Brussels, 9 December 2016

IFOAM EU Statement

The organic regulation review has reached a dead end – we need a new start

After thirty-three months of hard work by all parties since the initial Commission proposal for a new organic regulation and twelve months since the start of trilogue negotiations, unfortunately the negotiations have reached a standstill and there is no positive development in sight. Despite the enormous efforts made during the last trialogue negotiations held under the Slovakian Presidency, the three institution did not manage to find a final compromise and decided to suspend the negotiation until further notice.

“IFOAM EU acknowledges the efforts from the EU Commission, Council and Parliament and is delighted to accept the European Parliament invitation to discuss further developments with organic stakeholders. After years of uncertainty for organic farmers, processors, consumers and other stakeholders, it is now time to take stock of what is actually an improvement over the current regulation, which should be used as the basis for a new start”, stated IFOAM EU President Christopher Stopes.

Despite the uncertainty created by the current situation, farmers and citizens are increasingly choosing organic. To strengthen their impact and to deliver on the environmental and social goals the EU has set for itself concerning agriculture, we need a stable regulation that improves on today’s regulation and that actually supports organic development.

Further reading:
IFOAM EU open letter on the organic regulations
Press release MEP Martin Häusling (in English)
Press release MEP Martin Häusling (in German)
Press release MEP Paolo De Castro (in Italian)

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