

April 2008

Internal Letter N° 97 - Special GA Edition

Welcome to the IFOAM General Assembly 2008 in Vignola !

What you need to know and do for the Vignola General Assembly!

For our federation, the upcoming General Assembly (GA) in Italy is the most important event of the year. We expect a wide and representative participation from our membership. Unique meeting facilities have been arranged at the Vignola Castle (*Rocca di Vignola*), including simultaneous translation in two languages – see call for interpreters. Taking into account the very positive feedback from Victoria, Canada, 2002, and Adelaide, Australia, 2005 we will have the General Assembly again for 3 days – with a focus on active participation of the membership e.g. in the Recommendation Consensus Process and the Motion Bazaar. This “IFOAM In Action” special GA edition with the GA agenda and all related texts and motions will be the compass to prepare yourself and guide you through the GA. Please note that documents which contain amendments or revisions of existing documents are presented in “review mode”. This means that the parts to be deleted are crossed out and new parts that should be included are underlined. You will realize that quite a number of the agenda items and motion proposals are of challenging importance and interest not only for the future of IFOAM but for the entire organic sector.



I F O A M G e n e r a l A s s e m b l y

All delegates should bring this IFOAM In Action along to the GA !!!

JUNE 22-24, 2008 | VIGNOLA, ITALY

With this mail of the IFOAM In Action all members will find the authorization form to register as a delegate to the General Assembly as a separate document. The text explains how to handle this simple application form. Please make sure that the form sheet is not returned to the Head Office. Delegates have to bring it to Vignola. Member organizations have to fill out the registration form accordingly. Delegates have to also bring a proof of membership fee payment, as this is a precondition for exercising your voting right. Verifying membership payment has always been a bottleneck during the GA registration. To assure that everybody has a chance to register on Saturday, we will offer registration between 4 and 8 p.m. at the Vignola Castle, where the regional and sector group meetings will take place. This allows everybody to register and get their voting cards without too many long lines. Registration on Sunday morning is reserved for people that have just arrived to participate at the GA!

In anticipation of many delegates coming to an IFOAM General Assembly for the first time, we are offering on Saturday morning an introduction session on how the GA is organized and how one can participate and contribute.

Please book your accommodations and GA food package together with your World Congress Registration under www.ifoam.org/modena2008.html. Reference is made to the special announcement on page 2 of how to move from Modena, the location for the World Congress, to Vignola, where the General Assembly will take place.

The Organic Guarantee System revision, the future of seeds and IFOAM's role in advocacy are among other agenda topics of milestone importance for the federation as well as for the sector at large. Don't miss this special, enjoyable and strategically important GA cultivating the future of our organic movement.

The World Board and the Head Office team did its very best preparing this important General Assembly.

We look forward to seeing you soon in Vignola,

Angela Caudle de Freitas
Executive Director

Thomas Cierpka
Senior Manager HR & Administration

Accommodations & Transportation during the General Assembly

Participants of the IFOAM General Assembly in Vignola who also attend the [IFOAM Organic World Congress](#) in Modena may move their accommodations to Vignola surroundings on Saturday, June 21 or Sunday, June 22 in the very early morning.

Vignola is located 23 km from Modena (40-45 minutes transfer).

Modenatur is prepared to find proper accommodations for you in the Vignola surroundings (15-40 minutes transfer) mainly on the hills (Guiglia, Zocca, Rocca Malatina..) in hotels, farmhouses or Bed and Breakfast.

Transfer “to and from Vignola” during the GA

21st – 22nd: Direct shuttles from Modena to Vignola are foreseen for Saturday and Sunday morning,

23rd – 24th: During the GA transfers will be organized everyday in the morning and in the evening:

- from Modena to Vignola in the morning and return in the evening
- from the hotels in the Vignola surroundings in the morning (only the ones booked by Modenatur) to Vignola and return in the evening

Information concerning congress shuttle timetable will be provided soon on the IFOAM website. You will also find details about the public transport schedule (bus) from Modena to Vignola under: www.ifoam.org/ga

How to get to Modena?

Please find detailed information here:

www.ifoam.org/events/ifoam_conferences/owc/how_to_get_there.html

How to go directly to Vignola?

If you come only for the General Assembly: from Bologna airport take a shuttle airbus to Bologna central railway station where in track 7 west (ovest) you find a train going to Vignola. The timetable on Suburbana Bologna-Vignola website you find at: www.suburbanafbv.it/fermate/orari.htm

If you like to come directly to Vignola by car, please find detailed information at: www.ifoam.org/events/ifoam_conferences/general_assembly/ga_how_to_get_there.html

Modenatur staff is at your disposal for further information concerning transfers, public buses, hotel booking:

Phone: +39-059-220022

Email: ifoam@modenatur.it

hotelbooking@modenatur.it

Call for volunteer interpreters at the IFOAM General Assembly

Dear GA participant,

IFOAM needs your support in Vignola!

Despite the fact that IFOAM's official language is English there are many members which either do not speak English or prefer to have interpretations of the General Assembly.

Since IFOAM does not have the means to engage professional interpreters: **it is your turn!**

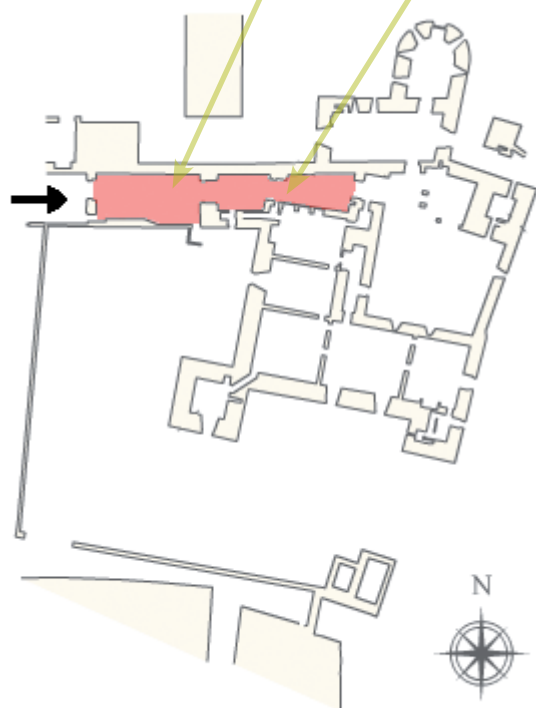
The OWC organizers will provide us with at least two cabins and the respective equipment for simultaneous interpretation. The languages interpreted will be decided based on the number of members in need of interpretation and the availability of **volunteers** to actually do the interpretation.

In case you are available to help with interpretations at the GA please send your name and language(s) to Anna Wissmann, email: interpreters@ifoam.org

Internal Body Meetings, Vignola Castle

Saturday - 21st June 2008

Internal Body	Time	Room	General Public
LatinAmerica & Carribean meeting	10 - 14	Spazio ex Montorsi	Open
Asian members	14 - 17	Spazio ex Montorsi	Open for all IFOAM affiliates from Asia
Orientation for GA Newcomers	11 - 12.30	Spazio ex Montorsi	Make your self prepared for the GA. Especially designed for those who are participating at the GA for the first time.
ORA Meeting	13 - 15.30	Spazio ex Montorsi	Open
GA officer meeting	16 - 19		Closed meeting
FRANCE / AsAFI	14 - 16	Rocchetta	Affiliates from France.
Aquaculture Group	16 - 19		Affiliates related to Aquaculture
AgriBioMedit ABM	14.30 - 18	Sala dei Contrari	Affiliates from the Mediterranean countries.
Farmers Group initiative	15.30 - 18	Sala ex Aci	All affilites related to farmers organizations
GA registration	16 - 20	Spazio ex Montorsi	All members (Get voting card, pay food package).



