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Organic
agriculture

Green Agenda

Fifth Interim Meeting of the **REAWG on Organic Agriculture**

Montenegro

Representative of the Ministry: Ms Milica Bučković

Scientific research

14 – 16 June 2023 Mostar

Transposition of the EU Regulation 848/2018

- In accordance with the Programme of Accession to the European Union 2023-2024, Montenegro undertook the obligation to harmonize the national legislation in the field of organic production with the relevant EU acquis.
- The European Commission, as we pointed out at the fourth interim meeting in Durrës, accepted the proposal that Montenegro adopt a new **LAW ON ORGANIC PRODUCTION** that will unite **EU Regulation 2018/848** and **EU Regulation 2017/625**

Transposition of the EU Regulation 848/2018

- The Working Group prepared the final draft version the Law on Organic Production in compliance with **EU Regulation 2018/848** and **EU Regulation 2017/625**.
- Everything applicable from the **EU Regulations 2018/848** and **EU Regulation 2017/625** has been transferred to the drafted Law.

- Directorate for Agriculture in whose jurisdiction is organic production, determined that Public hearings will be held in July this year.
- It was also decided to hold three public hearings:
 - ✓ the first one in Bijelo Polje, where the largest number of organic producers is registered;
 - ✓ second one in Pljevlja, where producers who are engaged in crop production dominate and
 - ✓ the last one in Podgorica, where organic producers from the southern and central region of Montenegro will be invited.

- After the end of public hearings, the working group will consider all received comments and then send the draft law to the Secretariat for Legislation of the Government of Montenegro.
- At the meeting with the representatives of DG AGRI, at the beginning of this year in Brussels, we received information that the comments of the EC on the new law are not necessary, considering that an expert from an EU member state was involved in its drafting through the support of TAIEX. (We also informed you about this at the fourth interim meeting in Durrës)

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- After receiving comments from the Secretariat for Legislation and other competent institutions and their adoption, the Law will be sent to the Government for further action.
- Given that the parliamentary elections were held on June 11 and that the process of forming the new government is underway, it is possible that there will be some postponements of the planned deadlines.

- In May, the working group completed the final draft version of the Rulebook for plant and animal production.
- In the preparation of the final draft version of the Rulebook, we received the support of experts from Italy (MOAN - Mediterranean Network for Organic Agriculture).
- Preparation of the Rulebook for export and import of organic products is planned for August, during the second mission of experts from MOAN.
- During that mission both Rulebooks will be completely finalized.

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- Working Group for drafting the Law on Organic Production started drafting of the Rulebook for emergency situations.
- Training dates for group certification and inspection services will be determined later, after consultations with all relevant stakeholders.

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Thank you for your attention!!!

