

### ***2nd European Organic Congress presents: climate-friendly practices in the food supply chain***

*IFOAM EU Group organises its second Organic Congress to bring this time to the attention the potentials of organic production for solving global problems - workshop programmes and registration are now [online](#)*

**Brussels, 27/10/2009** – The workshop programmes for the IFOAM EU Group's (1) Second Organic Congress planned for December 1<sup>st</sup> (2) are now agreed and available on the [congress website](#). The workshops focus on the role of organic food processors in providing models, and on relevant EU policies and in particular the Common Agriculture Policy to face major challenges like climate change, biodiversity loss and the global food crisis.

In the first workshop, initiatives based in businesses from Belgium, Germany, Spain, Sweden and The Netherlands will present best climate practice examples in the food chain.

The second workshop, with Ladislav Miko, Director for Natural Environment, DG Environment, and Hilikka Summa, Head of Unit for Bioenergy, Biomass, Forestry and Climate change in DG Agriculture as speakers, will provide a broader view on necessities to reshape agriculture related EU policies in order to tackle climate change and halt the loss of biodiversity.

The third workshop focuses on the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) and its potential to better contribute to facing future challenges, especially with regard to the CAP reform in 2013. Anastassios Haniotis, Head of Unit for Agricultural Policy Analysis and Perspectives, DG Agriculture, will contribute to this workshop from the side of the Commission; Ariel Brunner will present the view of Birdlife Europe whereas Alessandro Triantafyllidis from AIAB will introduce the IFOAM EU position on the next CAP reform. All workshops will take place in parallel in the afternoon.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> European Organic Congress already generates considerable attention (registration is still possible but will be closed upon reaching the decided limit). Among all important speakers of the congress is the EU Agriculture Commissioner Mariann Fischer Boel who will open the event with a speech on the agriculture challenges within the CAP and Copenhagen process.

The Congress' **newest draft program** and **on-line registration** is available on the website: [www.organic-congress-ifoameu.org](http://www.organic-congress-ifoameu.org).

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## Press Release

International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements – EU Regional Group

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NOTES:

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

(2) The Congress 'Organic Farming in Times of Climate Change, Biodiversity Loss and Global Food Crisis' will be held in Brussels, December 1, 2009, at the representation of Baden-Württemberg, Rue Belliard 60-62. It is co-financed by the European Community, Directorate-General for Environment. The sole responsibility for all communications/publications and content in relation with this event lies with the organiser. The Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein. The Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.