Vignola Castle Map: First Floor



Vignola Castle Map: Underground

Agenda IFOAM General Assembly 2008

Vingola, Italy, June 22 - 24.2008

Sunday - 22nd June 2008

Time	Agenda Point	Agenda Topic
8.00 - 8.30		Late Registration
9.00	1	Opening
	2	Chair election
	3	GA Minutes Adelaide
	4	Agenda
	5	GA Rules of Procedure
9.30	6	Guests addresses
9.45		Cultural and visual review 2005-2007
10.00	7	World Board report - Highlights 2005-2007 (including finances)
10.30		Coffeebreak
11.00	8	Report Internal Auditors
11.20	9	OGS revision report
11.40	10	IFOAM Program 2011
12.20	11	Introduction to Interactive Consensus Process and Motion Bazaar
12.30		Lunch
14.00		Consensus Process Break Out Sessions: the IFOAM Program 2011
15.30		Coffeebreak
16.00	12	Motion Bazaar
		* WB motions & report
		* Member motions
		* Recommendations station
		* WB candidates available
		* IFOAM Web page demo
		* Info tables
		* OGS revision table
		* IFOAM's involvement in International Projects
18.30		GA reception - sponsored by OWC 2011 bidders

Monday - 23rd June 2008

Time	Agenda Point	Agenda Topic
9.00	13	Report Nomination Committee
9.15	14	Presentation of WB candidates
11.00		Coffeebreak
11.30	15	Member motions I: Seeds and Patents
12.00	16	WB election I
12.30		Lunch
14.00	17	IFOAM Program 2011 - Recommendations from the Monday break out sessions
15.00	18	Budget 2009-2011
		Organic World Foundation
15.30	19	WB election II (if needed)
16.00		Coffeebreak
16.30	20	Member motions II: Organic Guarantee System, IFOAM Basic Standards, Organic Integrity
18.00	21	Announcement new WB
20.00		Film: The real dirt on Farmer John
20.00		New WB elects new EB (closed session)

Tuesday - 24th June 2008

Time	Agenda Point	Agenda Topic
9.00	22	Announcement of new EB
9.25	23	Statutes amendments
	24	Terms of Reference Internal Auditors
	25	Appointment of Internal Auditors
10.00	26	Member motions III: Plant Breeding and Propagation, Shrimp in Organic Agriculture
10.20	27	The Definition of Organic Agriculture
10.30		Coffeebreak
11.00	28	Recommendations from Motion Bazaar
12.00	29	Member motions IV: Gender, Tendering, Co-option, Internal Bodies, Internal Control Systems and Participatory Guarantee Systems, Energy and Food Sovereignty
12.30		Lunch
14.00		Motions to be continued
14.30	30	Next OWC & GA location
15.00	31	IFOAM Recognitions
15.30	32	Closing celebration
16.00		Coffeebreak
16.30		End

A new logo for the IFOAM General Assembly



I F O A M
G e n e r a l
A s s e m b l y

JUNE 22-24, 2008 | VIGNOLA, ITALY

The IFOAM General Assembly has evolved through tradition and experience, always remaining grounded in grassroots democracy unrivaled by other non-profit organizations. IFOAM, through its General Assembly, is the guardian of organic credibility and integrity, and that without this democratic platform, the development of organic markets and regulations would not have been possible.

Its logo is composed of raised hands representing democracy and interaction. Each hand is linked to a color and a continent. The iconographic hand with the card represents the voting card being raised, reflecting the IFOAM tradition that one sees in virtually all pictures of past General Assemblies. Then each hand is expressing a symbol that conveys positive messages – peace, OK, or thumbs up, in addition to inquiry and interjection.

The logo represents the brotherhood, the democracy, the diversity and the humanity expressed through the IFOAM General Assembly.

16TH IFOAM
ORGANIC WORLD
CONGRESS
MODENA, ITALY 16-20 JUNE '08

CULTIVATE
THE FUTURE.



THE ORGANIC WORLD MEETS IN MODENA

Cultivating the future is the fundamental motivation common to farmers, consumers, producers, researchers, scientists, activists and all those who believe that Organic Agriculture guarantees future generations with a healthy and fair environment, where they can live in harmony, respecting both the individual and our Earth.

The Congress will be based on the IFOAM Principles of Organic Agriculture: Health, Ecology, Fairness and Care. Starting from these values, the relevant themes will pertain to:

- Regional values and indigenous knowledge, or to be more precise the roots from which we should draw experience and inspiration in our everyday actions;
- Innovation, in all fields, to better project ourselves into a sustainable future;
- Cooperation between producers and consumers, public and private bodies, scientists and operators, South and North, communities, regions and nations.

[Click here to register now!](#)



www.ifoam.org/modena2008

THE PROGRAM

The Congress will present and exchange of practical experiences between farmers, consumers, producers, activists and others, and the state-of-science academic research will be presented and discussed. Additional conferences will focus on wide-reaching themes, such as Organic Wine and Viticulture, Organic Textiles, Organic Fruits, Organic Agriculture in the Mediterranean, Organic Cosmetics, Aquaculture, Climate Change and more.

Renowned scientists and activists will animate the debates and provide inspiration during the numerous discussions. Don't miss this great opportunity to participate in the world's largest organic conference!

THE ORGANIZERS

The Province of Modena and the Italian Association for Organic Agriculture (AIAB Emilia Romagna) have joined forces and created the Consorzio ModenaBio 2008, with the objective to build a global platform for discussing and sharing information and experiences to Cultivate the Future in a concrete manner.

Agenda Point No. 1: Opening and Establishment of Quorum

The President welcomes all IFOAM affiliates and guests and opens the GA.

The President establishes the quorum as required by the statutes.

Agenda Point No. 2: Approval of Chairpersons

Motion from the World Board:

*The GA elects **Beate Huber** and **Brian McElroy** as chairpersons for this General Assembly.*

Agenda Point No. 3: GA Minutes Adelaide

The Soil Association, member organization from UK, brought forward a complaint regarding the language of the motion about the purpose of the Organic Guarantee System (OGS). After a comprehensive consultation with minutes keepers, minute referees, motion proposers and motion amenders the Executive Board (EB) decided to a) develop a procedure for minute keeping at IFOAM General Assemblies and b) to change the language of the OGS review motion. (Agenda point 27, GA 2005 draft minutes published in IA 89, December 2005, page 9).

The language defining the OGS purpose is now as follows:

“That the purpose of the Organic Guarantee System is to protect the integrity of, ensure consumer confidence in and facilitate market access for organic products.”

Statement of the Minute referees:

“We have served as referees for the minutes of the IFOAM General Assembly in Adelaide, Australia in September 2005, which were taken by Jan Deane and Mathew John. We received the draft of the minutes promptly after the General Assembly.

Our comments and additions were incorporated to the final shortened and condensed version of the minutes, which were then published in IFOAM In Action # 89 (December 2005). We herewith state that the published summarized version of the General Assembly minutes including the corrected language for the OGS motion as published in IFOAM In Action # 95 (October 2007) correctly reflect proceedings and decisions taken in the General Assembly 2005. We recommend to officially approve these minutes at the General Assembly in June 2008 in Vignola, Italy.”

