



TS01(EOS)v10en

ECOCERT SA CERTIFICATION PROCESS

ORGANIC FARMING acc. to Ecocert Organic Standard (EOS)



PREAMBLE:

ECOCERT has been delivering product certification and control services for over 20 years. Our proven experience enables us to operate a certification scheme for your products in compliance with organic farming requirements according to the Ecocert Organic Standard (EOS).

Thanks to a global network, worldwide offices and cross country audit pools, ECOCERT is able to operate such certification scheme in most countries. A detailed list of all subsidiaries and services is available on the official website www.ecocert.com

ECOCERT SA is accredited by the French accreditation committee COFRAC¹. The Ecocert Organic Standard (EOS) is a private standard implemented by ECOCERT SA and approved as equivalent by the European Commission for organic certification in a large selection of Third Countries (outside the European Union) and applicable to several types of products.

The certification issued by an independent organization provides objective evidence of compliance with the requirements of a certification scheme. It is a proactive process whereby the operator becomes responsible for the compliance of his operation with the requirements of the organic farming certification scheme.

This document aims at providing a description of the key stages of the certification process according to the EOS and does under no circumstances supersede applicable regulations. It is however a contractual document enabling you to familiarize yourself with the requirements to be met for organic certification.

Ultimately, the purpose of certification is to provide your consumers and end users with added value organic products.

¹ COFRAC (Comité Français d'Accréditation – French accreditation committee) Accreditation n° 5-0074 for the certification of product and services, scope and list of accredited sites available on www.cofrac.fr
List of operations under Cofrac accreditation available on www.ecocert.com/en



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I. DEFINITIONS

The definitions of the terms used in this document are available in Annex I.

II. APPLICABLE SCHEME

The Ecocert Organic Standard (EOS) scheme is operated by Ecocert SA as a private certification scheme. Ecocert SA is listed as an approved equivalent control body in Annex IV of Regulation EC 1235/2008 and accredited for certification according to EOS.

Documents associated to the scheme pertaining to organic farming according to Ecocert Organic Standard are either available upon request or on the official Ecocert website when applicable at www.ecocert.com/en.

The marketing of products certified by Ecocert is regulated by:

- The applicable ECOCERT organic standard for Third Countries ("EOS": Ecocert Organic Standard, full version available on www.ecocert.com/en); hereafter entitled "Standard".
- The applicable certification scheme TS01(EOS) may be downloaded on our website (www.ecocert.com/en)

In addition to the specific requirements of the above certification scheme, the requirements of the certification system must also be complied with:

- Rules on references to Ecocert and the Ecocert certification logo: TS17 (www.ecocert.com/en)
- Ecocert general and technical Terms and Conditions.

III. ACCESS TO THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY ECOCERT SA

A. Service scope

The scope of the regulation extends to all stages of production, processing and distribution of organic products including the basic production of an organic product up to product storage, processing, labelling, advertising, import, export, transport, marketing and delivery to the end user. The above-described range of activities may be carried out directly by the company or via a subcontractor.

The following product categories qualify for certification:

- Category A: unprocessed plant products originating from farming or wild collection



- Category B: live animals or unprocessed animal products (please refer to the species listed in Annex III of the EOS; bees)
- Category C: aquaculture animals (species listed in the dedicated EOS chapter), wild seaweeds or farmed seaweed as well as microalgae from fresh or brackish water.
- Category D: processed agricultural products and yeasts intended for food
- Category E: processed agricultural products and yeasts intended for feed
- Category F: Vegetative propagating material and seeds for cultivation

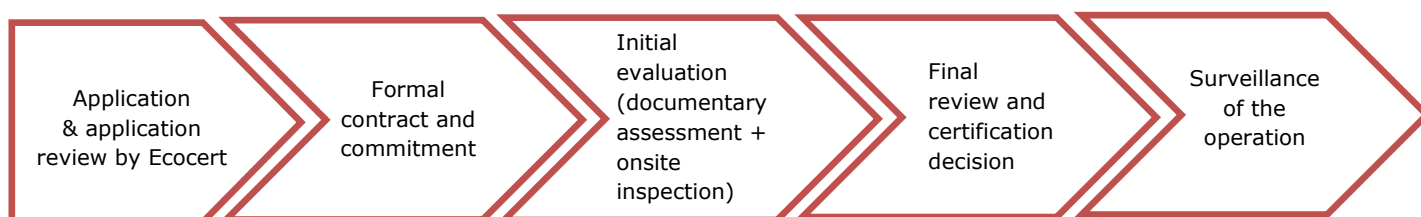
B. Restrictions

Ecocert SA may reject a certification application or refuse to sign a certification contract with an operator when there are proven reasonable grounds, e.g. in case of illegal activities, a history of recurrent non-conformities with certification requirements, inappropriate behaviors, or outstanding debts, etc.

