Global Certification and Monitoring Services

# OPERATOR GUIDE FOR ORGANIC CERTIFICATION

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## 1. GENERAL

GCMS has developed this guide for operators willing to get Organic certificate for their products, according to the requirements of the European Union Regulation (EU) 2018/848. GCMS certification scheme and all applicable procedures are available upon request to any operator interested in submitting his application to GCMS website: https://www.gcms.group/ or email: info@gcms.group

## 2. INTORDUCTION

2.1 Organic farming is an agricultural method that aims to produce food for human consumption and feed relying only on natural substances and processes. This way, organic farming has a limited environmental impact, by encouraging:

- Responsible use of energy and natural resources
- Maintenance of biodiversity
- Preservation of regional ecological balances
- Enhancement of soil fertility
- Maintenance of water quality
- Respect of natural cycles and animal welfare
- Absence of use of chemical and synthetic products,
- Absence of GMO
- Transparent labelling for consumers



2.2 EU Organic Regulation consists of the basic act Regulation (EU) 2018/848, as well as secondary legislation (so called delegating and implementing acts). An overview on the applicable Regulations can be found on GCMS Website: https://www.gcms.group/

## 3. SCOPES

3.1 The scope is defined following EU classification of organic products as defined in Regulation (EU) 2018/848. GCMS certifies operators that may be individual farms, processors of organic agricultural products, following the classification of the regulation:

**(a)** Unprocessed plants and plant products.

**(d)** Processed agricultural products.

3.2 GCMS Organic certification guarantees that operator of Unprocessed plant products and Processed Products, uses only permitted ingredients and processing aids, with at least 95% organic agricultural ingredients, no GMOs, and processing methods respecting organic principles. Segregation from non-organic products is maintained and cleaning measures are in place to prevent contamination.

## 4. PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIC FARMING

### 4.1 PROCESSING/PRODUCTION RULES

Organic production should:

- Respect natural systems and cycles.
- Maintain and improve the state of the soil, water and air, and plant and animal health, and the balance between them.
- Preserve the elements of natural landscapes.
- Use energy and natural resources responsibly.
- Produce a wide variety of high-quality products to meet consumer demand.
- Ensure the integrity of organic production at all stages of the production, processing and distribution processes of food and animal feed.
- Exclude the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs)* and products produced from or by GMOs*, other than veterinary drugs.
- Restrict the use of external inputs.
- Design and manage biological processes using methods based on risk assessment and the use of precautionary and preventive measures.

**Requirements.** Maintain and enhance soil life and its natural fertility, stability, water retention capacity and biodiversity.

- Use seeds and animals with a high degree of genetic diversity, disease resistance and longevity.
- Choose plant varieties – considering the characteristics of specific organic production systems – focusing on agronomic performance and disease resistance.

**Production** To avoid adverse effects on the environment and on plant health, producers must:

- Take preventive measures at each stage of production, preparation and distribution to: Preserve biodiversity and soil quality, Prevent the occurrence of pests and diseases, and control these pests and diseases.
- Take proportionate and precautionary measures to avoid contamination with products or substances not authorized for use in organic production.

### 4.2 Conversion period

4.2.1 When a farm wishes to produce organic products, it must go through a conversion period during which it must be managed according to organic production rules, although its products at this stage are not considered to be organic. It can only place its products on the market as organic products once this conversion period has elapsed and has been checked.

4.2.2 Moreover, food and feed products of plant origin containing only one agricultural crop ingredient can be marketed as in-conversion products, provided that there has been a conversion period of 12 months before the harvest. This rule now also applies to plant reproductive material (including seeds and plants at any stage of growth used to produce entire plants).

4.2.3 Following the conversion period, any farm wishing to move to organic production must be managed fully in line with organic production requirements.

The regulation also allows farms with both organic and non-organic production, on condition that their activities (non-organic, in-conversion and organic) are clearly and genuinely separated.



## 5. OPERATOR APPLICATION AND REGISTRATION PROCESS

Potential organic operators must apply to the GCMS website for organic certification of their activities. GCMS provides an **Application Form** for applicants to fill in. This form captures essential information about the operator and serves as a signed declaration by the operator. The application form includes:

- **Operator Information:** Name of the operation (farm or company), legal status, address, contact details, and responsible person.
- **Scope of Activities:** Description of the operation's activities and facilities, including a description of the production unit(s). The operator details what they produce or process – e.g. types of processed foods– and whether any non-organic units exist in parallel. Maps or schematics of the production sites may be attached for farms or facilities.