The referees: Roberto Ugas (Peru), Gama Jordon (Tanzania)

Motion from the World Board:

The GA approves the minutes of the last General Assembly in Adelaide, Australia, September 2005 as presented in IFOAM In Action # 89 from December 2005 and amended by the EB in May 2007 (agenda point 29: Purpose of the OGS.) published in IFOAM In Action # 95, October 2007, page 3.

Agenda Point No. 4: Approval of GA Agenda

Motion from the World Board:

The General Assembly approves the proposed GA agenda as published in IFOAM In Action 97, April 2008.

Agenda Point No. 5: Rules of Procedure for the IFOAM General Assembly

§ 1 Call to Order

A session of the General Assembly is opened by the IFOAM President or in case he/she is unable to attend the session, by a Vice President or failing that by a person selected by the World Board. The President establishes that the quorum, as defined in the statutes, is met.

§ 2 Chairing and Speaking

2.1 The President introduces two Chairpersons nominated by the World Board. They are approved by the General Assembly by a simple majority of votes cast. The two rotate as the Chair of the General Assembly.

2.2 The Chair determines the schedule of the proceedings, decides who is entitled to the floor, and applies these Rules of Procedure. ‘Roberts Rules of Order’ is used by the Chair, at his/her discretion, in cases not covered by these Rules of Procedure.

2.3 Any IFOAM member or IFOAM associate must be given the floor, unless the speakers list has been closed by a previously announced decision of the Chair or by point of order.

2.4 The floor may be given to representatives from IFOAM Internal Bodies or others as invited by the WB or the Chair.

2.5 A person must obtain the floor before addressing the General Assembly. Any person who wishes to obtain the floor, must present his/her voting card or speaker authorization card to the Chair, stating his/her name and the member / associate or the body as mentioned under 2.4 he/she represents.

§ 3 Courtesy, Relevance, and Discipline

Speakers must address the Chair. Whenever the Chair speaks,

any person speaking or offering to speak must desist and the Chair is heard without interruption. Speakers must confine their remarks strictly to the matter under discussion or to a point of order (see §9). The Chair may call a speaker to order for irrelevance, repetition, unbecoming language, accusations, or any breach of order, and may direct those breaching order to cease speaking, or to be removed from the meeting. The ruling of the Chair on points of order shall be final, and shall not be open to discussion.

§ 4 Officers

The World Board appoints minute keepers, referees, parliamentarians and ballot counters. The referees may also serve as ballot counters. The ballot counters do their work under the supervision of the parliamentarians. The parliamentarians also advise the Chair, at the Chair's request, on the application of these Rules of Procedure and Robert's Rules of Order.

§ 5 Minutes

The minutes shall record all decisions taken. The refereed minutes are published in the Internal Letter (IFOAM In Action).

§ 6 Motions

6.1 General conduct

IFOAM members and the World Board may submit motions to the General Assembly. Motions are submitted to the General Assembly according to the rules of the Statutes. Motions from the floor may only amend original motions that have met the requirements of the Statutes. Motions are discussed, amended and voted in the order and time that the Chair determines. The Chair exercises its discretion with due regard to fairness and equity. The Chair may allow the first speech on the motion to be made by the IFOAM member or WB representative who submitted the original motion. The Chair may also allow questions and answers for clarification prior to discussion and amendments. The Chair may further allow the submitter of a motion to respond directly to questions and amendments.

6.2 Amending motions

- Every amending motion must be relevant to the original motion being discussed, and must not be a direct negative of the original motion. The Chair has authority to admit or not to admit an amending motion.
- Amendments are made in writing and handed to the Chair.
- Amendments are read out or visually displayed by the Chair before the member moving the amendment speaks on it, and no amendment is discussed or put to the meeting until it has been seconded.
- When an amendment is proposed, discussion ceases on the original motion and concentrates on the amendment.

- An amendment may be withdrawn by the member moving it, with the approval of the member seconding it.
- If an amendment passes, the original motion as amended becomes the new main motion upon which further discussion and amendment may occur. If an amendment fails, the discussion continues on the original motion.
- An amendment to an amendment is admissible at the discretion of the Chair. If the Chair admits it, the procedure in 6.2 b-f applies. However, if the Chair believes that the meeting will thereby become confused, he/she may rule that the first amendment be decided first and that the amendment to it be discussed separately afterwards.

6.3 Friendly Amendments

Note: Friendly amendments describe a short amendment offered by someone who is in sympathy with the purposes of the main motion, in the belief that the amendment will either improve the statement or the intent of the main motion, to the satisfaction of the maker of the motion.

- Friendly amendments must be declared as such by the maker of the friendly amendment motion.
- Friendly amendments follow the procedures in 6.2 a-c, except that a second is not required.
- Friendly amendments are accepted or not accepted by the maker of the main motion to which the friendly amendment is addressed.
- If accepted, the motion is amended without further discussion or vote, and discussion continues on the amended main motion.
- If not accepted, the maker of the friendly amendment may declare the amendment as a "general amendment." In this case, all points of Section 6.2 apply.

6.4 Postponing Motions

- Any member who has obtained the floor may move that consideration of the question be postponed to any stated period or day within the Assembly schedule. The motion is made orally and must be seconded.
- Discussion on a motion to postpone is limited to the propriety of the postponement.
- There may be a motion to amend the period of postponement. Such an amendment follows the rules for amending motions in 6.2. b-f.
- If the postponement motion fails, discussion continues on the previous main motion or an amendment.

6.5 Moving to next agenda point

- Any member obtaining the floor may move to stop discussion on the motion and to go to the next agenda point, unless the chairman rules otherwise.
- The motion is made orally and must be seconded. If seconded,

it is voted without debate or further amendment.

- c. If the motion passes, the question under discussion is dropped.
- d. If the motion fails, discussion continues on the main motion or an amendment.

6.6 Withdrawing Motions

- a. The member submitting an original motion or a motion to amend may obtain the floor and withdraw the motion. If there is no objection, the motion is withdrawn and discussion on it ceases. The person seconding the motion must agree.
- b. If there is an objection, then a motion for withdrawal is required. The motion for withdrawal is made orally and must be seconded. The motion is voted without debate. If this motion fails, then discussion continues on the main motion or amendment.

6.7 Ending debate and calling for a vote

- a. Any member obtaining the floor may move to stop discussion on the motion and call for vote on the motion.
- b. The motion is made orally and must be seconded. If seconded, it is voted without debate or further amendment.
- c. If the motion passes, the vote on the motion shall be taken without further debate or amendments.
- d. If the motion fails, discussion continues on the main motion or an amendment.

§ 7 Voting

Only IFOAM members with voting cards are eligible to cast votes at the General Assembly.

Abstentions and invalid ballots are not counted as votes. A simple majority of the votes cast on a given motion is required for the adoption of that motion, except for motions on statutes, which require a two-thirds majority.

§ 8 Questions of Order

In such case where a member believes there is a breach of order, the member can object by standing and addressing the Chair by saying "Mr./Madame Chair, I raise a point of order." After acknowledgement by the Chair, the member then states the question of order. The Chair then decides the question and allows or modifies the proceedings accordingly.

