organizations in the EU-28, the EU accession countries and EFTA. Member organizations span the entire organic food chain and beyond: from farmers and processors organisations, retailers, certifiers, consultants, traders and researchers to environmental and consumer advocacy bodies.