

The EU Import Rules

Some Comments

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Stressing Equivalence approach

- ☺ **EU Regulation not accepted as reference standard**
- ☺ **Detailed equivalence assessment required**
- ☺ **Reference to Codex Alimentarius guidelines CAC/GL 32**
- ☺ **Reference to International Requirements for Organic Certification Bodies (IROCB),**
- ☺ **Reference to Codex Alimentarius Guidelines CAC/GL 34: „Guidelines for the Development of Equivalence Agreements..“**

Approval of certification bodies operating in Third Countries

- ☺ **Same treatment and requirements for EU and Non-EU CB's**
- ☺ **Harmonization by centralized approval procedure (no more individual Member States decision)**
- ☺ **Approval limited to countries of activities**
 - ☺ **EU lists countries of approval**
 - ☺ **Third Countries of operation get a notification**

Assessment Bodies

- › **Assessment reports can be written by:**
 - › **National accreditation body with competence in organic agriculture**
 - › **Competent authority**
 - › **International supervisory body specialised in organic agriculture**
- ☺ **Recognition of an internationally operating body (IOAS)**
- ☺ **Option for accreditation bodies to provide „one stop shops“ (e.g. ISO 65, EU, CAN – IOAS, DAP)**

Opportunities of New EU Import Rules

- ☺ **CB's may agree on one private standard which is applied internationally**
 - ☺ **Equivalent European Union Organic Production and Processing Standard for Third Countries (IFOAM Accredited CB's)**
 - ☺ **IFOAM Basic Standard (if amended to a certification standard)**
- ☺ **Guideline for the management of and communication on irregularities and infringements concerning imported products**

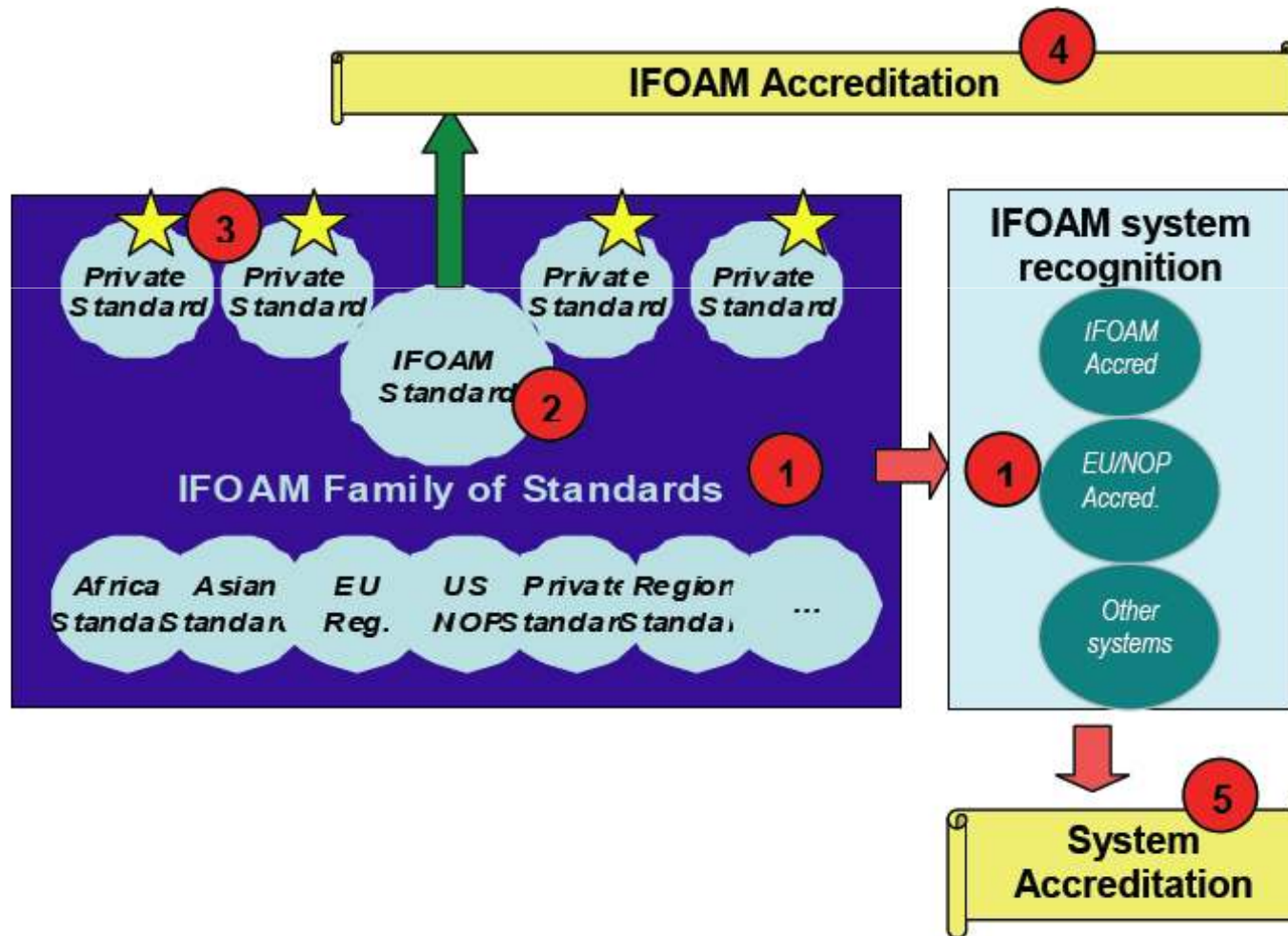


THE NEW OGS SYSTEM

Standards



Verification



**The new EU import regime
provides leeway for an
international approach based
on real equivalence**

It just has to be used

Thank you very much

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