



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF
ORGANIC AGRICULTURE MOVEMENTS

IFOAM NORMS, INCLUDING:

- **THE IFOAM STANDARD DRAFT VERSION 1.2**
- **THE IFOAM ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS DRAFT VERSION 2.0**

CALL FOR MOTIONS BY IFOAM MEMBERS

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF MOTIONS: 24. JANUARY, 2014

2013 CALL FOR MOTIONS ON THE IFOAM NORMS

Dear IFOAM Affiliates,

The IFOAM World Board is pleased to present you with the next version of two of the IFOAM Norms, The IFOAM Standard for Organic Production and Processing, and the IFOAM Accreditation Requirements for Bodies Certifying Organic Production and Processing.

These are the result of several years of work by our Organic Guarantee System committees and staff, as well as input from members and stakeholders during the public consultation processes.

This document gives you a background of the process to reach those proposed new versions, and links to the respective documents (including track-changes versions that enable you to see the differences with the previous approved versions).

We now open a motion-making period of 60 days, during which all members may submit motions to either or both of the new proposed norms. The motion process is the last step before a yes/no vote by the members on the adoption of each norm. All IFOAM full voting members can submit one or several motions, following the procedure described in this call.

We thank you for your continued interest and input into the development of the IFOAM Norms.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AL'.

Andre Leu, President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MA'.

Markus Arbenz, Executive Director

The role of the IFOAM Norms

The IFOAM Norms are composed of:

- The IFOAM Standards Requirements or Common Objectives and Requirements of Organic Standards (COROS),
- The IFOAM Standard for Organic Production and Processing, and
- The IFOAM Accreditation Requirements for Bodies Certifying Organic Production and Processing.

The COROS is the basis for assessment of organic standards for inclusion into the IFOAM Family of Standards. Its current version dates from 2011 and is NOT subject to motions in this call for motions.

The IFOAM Standard is an internationally applicable organic standard that can be used directly for certification. It offers a global platform for organic standard setters to discuss standards and create synergies for standard development and harmonization at the global level. Certification bodies in the IFOAM Accreditation program also have to use the IFOAM Standard or ensure compliance of their private standard to it. The current version of the IFOAM Standard dates from August 2012.

The IFOAM Accreditation Requirements establishes requirements for the conduct of organic certification by third party certification bodies. Certification bodies wishing to obtain or retain accreditation within an IFOAM accreditation program must be fully compliant with the IFOAM Accreditation Requirements. The current version of the IFOAM Accreditation Requirements dates back to 2005.

Background on the revision of the IFOAM Standard

The IFOAM Standard Version 1.0 was approved by membership vote in August 2012, to replace the former IFOAM Basic Standards. Immediately after its approval, the Standard Committee reconvened and started working on the next version (Version 1.1). This work particularly focused on addressing issues raised by IFOAM members during the 2011 General Assembly, namely on protected cropping and social justice. The Committee also worked on a number of other aspects in the standard, such as animal conversion periods, or link to the soil and sub-soil.

A first draft of the revised standard (Version 1.1) was presented for public comments in April 2013. The comment period ended on June 30, 2013. IFOAM received a total of 143 comments from 24 commenters (17 organizations and 7 individuals). Comments came from 13 countries in all 6 continents. The Standard Committee worked from July to October to respond to all comments and to produce the draft to be presented for motions (Version 1.2), which was approved by the IFOAM World Board in October 2013. The compilation of comments and the committee responses are available [here](#).

Please note that the Standard Committee is still working on the revision of the aquaculture section, and will present proposed revisions for this section in the next revision round. Therefore, we recommend members to abstain from submitting motions related to aquaculture.

Background on the revision of the IFOAM Accreditation Requirements

The IFOAM Accreditation Requirements was not revised, content-wise, since 2005. A new edition of it, with the new name (it was previously called the IFOAM Accreditation Criteria) was published in the IFOAM Book of Norms in August 2012. In June 2012, the IFOAM World Board appointed the IFOAM Accreditation Requirements Committee, and mandated them to initiate a revision of the Accreditation Requirements (IAR). The Committee started its work soon after, and released a first draft of the revised IAR for public consultation in July 2013.