§ 9 Recommendations and Suggestions

9.1 Recommendations shall be presented to the GA in written form. All recommendations are based on a consensus process the procedures for which shall be made clear to the membership at the beginning of the GA. A recommendation must get a majority vote to be accepted. The recommendations are included in the minutes. The World Board reports to the

following General Assembly what actions or considerations it has made related to the recommendations.

9.2 In order to evaluate the General Assembly the participants are provided with an opportunity for written feedback. These suggestions may address all items relevant for a successful General Assembly. The WB shall compile the result and shall report the results of the evaluation back to the membership.

§ 10. Election of the World Board

The World Board is elected by written vote.

In the first round each member may vote for a maximum of 10 candidates. Elected are the first 10 candidates who have received more than half of the votes of the electing members.

If not all positions are filled in the first round a second ballot is taken for the remaining positions. The maximum number of votes for candidates cast by each voter shall equal the number of seats. Candidates who have received the most votes in this ballot are elected to fill the remaining positions.

In either round of voting, any vote that is rendered for less than 50% of the open seats is void.

§ 11. Election and Presentation of the Executive Board

Following the IFOAM statutes, the World Board chooses an Executive Board (see Statutes § 6) during the same General Assembly that has elected the World Board. Before the end of the General Assembly the World Board presents the newly elected Executive Board to the General Assembly.

§ 12. Amendment of the Rules of Procedure

12.1 Amendments to these Rules of Procedure may be proposed by the World Board or by at least 40 members. Proposals for such amendments shall be published at least two months before the General Assembly. These amendments will be voted after the approval of the agenda and the minutes of the previous GA and before any other decision is made. If adopted, the amendments apply to the present General Assembly.

12.2 Proposals for amendments by WB not published in due time before the session must be approved by 2/3 majority.

12.3 In the course of a session of the General Assembly, these Rules of Procedure may only be changed by a proposal of at least 40 members represented, followed by a two-thirds-majority of votes cast on the proposal. If adopted, the amendments apply to the General Assembly immediately after approval.

*First approved by the IFOAM General Assembly in Sao Paul, Brazil, 1992
Completely revised by the IFOAM General Assembly in Victoria, Canada, August 2002
Latest amended by the General Assembly in Adelaide, Australia, September 2005*

Agenda Point No. 6: Guests addresses

The WB invites the following speakers to address the GA participants:

- Mr. Geoffrey Kirenga, Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperatives, Tanzania
- Mr. Allert van den Ham, Hivos Director of Projects, The Netherlands
- Mr. Martin Khor, Third World Network, Malaysia

Agenda Point No. 7: World Board Report Highlights 2005 to 2007 & Finances

The World Board report recounts the activities the World Board has initiated and implemented during its term. The WB report will be emailed to the membership in May 2008 and will also be available at the GA.

At the 2002 General Assembly the World Board presented the budget for the coming term from 2003 to 2005 with the intention to invest in IFOAM through professionalizing the Head Office of IFOAM, moving the office to Bonn, Germany and creating the position of Executive Director. Reserves and equity of the organization were used between 2003 and 2005, leaving IFOAM with 3.000 Euros in equity at the end of 2005. Beginning in 2006 the WB moved to stabilize the finances of IFOAM. At the end of 2007 IFOAM was able to recover equity exceeding the amount of tangible assets and was able to begin the process of building new reserves.

In order to stabilize the finances and to build equity, steps were taken to both increase income and decrease expenses. An annual donation campaign was implemented beginning in 2005. IFOAM increased income through organizing its own conferences. Additionally, as IFOAM has increasingly been requested to be present at events. We have a policy on how we can be involved with events which includes that we earn income through allowing the use of our name and logo as part of an event. During these years, following the policy on cooperation the Head Office engaged with members and

partner organizations in more projects and took on many more services for projects to bring additional income into IFOAM.

Expenses have been decreased across the board. Publications have been shifted to electronic formats and therefore printing and mail out costs as well as staff time were reduced. Other tools such as skype and web conferences have been used to reduce expenses.

IFOAM has not yet been able to use conference and event management as a consistent source of income mainly because the Head Office lacked staff resources to maintain the rigorous demands of conference management at the level needed to realize a profit and maintain ongoing activities. However, conference and event management remains an important element of our income strategy and will be strengthened in the future.

Membership fees were expected to increase with the strategy that more members would join IFOAM when the fees were reduced. However, this strategy has not yet proved effective and in fact IFOAM has had a net loss of members since 2005 resulting in fewer members paying smaller fees. Income from membership has decreased at an annual rate of 9 to 12% since 2005.

In 2006, the Executive Director engaged a senior financial advisor. The role of the advisor was to develop a financial manual, improve reporting both for the board as well as for donors, improve the accounting system and improve the audit process. Additionally, an apprentice bookkeeper was hired in 2006 part time. These steps facilitated the World Board and Executive Director's ability to respond quickly to financial issues throughout the year as well as to focus efforts on further developing and implementing IFOAM's financial strategy.

It should be noted that the voluntary participation of the many people involved in IFOAM structures and the membership makes a significant contribution to IFOAM and makes it possible for IFOAM to achieve its goals. Additionally, a special thanks to the organizations and individuals who have financially supported IFOAM's work.

Enclosed you will find the Balance Sheet 2005 to 2007 and the Income Statement for the same years. All accounts were audited by Price Waterhouse Coopers Deutsche Division, Saarbrücken, Germany. The complete financial audits for 2005 to 2007 will be available at the General Assembly upon request. If you need any more information to prepare for the GA, please feel free to contact the IFOAM Executive Director.

Table: IFOAM Income Statement 2005 - 2007 (Euro x 1000).

For computational reasons, rounding differences of ± one unit (Euro, % etc.) can occur in tables

INCOME	audited 2005	audited 2006	not audited 2007
Fees			
Members	294	266	231
Associates	32	21	35
Supporters	12	10	10
Registration fees	4	3	4
Sub-total Fees	341	300	281
Donations, Grants and Foundation			
Donations	38	35	59
Donations for TW Fees	4	--	--
Sub-total Donations, Grants and Foundation	42	35	59
Office			
Reimbursements	73	70	83
Interest income, exchange gains	6	11	14
Miscellaneous	5	6	36
Sub-total Office	84	87	132
Services			
Conferences & Events, GA	17	193	36
Patronage	27	27	33
Honoraria	15	12	13
Advertisements in publications and Web	30	30	15
Sale of books and magazines	26	21	23
Sub-total Services	115	283	119
Project salaries, overheads income from services			
I-GO (staff and services) - Hivos and DGIS	224	223	200
IAO (staff and services) - Hivos	48	45	53
ITF - Sida	--	28	60
South Pacific Project - IFAD	--	15	13
Thematic Evaluation of OA in Asia - IFAD	--	7	--
OGS Revision - novib-oxfam	--	50	40
Biodiversity Handbook - Software AG Stiftung	--	4	--
Manual to establish GMO-free regions	--	2	--
OSEA - Sida	--	40	40
BioFach Africa Pavillion	--	--	4
CFC	--	--	15
RSF Project 1	--	--	1
RSF Project 2	--	3	3
EU Project	--	--	8
Other projects	101	--	--
Sub-total project salaries, services and overheads	373	417	437
Projects In - 100% balanced by Projects Out	386	687	927
TOTAL INCOME	1,341	1,808	1,955

Note: Please find a list of 'IFOAM abbreviations' [here](#)