IV. CERTIFICATION PROCESS: STEP BY STEP

The provision of the certification services is based on an annual cycle. If all certification requirements are met, the process will lead to organic certificate issuance of renewal enabling the operator to market products with a reference to the certification by Ecocert SA.

The main stages of the certification process are as follow:



A. Application for certification

a. Structure of the application

In order to provide the operator with all the required data for the successful completion of the certification process, upon application Ecocert will return the following starter pack (documents to be provided via attachments or hyperlinks) upon application:

- Applicable version of the EOS standard
- Regulation guidelines in relation with the operation
- Present certification process document



- Certification application form

The operator is required to return the completed application form in order to provide the data needed to carry out the so-called “application review”. The application review encompasses a feasibility study and the definition of the project specifications, for the following purposes:

- Ensuring that the operator has familiarized himself with the standard requirements
- Checking that the required information has been provided
- Carrying out a feasibility study for the certification of the products based on the data provided

b. Causes for application rejection by Ecocert SA

The control and certification process cannot be implemented in the following cases:

- Proven nonconformities with the standard
- Conflict of interest that may impact the impartiality of our decisions
- Operations considered to be out of scope with the standard
- Proven implication in illegal activities
- Identified health risks to the consumer
- Production practice impacting human and/or environmental rights
- Geographic locations associated with technical issues or high risk for traveling auditors
- Companies associated with high financial risk
- Lack of qualified and competent staff (technical skills, languages...) able to meet consumer demand

B. Formal certification contract

a. Issuance of a quote for the project

Based on the data provided by the operator, we will issue a customized quote, valid for the current calendar year and based on the estimated working time required (audit, review, evaluation etc.). ECOCERT will review the operations and risk factors will also be taken into account for the estimated time. Main criteria to be considered are:

- Type of operation
- Number of sites to be audited
- Type of internal management system
- Size of the facilities (number of hectares, animals etc.)
- Number of products to be certified
- Applicant history
- Technical risks

The initial quote includes all activities to be certified and is sent with our general and technical Terms and Conditions.



With the exception of complicated cases, a quote should be issued within 15 days upon receipt of the application.

b. Contractual documents

The contract for certification with ECOCERT SA encompasses the applicable versions of the following documents:

1. Contractual general and technical Terms and Conditions
2. Present certification process document
3. EOS standard
4. Certification rules and references (TS17)
5. Quote

c. Formal commitment

Once the operator has signed the certification quote, he is contractually binded to ECOCERT SA with immediate effect. With the signature of the contract, the operator commits to operate in compliance with our general and technical Terms and Conditions, and more specifically with the requirements set by the standard.

Please note that a contract signature occurring late in the year may lead to a certification effective that same year, providing the following conditions are all met:

- the optimum audit time (depending of the type of operation: harvest time, start of processing operations etc.) falls between the contract start date and the end of the calendar year
- a detailed description of the operations (*please refer to chapter C. Initial Evaluation*) has been provided within a tight deadline
- the auditors availability has been confirmed to carry out the inspection
- full payment against the quote has been received before the inspection date.

If one of the above requirements are not met, the inspection and certification process may be postponed to the following calendar year.

C. Initial evaluation

The initial evaluation aims at assessing the compliance of the operation with the requirements of the standard.



a. Documentary requirements & preparation for the onsite audit

Once the company has signed a contract, Ecocert will provide a form for the detailed description of the operation entitled “Unit description”; this must be completed to include at least the following data:

- Administrative details of the company
- Full description of the designated units and/or facilities and/or operations
- All actions implemented onsite in relation with the designated unit and/or operation to ensure that the operation is handled in compliance with the requirements of organic farming
- Precautionary measures implemented in order to minimize the contamination risks at storage sites and at all production stages
- Any other information required by Ecocert for the compliance assessment

This document must be duly signed and dated by the operator.