- **Organic System Plan:** An overview of how the operator will ensure compliance. This includes the measures and procedures in place to meet the organic production rules. For example, the operator describes pest management strategies, input materials (fertilizers, additives, etc.), cleaning protocols for equipment, and how organic and non-organic products are kept separate. Precautionary measures to prevent contamination by prohibited substances are outlined.
- **Product Details:** A list of products or product categories for which certification is sought (e.g. "organic canned vegetables). For each, the operator may indicate if the product is already in conversion or fully organic, and the size/volume of production.
- **Previous Certification and History:** The operator must declare if they have previously been certified organic or if they are currently certified by another body for the same activities. Operators **cannot be certified by more than one control body for the same product category in the same country**, so any prior certification (including recent withdrawal or suspension) must be disclosed. If they had a previous certifier, they provide details and agree to allow transfer of their certification history.
- **Subcontracted Activities:** The operator lists any subcontractors (e.g. for processing or storage) and provides details of those facilities. They must indicate if those subcontractors are certified under an equivalent organic standard or if the operator retains full responsibility for them.
- **Operator Declarations and Commitments:** The form contains declarations that the operator must sign, committing to the organic regulations. Key commitments include:
    - Abiding by Regulation (EU) 2018/848 and all applicable delegated/implementing rules for organic production.
    - **Access for Inspection:** The operator agrees to give GCMS' inspectors access to **all units, premises, and facilities**, including non-organic units, as well as to all records and accounts. This ensures GCMS can conduct thorough audits at any time.
    - **Information Provision:** The operator commits to provide any information deemed necessary for control purposes, such as purchasing records, input invoices, sales records, and internal quality test results.

- **Notification of Irregularities:** The operator must immediately inform GCMS if they suspect a violation of organic rules or contamination in their operation or products. If a **suspicion of non-compliance** is substantiated or cannot be eliminated, or if a **proven non-compliance** affecting product integrity is found, the operator must notify GCMS and **inform buyers** of the product without undue delay. This transparency is required to protect the organic integrity through the supply chain.
- **No Dual Certification:** A statement confirming the operator (or any member of a group, if applicable) is not individually certified by another control body for the same activities and products. This prevents duplicate certification for the same scope.
- **Acceptance of Enforcement Actions:** The operator agrees to accept any enforcement of corrective measures or sanctions imposed by GCMS in case of non-compliance. This could include product decertification, increased inspection frequency, suspension pledge to maintain all required records (input/output records, invoices, batch records, etc.), or withdrawal of certification if necessary.
- **Record-Keeping and Traceability:** A and an internal traceability system that can trace organic products one step forward and back.
- **Changes and Updates:** The operator must inform GCMS of any significant changes (e.g. new products, new fields, changes in processing lines, changes of subcontractors) and any decision to discontinue organic certification (withdrawal). If withdrawing, they agree GCMS will keep their file for 5 years.
- **Transfer of Control File:** In case the operator switches to another control body or stops certification, they allow the transfer of their certification history (control file) to the new control body or retention by GCMS for the required period.
- **Subcontractor Agreement:** If some activities are subcontracted to third parties not certified by GCMS, the operator agrees to ensure those are either certified by an EU-recognized control body or that GCMS is allowed to inspect those

subcontracted operations. The operator remains responsible for subcontracted activities unless those subcontractors are individually certified.

The document (CO01): "Commitment signed by Organic-EU operators", is a signed declaration required by GCMS prior accepting an operator into its certification system.

The preparation period of the inspection is fixed for two weeks minimum before the inspection date, all GCMS group inspectors must follow this rule to allow sufficient time for evaluating the operator's application dossier and collecting the necessary documents from the operator. The mandatory list of documents to be collected are mentioned below:

- **Farm map**
- **Product specification**
- **Label layout**
- **GMO-free declaration**
- **Facility map**
- **Organic system plan**

## 6. GROUP OF OPERATORS

6.1 **Internal Control System (**for groups, if any): If the operator is a group of producers (in some third countries small farmers can be certified as a group), then GCMS will also audit the Internal Control System (ICS) of the group. This involves checking a sample of group members and the effectiveness of internal inspections. (This manual's primary scope is individual operators, but if group certification is in scope for crops, the CB follows group certification rules as per Reg. 2018/848 and Reg. 2021/1698).

