



Working for organic farming in Europe

International Federation of
Organic Agriculture Movements –
EU Regional Group

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Pavel Misiga
Head of unit
DG Environment
1049 Brussels

Dear Mr Misiga,

I am writing you regard the issue of Green public procurement. We discussed in our meeting of October 29th the great opportunities organic food offers to enhance Green Public Procurement.

The Commission is aiming at 50% Green Public Procurement in its Communication COM(2008) 400. One important aspect to enhance Green public procurement would be to increase it within the EU institutions and organic catering offers naturally a chance to do so.

The IFOAM EU Group had some experience with organic catering in EU canteens during the Austrian Presidency in 2006 with an organic week. Further, we currently met with the actors in the Belgian market and there is a positive development but the situation is still far away from an ideal situation.

We learnt that the caterer in EU institutions seems to start being open for including organic food in the offered meals. E.g. the European Parliament offers an organic meal per day. Organic can be also make vegetarian meals more attractive and would help to mitigate climate change in a double sense: support less meat consumption and benefiting from less carbon emission through organic products. We are currently finalising an overview of organic catering in EU canteens.

We would like to push the development and therefore offer our cooperation to you. We suggest that we will meet together in 2010 with members of us, catering consultants and a distributor and the chef de cuisine of some EU institutions. In doing this we can facilitate development of strategies that can be followed up by concrete actions in the European institutions and thereby set a positive example for use/exemplification in member states

I hope to see you soon in 2010 and wish you

A merry Christmas

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Marco Schlüter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marco Schlüter
Director