Please note: the operator is entitled to provide his own documents, if do not wish to use the template provided by ECOCERT, providing the above basic requirements are met.

Please note: when the standard provisions for a possible derogation, Ecocert will provide detailed requirements to apply upon request and review the application before the derogation is either approved or denied.

Upon receipt, the unit description will be reviewed by ECOCERT to assess potential issues or non-conformities with regards to compliance with production rules of organic farming. The operator is responsible for the implementation of all corrective actions in terms of practice and management system in order to achieve compliance of the operation before inspection.

This stage is also an opportunity for Ecocert to confirm the time required for the onsite audit that was previously estimated at the time of issuing a quote.

Finally, the auditor assigned for the audit will liaise with the operator and plan a date for the onsite audit.

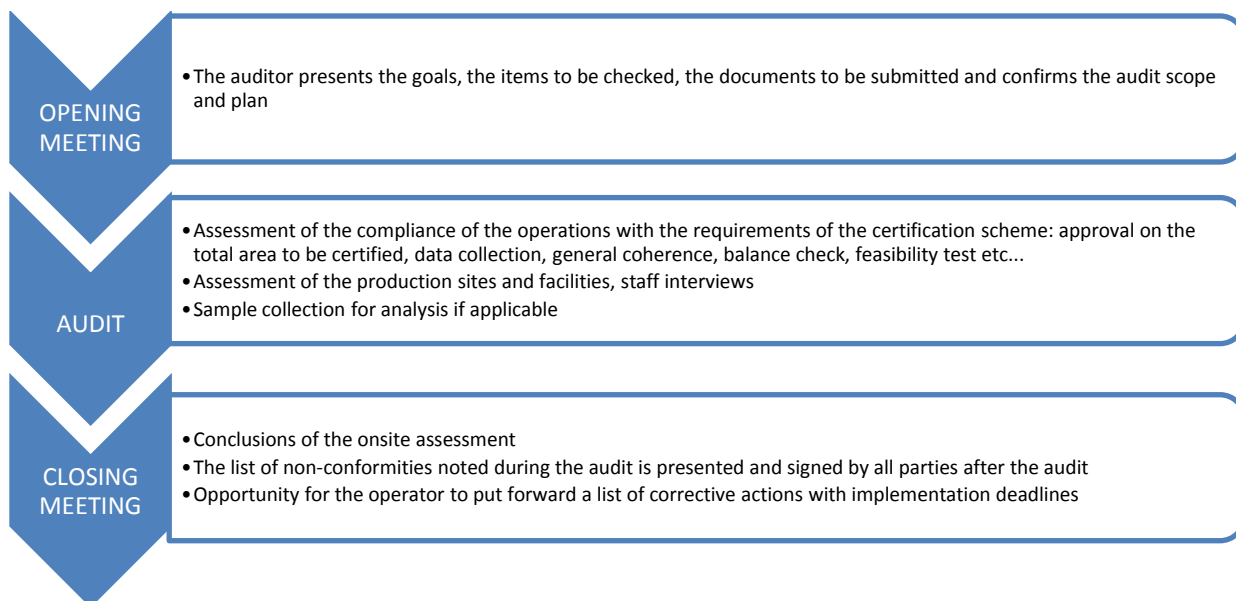
b. Onsite audit

In order to optimize the audit preparation, we recommend that the operator refers to the Ecocert guidelines available for download on our website www.ecocert.com/en . If need be, the relevant contact person at Ecocert may provide the operator with clarifications on the regulation requirements upon request.

The purpose of the onsite audit is to assess the product compliance with the requirements of the certification standard. Audits are carried out on all the sites associated with the production of the products to be certified: including processing, packing etc.



The audit process is as follow:



When tests (analyses) are required, samples will be collected in the presence of the operator /or of the representative, who will sign the associated documents. The specifications for the tests as well the laboratory to carry out the test are assigned by Ecocert SA.

If need be, the auditor may choose to leave one of the collected samples in the operator’s premises. The purpose of this sample is for counter analysis only: if applicable, the sample will be dispatched by the operator, the auditor or a court bailiff, in accordance with Ecocert SA’s instructions and sent to the laboratory appointed by Ecocert SA.