Major inputs reviewed by the committee in this round of revision included: the new ISO 17065, the ISEAL Assurance Code and Group Certification Common Requirements, government requirements for CBs (particularly from the EU, US and Canada), and outcomes of the Anti-Fraud Initiative and CertCost project. The IOAS (International Organic Accreditation Services), who implements the IFOAM Accreditation Programs, also provided in-depth input after publication of the revision plan in August 2012. As a result, the changes proposed by the committee in the version published for public consultation were significant as compared to the current version 2005. Changes were proposed in almost all sections of the document. Chapter 9 (“Acceptance of other product certification”) was completely re-written.

The consultation period ended on September 21, 2013. IFOAM received 87 comments from 6 commenters. The Accreditation Requirements Committee worked to respond to all comments and produced the draft to be presented for motions (Draft version 2.0),

which was approved by the IFOAM World Board in November 2013. The compilation of comments and the committee responses are available [here](#).

The OGS Committees



The IFOAM Accreditation Requirements Committee members (left to right): Carlos Escobar, Dilip Dhaker, Mildred Steidle, Amaia Aldana Gondra, Joelle Katto-Andrighetto (IFOAM staff, committee chair), Roberto Setti and Raymond Yang during a meeting in Bonn, April 2013. Arjon Kalter, absent in the picture, also belongs to the committee.



The IFOAM Standard Committee members (left to right): Brian Baker, Andrew Monk, Stephen Barrow, Daniel Neuhoff, Sarah Hathway and Tali Berner. Jan Deane and Chayaporn Wattanasiri who belong to the committee were absent. The committee was chaired by Joelle Katto-Andrighetto (IFOAM staff).

Documents open for motions

The IFOAM Standard Draft Version 1.2 is open for motions. You can find it in clean version [here](#). All changes compared to the currently approved version (Version 1.0 of August 2012) are recorded in the track-changes version [here](#).

The IFOAM Accreditation Requirements Draft Version 2.0 is open for motions. You can find it in clean version [here](#).

All changes compared to the currently approved version (Version 2005) are recorded in the track-changes version [here](#).

Procedure to submit member motions

Motions are only allowed to the following documents:

- The IFOAM Standard Draft Version 1.2 of October 2013, and
- The IFOAM Accreditation Requirements Draft Version 2.0 of November 2013

All IFOAM full voting members can submit one or several motions. Each motion must be seconded by at least one other full voting member organization.

A motion on the IFOAM Norms must be:

- A proposed change to the respective norm in precise, non-ambiguous, grammatically correct and final language, which must be submitted in track changes in electronic format (MS Word), or else by a specific description of the changes or additions to the wording of the relevant section of the particular norm. The change may concern several requirements of the norm but must address one single topic/issue.
- Accompanied by a rationale that explains the reason for the motion. If you are requesting a change and have not previously

participated in the process, please explain why you are making a motion at this time.

- Accompanied by the identity of the organizations submitting and seconding the motion.

Members that want to propose changes on more than one topic/issue should submit several motions, and not aggregate several issues into one single motion. Only the normative text is subject to motions. Motions that concern the introduction sections will not be considered.

For the IFOAM Standard, motions for changes to the Lists of Substances must be accompanied by a dossier and must be evaluated according to the criteria in Appendix 1 of the IBS before going to the membership for a vote.

Motions must be submitted to Joelle Katto-Andrighetto at ogs@ifoam.org and received by 24. January, 2014. Motion makers must make themselves available for communication with the IFOAM Head Office and respective committee throughout the month of January, during which the motion reconciliation process will occur.

All valid motions will either:

- be resolved (i.e. withdrawn, implemented or combined with another motion) in a joint agreement between the relevant IFOAM OGS committee and the motion maker; or
- be submitted to IFOAM membership vote in February/March 2014.

Additional information

To read more about the IFOAM Norms and download the current version of the IFOAM Norms (August 2012), click [here](#). For more information, please contact Joelle Katto-Andrighetto at ogs@ifoam.org.