EXPENSES	audited 2005	audited 2006	not audited 2007
Staff			
Salaries	679	687	695
Travel	24	13	7
Training	2	--	2
Sub-total Staff	706	701	704
Office			
Rent HeadOffice, FAO office	31	30	26
Postage	16	16	7
Telecommunication	7	7	10
Office supplies	18	14	15
Consultancies and audit	125	33	52
Representation	4	7	3
Depreciation	11	13	10
Loss of claims	15	1	--
Bank charges, exchange loss	9	7	23
Miscellaneous	13	25	29
Sub-total Office	248	154	175
Services			
Conferences & Events, GA (travel, accommodation, food, etc.)	13	167	20
Patronage (travel, accommodation, food, etc.)	6	7	7
Honoraria (travel, honoraria, etc.)	--	--	4
Directory and Ecology and Farming, printing, layout + editing	11	12	3
Other publications, printing, layout + editing	9	10	5
Public Relation & Corporate Identity	9	5	2
Sub-total Services	49	201	41
Internal Structures			
World Board Meetings	21	10	14
Executive Board Meetings	1	4	3
NMC (SC/CC)	22	7	15
Other committees and task forces	1	--	--
Member meetings and campaigns	--	2	--
Remuneration	--	--	--
Sub-total Internal Structures	45	23	31
Other expenses			
NGO membership	5	5	6
Fundraising	--	2	3
Sub-total Other expenses	5	7	9
Projects Out - 100% balanced by Projects In	386	687	927
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,438	1,773	1,887
TOTAL INCOME	1,341	1,808	1,955
Surplus/Deficit	-96	35	68

Table: IFOAM Year End Balance Sheet (Euro x 1000)

For computational reasons, rounding differences of ± one unit (Euro, % etc.) can occur in tables

	audited 2005	audited 2006	not audited 2007
ASSETS			
Bankaccounts	638	635	423
Member Fee dues	25	9	1
Financial Assets	2	2	2
Assets (Equipment + software)	19	20	15
Other current assets	96	152	224
Trading stock	7	7	7
Total Assets	786	823	672
LIABILITIES			
Accrued liabilities	85	31	32
Accounts payable	119	236	302
Other liabilities	10	10	11
Project Funds	570	509	221
Equity	98	3	38
Profit/Loss	-96	35	68
Total Liabilities	786	823	672

Agenda Point No. 8: Report of Internal Auditors and relief of the World Board

IFOAM Internal Audit 2005 – 2007: Summary of Final report

Evaluation of IFOAM's activities 2005 & 2006 in regard to the motions and recommendations approved by the GA 2002

Most of the Motions and Agenda Points have been fully implemented.

Evaluation of IFOAM's activities 2006 in regard to the motions and recommendations approved by the GA 2005

Most of relevant Motions and Agenda Points have been fully implemented or are in the process of being implemented. Some less important issues dropped.

Evaluation of IFOAM's activities 2005-2007 in regard to the IFOAM Program 2008 developed by the World Board, including an assessment of the goals and objectives outlined in the program.

Goal 1: IFOAM builds the global platform for the organic movement

IFOAM Head Office is on the right track. With the new Executive Director much progress has been achieved. Membership not growing, but measures are being taken to improve it: Manager for Outreach, Membership benefits, regular

communication with member base, event organisation, building partnerships, donations by members are growing.

Goal 2: IFOAM develops, communicates and defends the principles of Organic Agriculture

Principles of Organic Agriculture are published on the web page and printed 20'000 leaflets. Translations being done and put on the webpage for download. Specific articles and presentations available and very actively spread. Drafting of a definition of Organic Agriculture is complete.

Goal 3: IFOAM advocates and facilitates the adoption of Organic Agriculture

Relevant positions defined and benefits of Organic Agriculture communicated. Advocacy strategy in place with set goals to achieve. Targeted support to underdeveloped regions and strategic sectors provided through I-Go and other programs.

Goal 4: IFOAM promotes the development of organic markets

Promotes innovative customer and consumer – producer relationships mainly in Africa, promotes participatory guarantee systems through a task force. IFOAM continued to lead the International task force for harmonisation and equivalence.

Goal 5: IFOAM ensures an effectively managed organization with sufficient and sustainable resources

Financial reporting improved; implementing project accounting; Improvement of financial auditing; Budgeting improvement (rolling 3 year budget, 6 month budget), bookings are up to date; Resources used effectively. The Organic World Foundation will be registered in the first half of 2008; Profit in 2006 and 2007, which contributes to financial stability. Still the amount of own funds low. Ongoing Improvement of effectiveness of internal bodies and organisational structure; The effectiveness of Head Office and external IFOAM offices has improved, new Executive Director has been a big help.

General remark:

A very positive sign is the financial stability, the ongoing creation of the Foundation and improved communications with members. Striking is, that in the Head Office are mainly very motivated young people, but lacking experience in business and marketing matters. When hiring new staff members, a better balance between already experienced and proven employees and younger ones should be considered. More training for all staff recommended.

Bonn, 31. March 2008

Tomas Vaclavik & Frank Rumpé

Note: The full Internal Auditor's Report will be available at the General Assembly in Vignola.

Motion from the World Board:

The General Assembly approves the financial reports from 2005 to 2007 as presented in IFOAM In Action # 97, April 2008, and relieves the World Board of any further responsibility.

Agenda Point No. 9: OGS Revision report

The report about the revision of the Organic Guarantee System will be presented to the membership with the next regular IFOAM In Action newsletter # 98 in May 2008.

Agenda Point No. 10: IFOAM Program 2011

Foreword

The World Board recognizes that IFOAM's strength is in its membership, internal bodies and partners. It is your organization, own it! You are encouraged to support the Program 2011 and bring it to life. IFOAM provides a platform within which to work and address the needs of the global organic community. In this sense, IFOAM desires to build

community spirit through its work and to strengthen the network to amplify the potential of its impact. IFOAM's slogan "Proud to be Part" expresses our ambition to lead a creative network that the organic community is proud of and, more importantly, feels the need to be part of. Our intention with Program 2011 is to further develop IFOAM's democratic structure and action networks, while enhancing our internal management capacities, and to promote the capacities of the organic community as a whole.

Program 2011

Background

IFOAM's mission is leading, uniting and assisting the organic movement in its full diversity. Our goal is the worldwide adoption of ecologically, socially and economically-sound systems that are based on the Principles of Organic Agriculture.

With the Program 2011 the IFOAM World Board is inspired to move IFOAM forward, unleashing the full potential of the organic movement based on the achievements of the past. Advocacy is the foundation of this vision and the primary means to accomplish IFOAM's mission. Institutional development is at the core of IFOAM's work and underpins the strategic plan. It is understood that the work of IFOAM and the strategic program are based on the Principles of Organic Agriculture and the definition of Organic Agriculture as well as established positions and norms.

Core to the strategic plan implementation is the recognition and identification of mega trends, reality and windows of opportunity. Mega trends are large social, economic, political, environmental and technological change that is slow to form. However, once in place, mega trends influence a wide range of activities, processes, and perceptions, both

in government and in society. Reality is the situation and scenarios under which we operate. Windows of opportunity are short periods of time during which an opportunity must be acted upon or consequently missed. Recognizing the importance of being at the forefront and leading the organic movement, the World Board emphasizes the need to be flexible in order to carefully evaluate and consider changes if new topics or situations influence the strategic plan and require the revision of targets.

Introduction

With an eye towards advocacy and strategic institutional development, the World Board identified six goals for the Program 2011.