In all cases, all samples collected will remain Ecocert’s property and test results will be always be sent out to the operator.

Please note: onsite audits are not always “planned” in advance, some audits may be “unannounced”.

Please note: The operator has the right to refuse the staff assigned by ECOCERT at any stage of the certification process on reasonable grounds (e.g. conflict of interest)

Please note: Special case of grower groups – Ecocert may carry out inspections of selected members only (partial inspection) provided an Internal Control System (ICS) has been implemented and assessed by ECOCERT before and during the audit. For more detailed information, please refer to Ecocert guidelines entitled “TS01 (EC-NOP) Growers group guidelines”.



c. Audit conclusions

During the audit, non-conformities with the requirements of the standard may be noted. These will require follow-up actions from the operator (so called “corrective actions”) in order to achieve compliance.

At the end of the audit, a detailed listing of all non-conformities that may have been noted is to be signed by both the auditor and the operator.

Finally, the detailed audit report and test results (if applicable) will be submitted to ECOCERT for full review. When non-conformities have been noted, the operator will receive a written notice listing all non-conformities and the relevant further evaluation tasks required to check that the designated non-conformities have been duly corrected.

d. Evaluation of implemented corrective actions

A this stage, if the operator chooses to proceed with the certification process, he is required to put forward corrective actions in relation to each noted non-conformities within a set deadline (set in the notice sent to the operator). For the continuity of certification process, the proposed corrective actions must be relevant and exhaustive. Depending on the noted non-conformities, the operator will be required to identify the cause of non-conformity and the impact (products and activities impacted by the non-conformities).

If the items submitted are considered insufficient, the operator will be required to put forward new corrective actions within the deadline originally set.

Depending on the additional evaluation tasks required to check that non-conformities have been corrected, Ecocert may choose to:

- Carry out a new onsite audit
- Take new samples for testing
- Carry out a documentary assessment

D. Non-conformities and corrective action plan

a. “Minor” non-conformities

A non-conformity is considered to be minor when it does not impact the specifications of the product to be certified. The operator must implement corrective actions within a set deadline to achieve compliance and certification. Additional evaluation tasks may be required: e.g. analysis, additional audit or a documentary review.



b. “Major” non-conformities

A non-conformity is considered to be major when it does impact or might impact the specifications of the product to be certified. Impacted products cannot be certified.

At worst, a major non-conformity may lead to a suspension or total certification withdrawal.

c. Corrective action plan

The ECOCERT assessment is based on a set corrective action plan listing the potential non-conformities and sorting them according to their severity. Each non-conformity is associated to a suggested corrective actions including measures to be implemented accordingly and implementation requirements. The impact of the non-conformities on the product organic status sets the level of severity. Fraudulent and recurrent non-conformities are also taken in to account in the decision on how to proceed with the certification process. This process is designed to ensure that the certification process is handled in a fair, equal and consistent manner for all operators.

E. Review of the evaluation conclusions and certification decision

A review of the evaluation phase, in terms of relevance and exhaustiveness, is carried out and recorded by Ecocert. This review takes into account the conclusions of all assessments and any other relevant data.

If all stages of the evaluation are deemed comprehensive and relevant, a certification decision is made accordingly. The decision may be positive or negative.

- If the certification decision is positive, certification documents will be issued and sent
- If the certification decision is negative, a written notification will be sent detailing the reasons. In such cases, the operator may apply for certification again, starting the process all over from step A (*please refer to chapter A. Application*).

The conclusions of the review may also lead to the identification of additional evaluation task that are required before a certification decision can be made.

F. Certification documents

The certification documents will be issued providing that:

- A positive certification decision has been made
- Certification requirements have been met



a. Organic certificate

One or several supporting documents (certificate or evidence of certification) will be issued and sent by post or email. The documents will clearly identify:

- The company name and address details of Ecocert SA
- The issuance date
- The company name and address details of the operator
- A list of all organic operation types (main and secondary activity)
- A list of all certified products, associated certification category and validity dates.

Certificates issued by Ecocert are uploaded on our website and available online at www.ecocert.com/en for authentication purpose. The operator will be notified by email or post of the online availability; certificates may be downloaded or printed from our website.

