

4th European Organic Congress, Rome: The future of regulating organic food and farming in Europe

-----**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**-----

Brussels, 23/04/2010 – Registration is now open for the 4th European Organic Congress in Rome (June 21-22, 2010) - an initiative undertaken by the IFOAM EU Group (1) in conjunction with IAMB (2) in the frame of the InterBio project (3). The congress is co-financed by the Italian Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies and DG Environment of the European Commission. It is an opportunity for the organic sector to evaluate and discuss the changing legislative framework for organic farming in Europe.

The congress, which is the fourth large-scale event organised by IFOAM EU to give platform to members of the organic movements, experts and policy makers to discuss topical regulatory issues, sets out to **evaluate the first year of implementation of the new Organic Regulation** – to assess the current situation and provide an outlook on further elements to be added to the regulation.

With the new EU Regulations for organic food and farming now in place for more than a year, the IFOAM EU Group invites the organic sector to the Italian capital to evaluate the performance of the regulatory regime – what are the bottlenecks and challenges, which areas need work now and which will need attention in the future.

The conference will be opened by the Chair of the European Parliament Committee for Agriculture, Paolo De Castro, and the program features a number of high level speakers from the EU institutions as well as a broad representation of the European organic sector.

Further information and registration is now available through the congress website: www.organic-congress-ifoameu.org. Programme is available [here](#).

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More information:

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NOTES:

(1) The IFOAM EU Group represents more than 300 member organisations of IFOAM (International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements) in the EU-27, the EU accession countries and EFTA. Member organisations include: consumer, farmer and processor associations; research, education and advisory organisations; certification bodies and commercial organic companies. More at www.ifoam-eu.org

(2) IAMB – Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari is one of the four institutes of the International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Studies (CIHEAM). More at: www.iamb.it/en

(3) The InterBio project promotes domestic and international demand for organic products. It is financed by the Italian Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies and coordinated by IAMB. See more at www.interbio.it