Goal 1: Be the international authority and most effective voice on all matters organic

Goal 2: Increase market share for organic products and access to them at local, regional and international levels

Goal 3: Enhance capacity of the organic sector to sustain growth and development

Goal 4: Strengthen IFOAM as a democratic global action network

Goal 5: Create “think spaces” to cultivate the organic future

Goal 6: Ensure an effectively managed organization with sufficient and sustainable resources

The World Board envisions that through the successful implementation of the Program 2011 IFOAM positions are considered in all decision making processes relevant to sector development, organic norms development and agricultural framework policy. The Principles of Organic Agriculture provide the reference with which to measure the success of policies and the market.

The World Board is convinced that education and training, both vocational and academic, play an important role in disseminating the benefits of organic at all levels. Planting the seed for future generations will bring about healthy and creative change to society. It will raise awareness about the value formation that going organic entails. In this sense, IFOAM aims to create an enabling environment and innovative think spaces to cultivate the organic future. Together we can make it happen.

Goal 1: Be the international authority and most effective voice on all matters organic

As the global umbrella organization for organic, IFOAM is placed as the first point of call for positions and information on matters relevant to organic. IFOAM is often consulted by governments and organizations as well as the organic community and the media to provide guidance on and a

better understanding of the role that Organic Agriculture plays in contemporary society. As the sole organization representing the international organic community, IFOAM is the international authority on Organic Agriculture providing leadership, vision and assistance. To realize this goal, the following objectives were established.

Objective 1: Develop positions on global issues relevant to the IFOAM mission

Positions on issues relevant to organic are an essential tool for IFOAM and IFOAM members, internal bodies and partners to be able to advocate for organic at all levels. Positions give guidance on how different issues can be positively influenced by the Principles of Organic Agriculture and inform the development of policies, regulations and programs by governments, intergovernmental organizations and private organizations.

Objective 2: Advocate IFOAM positions to effect changes in policies

There are a number of measures which can be adopted by governments and policy makers to encourage Organic Agriculture on a wider scale. As the sole international representative of the organic movement, IFOAM is the advocate for policy changes with the intent to support the further development and support of Organic Agriculture. IFOAM positions are the basis for these advocacy activities.

Objective 3: Place Organic Agriculture as a general strategic tool for sustainable development

As a system that encompasses efficient use of local resources and traditional agricultural methods, Organic Agriculture contributes meaningfully to sustainable development and poverty reduction. IFOAM will prioritize advocating for Organic Agriculture as a tool for sustainable development.

Objective 4: Place Organic Agriculture as a strategic tool for accomplishing Millennium Development Goals

Organic Agriculture plays an important role in achieving individual Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); however its impact is far greater when considered holistically as it has social, economic and environmental dimensions. IFOAM will prioritize placing Organic Agriculture as a strategic tool towards attaining the MDG's.

Objective 5: Place Organic Agriculture as the agricultural solution to achieve food security

IFOAM is already working to make the link between Organic Agriculture and food security. IFOAM will continue to place priority on achieving recognition of organic as the most promising agricultural solution to achieve rural development and food security by improving productivity and access

to healthy and affordable food without damaging the environment.

Objective 6: Place Organic Agriculture as a significant contributor to combating climate change

Climate change has become a crucial focal point for discussing necessary changes in many facets of society, especially in food systems. It is well known that Organic Agriculture mitigates climate change and helps farmers adapt to climate change. IFOAM will prioritize advocating for Organic Agriculture as a strategy to combat climate change.

Goal 2: Increase market share for organic products and access to them at local, regional and international levels

Organic has grown globally at double-digit rates for over two decades; however it still only comprises a small percent of the market. IFOAM has traditionally focused on developing different tools for quality assurance in trade including norms development, certification and harmonization, as well as, innovative verification systems for different market conditions such as local, regional and export markets. To realize this goal, the following objectives were established.

Objective 1: Further develop and promote Participatory Guarantee Systems

IFOAM supports the regional institution of Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS), and will incorporate PGS as a regular part of its program and management structure.

Objective 2: Further develop the IFOAM Organic Guarantee System as an international harmonization tool

IFOAM will continue to implement the decision of the 2005 General Assembly to position the Organic Guarantee System as a harmonization tool while continuing to uphold organic integrity. This includes providing more access to the Organic Guarantee System and, as possible, enabling it to be consistent with the recommendations and tools of the International Task Force on Harmonization and Equivalence in Organic Agriculture.

Objective 3: Foster harmonization, equivalence and equitable trade in cooperation with public and private sectors

The diversity and complexity of private and government standards and conformity assessment systems exclude many producers from organic markets and inhibit organic market development. From 2003 through 2008 IFOAM addressed this problem through its leadership of the International Task Force on Harmonization and Equivalence in Organic Agriculture (ITF). After the ITF term ends in 2008, IFOAM will work with like-minded partners to promote the recommendations and tools that the ITF has developed for adoption by governments and private sector actors. It will

also identify other opportunities to ensure equitable access to organic markets worldwide.

Objective 4: Engage in the development of emerging organic segments, such as textiles and cosmetics

Emerging organic segments, such as cosmetics and textiles, should be encouraged and supported. IFOAM will cooperate with these segments to meet the needs for harmonized international development of credible standards and other tools, and will ensure that their development is consistent with the Principles of Organic Agriculture.

Objective 5: Raise public awareness on organic values and products

IFOAM will develop instruments to support its membership and networks in raising public awareness of organic values and products.

Goal 3: Enhance capacity of the organic sector to sustain growth and development

IFOAM's traditional role as a provider of training materials and other information resources is appreciated by the organic movement (both members and potential members). With the fast growth of organic there is a need to develop capacity within the organic movement, including for newcomers. With this goal, IFOAM formalizes its intent to systematize this task. To realize this goal, the following objectives were established.

Objective 1: Provide networks for accessing comprehensive information and worldwide experiences on organic topics

In the last term, IFOAM developed instruments and materials for adopting and implementing techniques of Organic Agriculture. As a next step IFOAM will offer unique access to repositories of information. IFOAM will work with members, internal bodies and partners to provide key information and expertise. Knowledge, research, and guidance for the development of organic farming will be made available.

Objective 2: Develop a concept of an IFOAM capacity-building program

IFOAM has been involved in several aspects of capacity building over the years. As organic grows so does the need to have more skilled people involved in its development. IFOAM will develop a capacity-building program with different elements, such as vocational and academic training, intended to supply the movement with the competence needed.

Objective 3: Further develop and implement a train the trainer program as a main element of the IFOAM capacity-building program

IFOAM has started to develop and implement a train the

trainer program. Training materials have been developed and made available. IFOAM has made these materials and many other resources on Organic Agriculture available through the training platform on the IFOAM website. More focus will now be put on the practical training of the trainer, which could include working with members, internal bodies and partners to organize workshops and trainings thus enhancing education, research and extension services.

Objective 4: Develop a new leaders program as a main element of the IFOAM capacity-building program

For the successful development of the organic movement it will be necessary that knowledge and experience is passed on to future generations. Therefore IFOAM will develop a strategy within the capacity-building program to prepare new leaders to cultivate the future. Training and equipping emerging leaders with the right tools is essential for organic to thrive.

Goal 4: Strengthen IFOAM as a democratic global action network

IFOAM is a democratic global action network which thrives through its active membership, its sector-specific and regional internal bodies, and strategic partnerships. These relationships must be further fostered for IFOAM to have improved outreach and more impact. To realize this goal, the following objectives were established.