Ecocert SA cannot be held accountable for any operational costs incurred by the operator in anticipation on the basis of the certification decision, when the decision has not been made yet (e.g.: starting production, printing labels etc.).

Please note: In some cases, attestations or statements may be issued upon request in relation with the certification of operators for the attention of third parties; these may not be considered as evidence of certification and cannot be used for the purpose of marketing products as organic and/or with references to the certification or to Ecocert.

b. Certificates of inspection

To export organic agricultural products into the European Union, the organic master certificate is not sufficient. Products imported into the EU must be associated with a certificate of inspection (COI) in accordance with Regulation EC 1235/2008. COIs are mandatory and issued by the exporter's control body for one or several lots of certified products. COIs are issued upon request and submittal of an application with compliant supporting documents; please refer to the requirements set in the Ecocert guidelines "**TS29(EC) Exports to the EU**" available on our website.

G. *Surveillance and renewal of the certification process*

a. Periodic review process

The certification process will be automatically renewed each year, unless the operator has duly notified Ecocert of the termination of the certification contract within the deadline set in the applicable general and technical Terms and Conditions.

The surveillance process applies to all changes impacting regulation requirements and/or the operation and/or the range of products to be certified. The operator is therefore required to update the unit description accordingly, if any modifications to the management system



(practices, production tool, representatives...) or the range of products to be certified are foreseen.

b. Risk analysis

ECOCERT will carry out a risk analysis in relation to the certification based on set criteria such as type of product, sales, complexity of the operation, previous assessment results and the implementation of a risk management plan for the operation.

Depending on the results of the assessment, a level of risk is associated to the operation which may lead to enhanced evaluation (additional audits, samples for analysis, documentary review...).

c. Audit plan

In order to assess the continuity of the compliance of the operations, Ecocert will implement an annual assessment plan (onsite audits, analysis plan...):

- In all cases, the eligible operator applying for organic certification is required to be **fully audited on all operations at least once a year** in order to maintain the validity of the certification status.
- In addition, additional evaluations may apply to high risk operators as mentioned above.

In case of suspicions by Ecocert with regards to the organic status of the product (e.g. further to a notification from another control body etc.), additional evaluations tasks may be required. **This may cause Ecocert to request a temporary hold on the sales of organic products for a set period of time (that may not exceed 3 months), until the doubts have been lifted.**

d. Quote for surveillance fees

Ecocert will issue the operator with a quote for the cost of renewing the annual certification, based on the information provided at the time of the renewal, on the risk analysis and the data collected during previous inspections.

e. Surveillance evaluation

After payment of the cost estimation, as with the initial evaluation, the evaluation plan is implemented.

Documentary and onsite evaluations will include the review of corrective actions pertaining to the non-conformities noted during previous evaluations.

As part of the surveillance process, steps C, E and F are repeated.



Please note: Ecocert may decide to stop the certification process at any time in cases set in chapter IV.A.b or in case of outstanding payment.

A diagram summarizing the certification process is available in Annex II.

H. Certification renewal

When no non-conformities have been identified during the surveillance process, the validity of the certification status is maintained and Ecocert will issue the operator with new certification documents.

When non-conformities have been noted either during the surveillance or certification process, Ecocert will review the situation and take appropriate measures. Based on the corrective action plan and depending on the extent and the severity of noted non-conformities, Ecocert may make the following decisions:

i. Certification validity is maintained with conditions

E.g. conditions may include:

- reinforced surveillance via additional audit or analysis,
- a set deadline for the implementation of corrective actions
- etc.

If the set requirements are not met within the deadlines, Ecocert will initiate the suspension process or the withdrawal of certification documents.

ii. Certification suspension

This decision implies a disruption of the certification for a set period of time or until compliance is achieved. Suspension may apply to one or several products and/or product lots, to part of the operation or to the whole operation.

To address the non-conformity, the operator must provide the required items within the set deadline.

In all cases, the impacted products can no longer be sold with a reference to the organic certification until the suspension is over. The designated products will be removed from the list of certified products of the certification documents during the period of suspension.

iii. Certification reduction

This decision implies that all product or part of the products are definitely removed from the certification process with immediate effect upon receipt of the Ecocert notification. The designated products are downgraded to conventional products and can no longer be referred to as certified. The products are to be removed from the certification documents.

iv. Certification withdrawal

This decision implies the termination of the certification process for all products with immediate effect upon receipt of the Ecocert notification. Products can no longer be referred to as organically certified.