6.2 According to the article 4 and 5 from the regulation (EU) 2021/279, the following applies in case of group pf operators:

- A member of a group of operators shall register to only one group of operators for a given product, also where the operator is engaged in different activities related to that product. The maximum size of a group of operators shall be **2 000 members.**
- The group of operators shall keep the following documents and records for the purposes of the system for internal controls (ICS):

- The list of members of the group of operators based on their registration of each member and consisting of the following elements for each member of the group of operators: name and identification (code number); contact details; date of registration; total land surface under the management of the member and whether it is part of an organic, in-conversion or non-organic production unit; information on each production unit and/or activity: size, location, including a map where available, product, date of the beginning of the conversion period and yield estimates; date of the last internal inspection with the name of the ICS inspector; date of the last official control performed by the competent authority or, where appropriate, control authority or control body with the name of the inspector; date and version of the list;
- The signed membership agreements between the member and the group of operators as legal person, which shall include the rights and responsibilities of the member.
- The internal inspection reports signed by the ICS inspector and the inspected member of the group of operators and including at least the following elements: the name of the member and the location of the production unit or premises, including purchase and collection centers where the activities referred to in Article 36(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 subject to the inspection take place; the date and starting and ending hour of the internal inspection; the findings of the inspection; the audit scope/perimeter; the date of issue of the report; the name of the internal inspector.
- The training records of the ICS inspectors consisting of the dates of the training; the subject matter of the training; the name of the trainer; the signature of the trainee; where appropriate, an assessment of the knowledge acquired.
- The training records of the members of the group of operators.
- The records of the measures taken in case of non-compliance by the ICS manager, which shall include: the members subject to measures in case of non-compliance, including those suspended, withdrawn or required to comply with a new conversion period; documentation of identified non-compliance; documentation of follow-up of the measures.
- The traceability records, including information on the quantities, on the following activities, where relevant: purchase and distribution of farm inputs including plant reproductive material by the group; production including harvest; storing; preparation; delivery of products from each member to the joint marketing system; placing on the market of products by the group of operators.

- The written agreements and contracts between the group of operators and subcontractors including information on the nature of the subcontracted activities.
- The appointment of the ICS manager.
- The appointment of the ICS inspectors as well as the list of ICS inspectors.
- To evaluate the set-up, functioning and maintaining of the ICS of a group of operators, the competent authority or, where appropriate, GCMS shall determine at least that:
- A documented procedures of the ICS that have been put in place comply with the requirements established in Regulation (EU) 2018/848.
- List of members of the group of operators with the required information for each member is continuously updated and aligned with the scope of the certificate.
- All members of the group of operators comply with the criteria set out in Article 36(1)(a), (b) and (e) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 throughout their participation in the group of operators.

6.3 GCMS applies risk assessment to select the sample of the members of the group of operators for the re-inspections in accordance with Article 38(4)(d) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

6.4 GCMS allocates reasonable time for the control of a group of operators, proportional to the type, structure, size, the products, the activities and output of organic production of the group of operators.

6.5 GCMS carry out witness audits to verify the competence and knowledge of ICS inspectors.

6.6 GCMS assess whether there is a failure of the ICS based on the number of non-compliances undetected by the ICS inspectors and the result of the investigation of the cause and the nature of the non-compliances.

## 7. NOTIFICATION

### 7.1 Annual Reporting to the Commission:

As a recognized third-country control body, GCMS is required to submit an **annual report** to the European Commission by 28 February each year. This report (submitted in English) details GCMS activities and compliance with organic rules over the previous year.

It includes:

- Updates to GCMS technical dossier (any changes in legal status, accreditation, key personnel, etc.)

- The list of countries and product categories under GCMS control and number of operators in each.
- Summary of inspections carried out, including total number of operators, number of inspections, number of unannounced visits (to show the ≥10% rule was met), number of samples taken (showing the ≥5% sampling was met)
- Results of oversight: statistics on non-compliances and sanctions. Specifically, **the number of OFIS notifications of suspected or established non-compliance** GCMS dealt with, and the measures taken. Also, the annual report will indicate how many operators were suspended or certificates withdrawn, etc.
- Any noteworthy issues or improvements, training of staff, and how GCMS addressed Commission feedback from the previous year.
- It also covers **witness audits** and internal audit findings (GCMS must perform internal audits and witness inspections on its inspectors as part of quality control, per Reg. 2021/1698).