Objective 1: Support and strengthen the global network through IFOAM membership, internal bodies and strategic partnerships

There is strength both in numbers and quality. IFOAM will only be able to accomplish its mission and goal more effectively through the support of a strong global network. IFOAM relies on its members, internal bodies and strategic partnerships. These relationships and networks must be further strengthened and actively supported for IFOAM to be more effective and to have a broader outreach.

Objective 2: Advance IFOAM's governance and leadership

IFOAM's governance system should be evaluated and adjusted to ensure that it is positioned to have the most impact in its work and the ability to move the organization towards realizing its mission and goal. Gender aspects and adequate sector and regional interests should be integrated.

Objective 3: Ensure IFOAM's capacity to cope with unforeseen threats and opportunities through mobilizing IFOAM membership

In this world of constant change, IFOAM and the organic movement are constantly facing challenges, both threats and opportunities. The expertise and strength of the

membership is essential for IFOAM to be able to overcome its weaknesses and address both threats and opportunities.

Objective 4: Continuously improve processes for developing positions and mechanisms for representation

IFOAM provides the organic movement with information and guidance on all topics related to Organic Agriculture. The strength of IFOAM is drawn from the expertise of its membership. Involvement of the whole organization, particularly members and internal bodies, is essential for having a robust and credible network. Members and internal bodies should be empowered to get actively involved with IFOAM, including participating in the development of positions on various organic topics.

Goal 5: Create “think spaces” to cultivate the organic future

It is important that the organic movement fosters “think spaces” to discuss future trends, innovation, best practice and the redesign of systems to implement the Principles of Organic Agriculture. With this goal IFOAM encourages dialogue around these important areas for developing a vision of the future of organic and further deepening the public awareness of going organic. To realize this goal, the following objectives were established.

Objective 1: Develop ideas and initiate discussions on the future of organic

IFOAM will provide the platform for the organic movement to come together, discuss and shape the future of organic. Through enabling a creative space, IFOAM will empower the organic movement to identify topics for discussion and develop thoughts on the future of organic.

Objective 2: Identify and promote best practices and innovations in organic systems

Best practices and innovations in Organic Agriculture are of critical importance to inspire and to provide a roadmap of what is possible. The current organic standards are based on the practices of the majority and are the entry level to work towards the aspirations expressed in the Principles of Organic Agriculture. IFOAM will work to build new tools to develop and promote best practices.

Objective 3: Identify and communicate the synergies between the organic community and other consumption and lifestyle trends

The future of organic is interlinked with other movements and specifically other consumption and lifestyle trends. In order to facilitate the growth of organic at all levels it is important to communicate how organic fits with these other trends. The World Board has identified the following consumption and lifestyle trends for exploration: culinary

arts, slow food, fast food and local food.

Goal 6: Ensure an effectively managed organization with sufficient and sustainable resources

IFOAM will continue to develop in its full diversity. The main focus will be to communicate our accomplishments, both to the membership and the general public. Finances will continue to be used effectively and at the same time the Head Office team will increase its efficiency. To realize this goal, the following objectives were established.

Objective 1: Increase IFOAM's profile through effective and targeted marketing and communication

IFOAM will focus on its core work of advocacy and policy as well as outreach and public relations. This approach will strengthen our structure to effectively communicate both internally and externally. Communication with internal structures and the media will be strengthened. Event management will be optimized.

Objective 2: Further develop staff capacity and efficient management

The Head Office will provide the right support system for the organic movement and IFOAM members through its continuous efforts to grow in staff numbers, strengthen professionalism and provide resources to realize IFOAM's objectives. Staff professional and personal development will be the focus for building and retaining an experienced and knowledgeable Head Office team.

Objective 3: Further develop and implement the IFOAM financial strategy

IFOAM endeavors to manage its finances in the best way possible and has developed a long term financial strategy. This strategy provides IFOAM with mechanisms and tools to make financial decisions with confidence and to ensure sustainable and transparent financing. IFOAM will focus on securing consistent sources of income.

Objective 4: Broaden the membership base and its financial support to IFOAM

In the last term, IFOAM undertook major efforts to implement its membership strategy, including the move to a more accessible membership fee structure as approved at the General Assembly in 2005. In this term IFOAM will continue to work to increase its membership by adjusting and further developing the strategy to encourage a broader diversity for better representation and strengthening of the organic movement.

Objective 5: Develop business opportunities and mobilize resources

Opportunities will be created and used to support IFOAM's financial strategy including the increase in revenues from services other than membership fees. IFOAM will mobilize other mechanisms and resources to strengthen its expertise in communication and marketing relevant to the organic world.

Objective 6: Promote the Organic World Foundation as part of IFOAM's financial base

IFOAM set up "The Organic World Foundation" in response to the recommendation from the General Assembly 2005 and as part of our medium to long term financial strategy for IFOAM's sustainability. The Organic World Foundation will support IFOAM's work to advance its mission and goals and to fund core functions and activities. Moreover, it will enhance the visibility of the organic movement in the world through targeted fundraising.

Agenda Point No. 11: Introduction to Interactive Consensus Process and Motion Bazaar

According to the GA Rules of Procedure § 9 – see page 9 – recommendations shall be formulated at the GA as follows: *"Recommendations shall be presented to the GA in written form. All recommendations are based on a consensus process the procedures for which shall be made clear to the membership at the beginning of the GA"....*

The WB decided to offer two different tracks to members for formulating recommendations at the GA 2008:

- 1.) via an *Interactive Consensus Process* regarding the IFOAM Program 2011 and
- 2.) via a *Recommendation Board* at the Motion Bazaar

To 1) The Interactive Consensus Process

GA participants are invited to split up in 6 small groups according to the 6 goals of the IFOAM program 2011 in order to fully understand what the respective goal is all about and also to formulate up to 3 recommendations per group in a consensus process. The session is coordinated by a moderator. A rapporteur will bring the recommendations forward to the plenary under agenda point 17, Monday, 14.00 hours.

To 2) The Recommendation Board

Members are invited to put recommendations to the new World Board on paper, which IFOAM provides at the registration desk in Vignola. The written recommendations have to be submitted to the Recommendation Board Moderator by 15,30 hours on Sunday the 22nd of June. The moderator will sign all recommendations and will post them at the Motion Bazaar. It is the intention that all

members have the chance to discuss the recommendation with the submitter. Results of the process might be that the recommendation has been amended, put together with a similar one or even withdrawn. The moderator will report the results to the WB at their evening session on Sunday. The final recommendations will be presented and voted upon in the GA plenary on Monday. The moderator will be announced at the GA.

Agenda Point No. 12: Motion Bazaar

Improving the dialogue: the Motion Bazaar

In a democratic organization motions are most welcome to develop the federation further. However, motions might deal with very complex matters or members simply might have a different opinion about what was proposed. The objective of the Motion Bazaar is to provide space for informal discussion of motions ahead of the formal voting.

Dialogue is of utmost importance in order to clarify differences in understanding and intention. In addition it will reduce the amount of discussion and time spent for plenary discussion and voting of key issues in the Assembly itself. It will be held on the afternoon of the first day of the Assembly, prior to the sessions for voting on motions.