A termination of the contract with Ecocert SA will also be associated to such decision.



A product that is not associated to a certificate, or for which the associated certificate has been suspended, reduced or withdrawn, may no longer be sold as organically certified. All references to the certification must be removed from all company documents and communication materials. The operator is required to inform clients that products are no longer compliant.

The suspension or withdrawal of compliance documents implies that the documents are no longer valid. The operator can no longer refer to the previous compliance documents.

I. Changes impacting the certification

a. Change in the certification scheme (news requirements or updates)

Ecocert SA will notify the operator in writing of all documentary changes pertaining to the EOS organic farming certification scheme or to the scheme implementation requirements.

Depending on cases, requirements may be amended with immediate effect or a transition plan may be set by Ecocert SA.

The operator is responsible for implementing the required changes in order for Ecocert to check the implementation. If no changes are made, Ecocert may notify the operator of the non-conformities. If these are not addressed, it may lead to a certification suspension or even a withdrawal (*please refer to chapter IV.H*).

b. Change in the certification scope

Ecocert must be notified of all changes that may impact the compliance of the operation with the certification requirements.

E.g. changes may include:

- Change in the organization (change of owner, status, purchase of new land...)
- Change in the management process
- Change affecting products (inputs, recipe, etc.) or production process
- Change of contact details
- Doubts raised in relation to the organic status of the products or purchased products
- A planned termination affecting part of the products.
- Etc.

In some cases, these changes may affect the certification process and lead to additional audits (addition of new products etc.). Certification documents will be updated accordingly.

c. Certification postponement

If the operator makes a request to postpone the certification process of the operation (operational stoppage) or if the operator, due to unforeseen circumstances, is unable to implement the certification process (political instability in the area...), Ecocert may agree to postpone the certification process for a set period of time upon review.



The contract binding all parties remains valid over this period of time, although certificates previously issued by ECOCERT are no longer valid, as with a contract termination. References to the certification and/or to ECOCERT are no longer permitted; this applies to all communication materials (labelling, website, invoice, advertising etc.).

At the end of the postponement period, the certification process will resume and be handled as a first-time application.

J. Contract termination

a. Conditions and impact of a contract termination

The operator may choose to surrender organic certification for all or part of the products at any time. If the operator is planning to drop the certification of all products as well as terminate the contract, this should be done in compliance with the general and technical Terms and Conditions.

A break in the certification for all or part of the products, and the termination of the contract if applicable, will automatically imply the end of validity of previous certificates issued for the impacted products.

Consequently, with effect from the end date of the certification (and termination date if applicable) the operator may no longer produce or market the impacted products with references to the certification and/or Ecocert. The certification of products that have already been sold or still being marketed is not impacted.

b. Special cases of stock clearance & stock audit

When the operator can account for a remaining stock of compliant products referring to the certification and/or to Ecocert SA, requiring extra time beyond the validity date of the certificate or contract, the operator must contact Ecocert to discuss the estimated time required for clearance purpose.

Further to a full review, the contract end date may be extended and the operator will be allowed to exhaust within the set deadline providing Ecocert can carry out a stock audit applicable to “distributors” – the charge of the stock audit will be set in accordance with our price schedule.

The contract and certificate will remain valid until the deadline estimated for the operator.

In all cases, we recommend that the operator contacts Ecocert to discuss the applicable terms of a contract termination.

During the agreed extension time, the operator may no longer start any production referring to the certification and/or Ecocert SA.



c. Migrating certification data

The operator may choose to change control body at any time. The change process implies the transfer of certification data from the previous control body to the new one.

If the operator was previously contracted with another control body and is moving across to Ecocert, the previous control body will disclose the certification data to Ecocert for review and Ecocert will process the new application accordingly.

In such cases, Ecocert will also share the certification data upon written request from the operator or from the new control body.

V. SUBCONTRACTORS

Ecocert SA subcontracts all analyses to external laboratories. Subcontracted laboratories have all been duly approved by Ecocert SA and listed on our website www.ecocert.com/en/organic-farming-analysis. Any claim with regards to the laboratory list should be notified to Ecocert in writing.

