The 2017 General Assembly of IFOAM - Organics International passed a recommendation to ask all candidates running for the World Board the same questions regarding our strategy, policies and positions, for the voting members to know more about the people they vote for.

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1. The **strategic plan of IFOAM - Organics International 2025** refers to 3 key levers to promote the principles of organic agriculture: supply, demand and policy. On which lever would you like to put the emphasis in your work for IFOAM – Organics International, and why?

Policy is the lever that I think IFOAM OI should emphasis. IFOAM OI shall work on the policy at the level of international society, that eventually help to national and domestic level policy. Often domestic organic movements struggle to convince their national government(s), that is where our global network of organic movements can give a big support. Supply and Demand are diverse phase by regions, for example consumer culture and trends are very different therefore promotion must be localized. SOS can play big role in there and IFOAM OI shall support SOS activities.

2. Please share your thoughts on which actors in our movement could contribute to which parts to make our common vision come true.

Organic 3.0 can only be realized by partnership of all actors. Regional groups closely work with members at their region, bridge to international network. Users of organic products (end consumers, restaurants, processors) can contribute by understanding the story behind, share the story and use/eat the organic products sustainably. I believe “consuming” organic products as usual will not lead to true sustainable future, but users can contribute by participating the circular of organic practice toward true sustainability. (so apparently there are no “end-CONSUMers”)

3. What do you propose in order to get a real transformation in agriculture, in general, and more specifically, in your role as a WB member?

Organic is knowledge intensive, therefore, sharing right information and useful knowledge is necessary in order to promote Organic Agriculture. With the role of the World Board, I would like to contribute sharing knowledge and providing training program to each sectors. I have witnessed numbers of Organic Foundation Course trainees had become leaders of organic movements in each region. IFOAM – Organics International has almost 50 years history with world wide network of best practices. It is our responsibility to share this knowledge to the world.
4. Reflecting on the development of new GM breeding techniques such as Crispr CAS: where do you see challenges and issues for the organic sector?

The principles of Organic Agriculture shows perfectly how system of organic farming build. Within the Organic system we don’t need such technology; Gene editing is against Care and Fairness principles especially. It will be challenging for us to have dialogue with others, and stick with the principles, thereby it is crucial. I believe we fight for the better future of all of us, but not fight against anyone. Being transparent (Labeling, processing process) and being fair (for producers, for future generations, for nature) are key to have dialogue with other industries including GM/bio technology industries.

5. The SDGs of the United Nations are aiming at sustainability in all areas of life and development. How do you make the SDGs a reality in your own life?

Organic. It is simple and unquestionable for me that organic is the model of sustainable system that can apply to every perspective of our everyday life. By practicing organic, being organic, each one of us contribute for the transformation. I recognized the word “sustainability” is no longer defined as “keep things as it is” but “regenerate, making things better” because our world is no longer sustainable otherwise. I appreciate to my friends from my organic society that gives me the true wealth(trust, friendship, fun, lessons of life). Together we create the world where SDGs are no longer needed.

6. The work of IFOAM-Organics International is partly financed by membership fee, and for a greater deal by donors and foundations. What experience and skills can you bring to support acquiring financial resources?

My experience of serving as IFOAM Asia board member taught me how to build movement stronger by bringing new members. Financial resource shows the character of the organization, therefore NGO/NPO like IFOAM must consider deeply how to fund raise because it linked to how to use the budget. Also I am hoping my experience with working with governments can contribute to IFOAM to find financial opportunities with social impacts.