The annual report essentially demonstrates GCMS performance and enforcement of organic rules, enabling the Commission to supervise GCMS recognition. GCMS compiles this information continuously (e.g. via the sanctions register, inspection logs) to ensure accurate reporting.



### 7.2 Organic Farming Information System (OFIS):

OFIS is the platform for exchange of information on organic irregularities and breaches among EU Member States, the Commission, and control bodies. GCMS is **required to use OFIS for timely information exchange**. Key uses:

- **Notification of Irregularities:** If the CB detects a suspected or established non-compliance on a product that **could affect trade** (especially exports to the EU or products from another CB), it uses OFIS to notify authorities. For example, if a pesticide residue is found in an organic product batch intended for export, GCMS would create an OFIS notification so that the importing country's authorities are aware to hold or check the product. The notification includes details of the operator, product, issue, and actions being taken.

- **Responding to Notifications:** GCMS also might receive notifications via OFIS if a Member State finds a problem in a product certified by GCMS (e.g. at border control or on the market). In such cases, the Commission forwards the info to GCMS. GCMS must investigate and respond through OFIS within 30 days, detailing what they found and what actions were taken. GCMS uses the standard templates (Annex III of Reg. 2021/1698) to reply to these international non-compliance notifications.
- **General Exchange:** GCMS uses OFIS to communicate with other control bodies or authorities if an operator is switching CBs (ensuring the control file is passed on as required) or if they discover an operator under their control had dealings with another CB's operator in a fraudulent way, etc. Essentially, OFIS is the secure channel recognized by the EU for these exchanges.

GCMS has internal procedures to ensure any staff member handling OFIS notifications does so quickly. There are documented processes for investigation triggered by an OFIS case (including possibly extra inspections or sampling).

## 8. CONTROLS

8.1 **Annual Inspection: Every operator is inspected on-site at least once per year as required by EU law**. The annual inspection is a full **physical on-the-spot inspection** covering all aspects of the operation. This is mandatory regardless of risk level (even low-risk operators must get a yearly inspection).

8.2 **Additional Inspections:** Higher-risk operators will receive additional control visits beyond the annual visit. At minimum, 10% of all operators are subject to one or more additional inspections each year (these may be follow-up or unannounced visits). The selection of who gets additional inspections is guided by the risk ranking: typically, all High-risk and some Medium-risk operators would get an extra visit. This fulfills the requirement that at least 10% of controls are extra controls beyond the basic annual checks.

8.3 **Unannounced Visits**: At least 10% of all inspections are conducted without prior notice. Unannounced inspections are a critical tool to detect non-compliance when the operator is not expecting an auditor. GCMS uses risk assessment to decide which operators get unannounced inspections (e.g. high-risk operators, or as spot-checks among lower risk ones). An unannounced visit may target specific times (like during harvest or processing) or specific

issues. Operators are informed at registration that unannounced inspections can occur at any time.

8.4 **High-Risk Products**: If the operator produces a product that the EU has listed as high-risk (due to past fraud cases or residue issues), the CB will implement the enhanced frequency required by regulation. For high-risk product operators, at least two inspections per year are conducted, one of which is unannounced doubling of inspection frequency provides closer oversight on those supply chains.

8.5 **Sampling Frequency**: The risk level also influences sampling (detailed in Section 7), where higher-risk operators or products will have more frequent sampling of products for laboratory testing.

8.6 **Non-compliances and catalogue of measures:** The sanction catalogue, categorizing the severity of non-compliances according to the GCMS Production Standards and control measures will be replaced by a catalogue of measures, with a classification of non-compliances as minor, major and critical.

## 9. CERTIFICATION

9.1 A Certification decision-maker (separate from the inspector to maintain impartiality) reviews the inspector's report, checklist, findings, and any other relevant information (lab results, operator's file, previous history). The officer verifies that the inspection was thorough and that evidence supports the findings. If clarifications from the inspector are needed, the officer communicates internally.

9.2 Based on the evaluation, the CB decides one of the following for the operator:

- Grant/Renew Certification: If the operator fully complies (only minor issues or none, at all), the certification is granted (for new operators) or continued (for renewals). Minor non-compliances will be communicated as conditions or recommendations but do not block certification. The certificate of compliance is issued or updated accordingly.
- Certification with Conditions: If there are major non-compliances that need correction, the CB may issue certification on the condition that corrective actions are taken by a deadline. In such cases, the operator is certified but must, for example, submit proof of corrected labels or improved procedures within, say, 30 or 60 days. Follow-up may be

a desk review or an additional inspection. Failure to comply by the deadline could escalate sanctions.