VI. COMPLAINTS & APPEAL

Operators may lodge service complaints with Ecocert or an appeals against decisions made by Ecocert.

Ecocert will acknowledge the receipt of all service complaints or appeals against a decision made by Ecocert and will process them within the deadlines set by internal complaints and appeals procedures.

A. Complaints

Complaints regarding Ecocert approvals, services or clients etc. must be submitted in writing. A reply will be sent by Ecocert within an appropriate deadline.

All complaints and subsequent actions are recorded by the Quality manager. A review of complaints is conducted on a regular basis to ensure customer's satisfaction.

B. Appeals

Appeals against a certification decision may be lodged with Ecocert and must be submitted as follow:

- in writing



- within 30 days of receipt of the relevant decision notification
- based on reasonable grounds : the appeal must be based on the provision of new information that was previously not known to Ecocert

If the appeal has been deemed admissible, it will be put forward to an internal management committee for approval and processed by Ecocert accordingly.

If the operator is not satisfied by the outcome of the first appeal, he may lodge a second appeal with Ecocert. This will be put forward for approval to the committee handling second instance appeals, composed of external members, representatives of the organic farming industry (e.g. production, processing, distribution/export) to ensure impartiality. Members of the committee are appointed according to their competences, have a duty of confidentiality and no conflict of interest in the case to be heard.

The second instance appeal must be lodged within 30 days upon receipt of the notification of the negative decision following the first round of appeal.

Lodging an appeal does not mean the suspension of previous decisions. Previous decisions as well as new decisions made with regards to the designated operation, will be applicable until the appeal has been processed.

C. Obligations of the operator on third party complaints

The operator is responsible for handling third party claims that are submitted directly to him. All complaints with regards to the compliance with certification requirements must be recorded and available to Ecocert. Records must also include the appropriate measures taken and measure should be documented.

VII. REFERENCES TO THE CERTIFICATION, TO ECOCERT AND TRADEMARKS (ECOCERT & OTHERS) IN RELATION TO THE SERVICE PROVIDED

The rules of references to the certification, to Ecocert SA and to the trademarks associated to the service provision are set in the following Ecocert guidelines: *TS17 "Rules for the reference to Ecocert certification and certification trademark - agricultural and food products"* (available upon request or on our website www.ecocert.com/en).

Trademark infringement and incorrect references to the certification or to Ecocert by a client will be dealt with appropriate measures such as certification reduction, suspension or withdrawal. Ecocert SA may also be required to notify the Competent Authority.

Examples of trademark infringement and incorrect references:



- The certification logo or reference to the certification or to Ecocert is showing on products non complying with the certification requirements
- The certification logo or reference to the certification or to Ecocert is showing on products that have not never been submitted for certification or that are in the process of being certified
- The rules on certification references are not complied with (please refer to the TS17 rules, available upon request or on our website).

* *
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Please contact your local ECOCERT SA representative for further query.



ANNEX I: Definitions

Corrective action: action aiming at suppressing the origin of a non-conformities or of another identified unwanted situation.

Appeal: written request from a client to the Ecocert group for the reconsideration of a certification decision.

Certification: issuance of a certification document.

Client: legal person or entity (signatory) who/that has contracted the Ecocert group for the provision of services.

Certification document: document issued for the client to confirm the compliance of products with the scheme.

Certification requirement: specific requirement that must be met by the client in order to achieve or maintain certification.

Non-conformities: non-compliance to a requirement

Evaluation plan: description of the number and type of evaluations required during the assessment cycle in order to ensure the compliance of a product with the requirements associated to specific client types.

Complaint: discontent (not including appeal) expressed to the Ecocert group in relation with the group operations by a person or organization and requiring a reply

Corrective action plan: list of non-conformities with the certification requirements and associated impacts on the certification decision. Required additional evaluation tasks may be listed as a complement to the plan in order to address the non-conformities.

Certification scheme: set of requirements, rules and procedures defined by the scheme originator that are to be implemented by Ecocert group.

Certification standard: technical document defining the product requirements to be met, terms of assessment and communication process with regards to the certification process.

Surveillance: recurrent assessment, review and decision of certification, in compliance with the certification scheme in order to maintain the validity of the certification.



ANNEX 2: Certification process flowchart (EOS)

CERTIFICATION PROCESS