- Suspension or Withholding Certification: For critical issues, GCMS will suspend certification (for existing operators) or withhold initial certification (for applicants). Suspension means the operator is temporarily not allowed to market products as organic pending corrective measures. For example, if a prohibited insecticide was found in use, the certification is suspended immediately. The operator must correct the issue (e.g. undergo a new conversion period for affected fields or otherwise resolve the integrity breach) and only after satisfactory evidence can the suspension be lifted. In extreme cases, or if the operator cannot correct the issue, this leads to withdrawal.
- Product Downgrading: As an immediate measure for certain non-compliances, GCMS can require that specific lots or products be downgraded to conventional status. For instance, if a residue is found in one batch of product, GCMS may allow the operator to remain certified, but that batch must not be sold as organic. The certification decision will note that those products lose organic status. This is often combined with further investigation into the cause.
- Certificate Withdrawal: In case of egregious or uncorrectable non-compliance (fraud, refusal to allow inspection, or repeated critical violations), GCMS will withdraw the operator's certification entirely. This means the operator is no longer certified organic under GCMS, and they must cease marketing any products under organic status. Withdrawal is typically accompanied by notification to authorities and a minimum period before the operator can re-apply.

9.3 The CB communicates the decision to the operator in writing. If compliant, a **Certificate of Compliance** is issued (see Section 8). If conditions or sanctions apply, the operator receives a **Certification Report/Letter** detailing:

- The decision (e.g. certification granted, or suspended, etc.).
- Any non-compliances found and their category (minor/major/critical).
- Required corrective actions and deadlines.
- Any sanctions imposed (e.g. product cannot be sold as organic, certificate suspension details).

- The operator's right to appeal the decision (the CB's procedure typically allows an operator to appeal or present additional info if they disagree).
- Upon a positive certification decision (initial or annual renewal), the CB issues a **Certificate of Compliance** to the operator, as required by Article 35 of Regulation (EU) 2018/848. This certificate is the documentary evidence that the operator and their products comply with organic regulations, and it is a prerequisite for marketing products as organic. For third-country operators under Article 46, the certificate confirms compliance equivalently to EU standards so that their products can be accepted for import.

## 10. LOGO

### 10.1 GCMS Logo


10.1.1 The decision regarding the use of logo / certification mark and Certificate is always maintained by GCMS headquarter.

10.1.2 When providing a copy of the issued Certificate to the third parties / uploading it in various sources, the Client is obliged to provide a copy exactly corresponding to the original Certificate issued (including all annexes to the Certificate).

10.1.3 GCMS Group allows the marking of certified products, produced by its clients, with the logo / certification mark provided by GCMS together with the provided Unique Identification Number (UIN) which, together with the logo / certification mark, must be used during the validity of the Certification Agreement and the issued certificate.

10.1.4 The Client is obliged to use in marketing channels, documentation and when marking the premises/tools/equipment directly related to the certified scope, only the logo / certification mark provided by the relevant GCMS subsidiary.

10.1.5 The logo / certification mark is provided to Clients by GCMS in a working format. Its design/ratio of parameters cannot differ from those provided by the relevant GCMS subsidiary.

10.1.6 A Client is obligated to use the logo / certification mark and / or GCMS Group name only for products for which a Certificate is issued, only together with the UIN stated at the bottom of the logo / certification mark and only use the logo / certification mark during the validity of the signed Certification Agreement and the issued Certificate.

10.1.7 GCMS Group representatives are obligated to regularly check the logo / certification mark usage by its clients according to the article 33 of the regulation (EU) 2018/848 on organic production and labelling of organic products.

### 10.2 EU-Organic label

10.2.1 The organic production logo of the European Union may be used in the labelling, presentation and advertising of products which comply with the requirements of the regulation (EU) 2018/848. The organic production logo of the European Union may also be used for information and educational purposes related to the existence and advertising of the logo itself, provided that such use is not liable to mislead the consumer as regards the organic production of specific products, and provided that the logo is reproduced in accordance with the rules set out in Annex V of (EU) 2018/848.



10.2.2 The organic production logo of the European Union shall comply with the model below:

10.2.3 The use of the organic production logo of the European Union shall be optional for products imported from third countries.

10.2.4 The organic production logo of the European Union shall follow the model set out in Annex V of (EU) 2018/848 and shall comply with the rules set out in that Annex.
10.2.5 National logos and private logos may be used in the labelling, presentation and advertising of products.

10.2.6 The general format of the code numbers of GCMS will be: **UZ-BIO-XXX**
_"UZ" is the ISO code for the country where the controls take place.
_" BIO" is a term decided by the commission establishing a link with organic production.
_"XXX" is a reference number specific to GCMS recognized by the EU Commission.

## 11. Implementing acts

The European Commission has adopted the following legal acts.
**Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/464,** which provides rules for applying Regulation (EU) 2018/848 as regards: the documents needed for the retroactive recognition of periods for the purpose of conversion; the production of organic products; the information Member States need to provide to the Commission.
**Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/279,** which provides rules for: official investigations in cases of suspicion of non-compliance; the size of operator groups and the documentation of their system of internal controls; minimum control requirements; the national catalogue of measures in cases of non- compliance; the exchange of information between the Member States and the Commission.
**Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1165**, which authorises certain products and substances for use in organic production and establishes their lists.
**Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1378**, which provides rules for the certificate issued to operators, groups of operators and exporters in non-EU countries involved in the imports of organic and in- conversion products into the EU, and for establishing the list of recognised control authorities and control bodies.
**Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1935** amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/723, which provides information and data on organic production and the labelling of organic products to be submitted by means of the standard model form to be used in annual reports submitted by Member States in relation to Regulation (EU) 2017/625.
**Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/2119,** which provides detailed rules for certain records and declarations required from operators and groups of operators and on the technical means

for the issuance of certificates, and which introduced amendments to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1378 regarding the issuance of the certificate for operators, groups of operators and exporters in non-EU countries.

**Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/2307,** which provides rules for documents and notifications required for organic and in-conversion products intended for import into the EU.

**Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/2325**, establishing the list of non-EU countries and the list of control authorities and control bodies recognised under Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 for the purpose of importing organic products into the EU.

### 12. Delegated acts

The Commission has adopted several delegated acts amending Regulation (EU) 2018/848 or its annexes.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/427** amends Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 as regards certain detailed production rules for organic products. This was amended in turn by Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/269.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1794** amends Part I of Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 as regards the use of in-conversion and non-organic plant reproductive material.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/642** amends Annex III to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 as regards certain information to be provided on the labelling of organic products.  Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/715 amends Regulation (EU) 2018/848 as regards the requirements for groups of operators.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/716** amends Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 as regards organic production rules on sprouted seeds and chicory heads, on feed for certain aquaculture animals and on aquaculture parasite treatments.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/1006** amends Regulation (EU) 2018/848 as regards the model of the certificate attesting compliance with the rules on organic production.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/1691** of 12 July 2021 amends Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 as regards the requirements for record-keeping for operators in organic production.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/1697** amends Regulation (EU) 2018/848 as regards the criteria for the recognition of control authorities and control bodies that are competent to carry out controls on organic products in non-EU countries, and for the withdrawal of their recognition. In addition, other delegated regulations supplement Regulation (EU) 2018/848:

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2123** – rules for the cases where and the conditions under which identity checks and physical checks on certain goods may be performed at control points, and documentary checks may be performed at distance from border control posts, later amended by Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2305.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2124** – rules for official controls of consignments of animals and goods in transit, transshipment and onward transportation through the EU, later amended by Delegated Regulations (EU) 2020/2190 and (EU) 2021/2305.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/2146** – exceptional production rules in organic production.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/771** – specific criteria and conditions for the checks of documentary accounts in the context of official controls in organic production and the official controls of groups of operators.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/1189** – the production and marketing of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material of particular genera or species.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/1342** – rules on the information to be sent by non-EU countries and by control authorities and control bodies for the purpose of supervision of their recognition under Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 for imported organic products and the measures to be taken in the exercise of that supervision.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/1698** – procedural requirements for recognising control authorities and control bodies that are competent to carry out controls on operators and groups of operators that are certified organic and on organic products in non-EU countries, the rules on their supervision and the controls and other actions to be performed by those control authorities and control bodies.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2304** – rules on the issuance of complementary certificates certifying the non-use of antibiotics in the organic production of animal products for the purpose of export.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2305 –** rules on the cases where and conditions under which organic products and in-conversion products are exempted from official controls at border control posts, the place of official controls for such products.

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2306** – rules on the official controls in respect of consignments of organic products and in-conversion products intended for import into the EU and on the certificate of inspection.