The Motion Bazaar will feature “stations” where delegates and other participants can obtain additional information about member and World Board motions coming to the GA and about IFOAM programs and activities. One station will feature information on the IFOAM budget and the WB report. The Organic Guarantee System station will provide an opportunity to better understand the complexity of the revision process and will at the same time compile all member motions in regard to the OGS revision and

related to our Norms. The Motion Bazaar provides with the Recommendation Board the second opportunity to formulate and build consensus about recommendations. The proposers of member motions are invited to defend their motions at a station. The stations will be administered by an Issue Coordinator, who will guide the process for discussing and posting opinions and amendments. After the Bazaar, the WB will be able to consider all of the comments and suggestions made at the stations prior to presenting its motions in the GA plenary session.

Additional “information tables” on general topics are also planned for the Bazaar. Among these are tables on IFOAM International Programs and IFOAM regional and sector specific groups. The IFOAM representatives in China and Latin America will be present, as well as the IFOAM Liaison officer to the FAO and IFAD in Rome and the Coordinator of the Africa Office.

The IFOAM MemberWeb will be presented for ‘navigation’. Delegates will have time enough at the Motion Bazaar to circulate among all of the stations.

The candidates for the World Board will be available for questions and suggestions.

As experienced in Victoria 2002 and Adelaide 2005, the Motion Bazaar will make the discourse on issues richer and more interesting, and it will help the voting on these issues to proceed on a foundation of more and better information.

After the Motion Bazaar affiliates are invited to a get together for a **Dinner Reception** sponsored by the organizations bidding for the 2011 IFOAM Organic World Congress and General Assembly!

Agenda Point No. 13: Report Nomination Committee

Tom Harding, chair of the IFOAM Nomination Committee (NC), will report about NC activities and comment on their experience working to ensure a good selection of WB candidates.

Agenda Point No. 14: Presentation of the WB Candidates

Jacqueline Haessig Alleje

Jacqueline Haessig Alleje, born in Switzerland March 25, 1959. Living in the Philippines since 1988, married with five children.

Professional Occupation

Small scale organic entrepreneur

- I am together with my husband co-owner of Rizal Dairy Farms, which is engaged into organic vegetable and dairy production since 1992. Rizal Dairy Farms also operates a catering division “petra’s naturally – green, global, gourmet” to promote organic and healthy gourmet food as a way of life.
- I am teaching “Healthy Gourmet” culinary classes at a Culinary School in Manila to further promote the “organic lifestyle”.
- I am the president of Organic Farming - Production, Training and Consultancy, Inc. (OFI), which is currently establishing an “Organic Agriculture Model Farm and Training Center” as a pilot project in cooperation with the LGU of Tanauan City in the promotion of Organic Agriculture. This training center will hopefully serve as an example on how to promote the oa philosophy, principles, standards, and become a useful tool for technical capability building.

Organic Agriculture Advocacy

- Founding member of the Organic Producers Trade Association and the Organic Certification Center of the Philippines, Board and EC member of OCCP up to date;
- Engaged into nationwide advocacy work, organic standards and certification for the Philippines, policy development for the Philippine government representing the private sector since 1994;
- Actively participated at IFOAM activities since 1997 often centered on gender issues and the producers’ perspective;
- WB of IFOAM since 2005.

WB re-candidature

To my opinion, the outgoing WB, guided by the program 2005-2008 has aptly continued the work of the previous WB as to bring forward IFOAM’s agenda in promoting the adaption of Organic Agriculture worldwide. We have put particular emphasis on the building of a team work as a means to improve the performance of the WB and its governance, and to create a conducive atmosphere to optimize the participation of all WB members with their respective competences and sensibilities. We have paid special attention to the financial management of IFOAM in order to secure IFOAM’s leading role into the future and its capacity to fully develop into an advocacy organization.

I am offering my re-candidacy for the WB to continue serving IFOAM and its members. I am willing to serve as an E-Board member if so desired for the next term of 2008-2011. During my first term in addition to the work within and for the WB, I had the opportunity to serve and represent IFOAM in all kind of activities. I found it easy to adjust to the different levels of activities and responsibilities within the WB allowing me to contribute in a productive way. I happily believe that my participation in the preparation of the 16th OWC of IFOAM as a member of the SPC has contributed to shaping it into an attractive platform for exchange of information and experiences, and hopefully to make it the most important and prestigious organic event worldwide.

The proposed Program 2008-2011 is ambitious, and the molding of IFOAM into an effective and financially stable advocacy organization a must. If re-elected, it will be my pleasure and privilege to continue contributing to reach these goals.

Thank you

Jacqueline Haessig Alleje

Masaya Koriyama

I am Masaya Koriyama from Japan. I'm 41 years old now. I'd like to contribute inspiring Asian, especially Japanese organic movement as a world board of IFOAM from 2008 to 2011. Besides, I'd like to contribute for enlargement of IFOAM's membership, and make it more open and participatory for the member organization.

My contribution will be strengthening public relations and marketing ability of IFOAM for both internally and externally. Regarding financial situation of IFOAM, I assume that IFOAM needs to be recognized by general public more, particularly in Asian countries. If IFOAM became more famous such as Greenpeace or Friends of the Earth, IFOAM's fundraising and lobbying abilities will be more efficient. And it will help enlargement of membership towards retailers and traders because recognition of costumers will give them a merit and motivation.

Regarding my professional background, I have been working for a natural and organic foods home delivery company called Radish Boya (Boy) as a public relations and marketing manager since 1992. I tried to promote organic food and farming to general public in Japan for 15 years. Radish Boya has started as an environmental NGO in 1977 focused on recycling movement in Japan, and began as an organic movement in 1988. Currently Radish Boya makes weekly deliveries (Box-scheme) to 90,000 households throughout Japan, making it one of the leading distributors of natural and organic farm products.

In addition, I worked at IFOAM head office as a media fellow from November 2007 to February 2008. My first meeting with IFOAM was the IFOAM organic world congress Copenhagen Denmark in 1996. Next year Radish Boya became a member of IFOAM and then we established IFOAM Japan in 2001 with like minded groups to promote Japanese organic movement.

Regarding my academic background, I have completed master's in Global Politics (Global Civil Society) at the London School of Economics 2006/7. Within my master thesis I examined the influence of IFOAM for the policy making processes of EU organic regulation (EEC) 2092/91 and Agricultural and Environmental Policy (EEC) 2078/92. In consequence, I learnt that IFOAM played a significant role for these policy making processes, and these policies strongly supported rapid growth of organic food market and farming in the EU. I'd like to apply these lobbying activities introducing direct payment scheme which will support organic farmers in Japan and Asian countries. In addition, I have done my internship at Dottenfeldehoff in Frankfurt Germany. I practiced Biodynamic farming and organic shop management from September 1997 to December 1997. Then I studied storytelling, creative writing and Biodynamic gardening at Emerson College in Sussex UK 1998/99.

Meanwhile, Japanese government finally adopted a policy which promotes organic farming in 2007 because of my colleague's longtime efforts. This is a very important moment for Japanese and Asian organic movements. I'd like to promote contribution of organic farming for conservation of biodiversity and mitigating global warming because it will make Organic Agriculture more popular and stimulate organic market of Japan. I believe it could contribute to Asian and global organic movement!

Masaya Koriyama

Urs Niggli

I have been involved in Organic Agriculture since I was appointed director of the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL in 1989. At FiBL, I am responsible for the strategic, financial and administrative management. FiBL has become one of the leading institutions for research, education, training, advice and consultancy in organic food and farming with 130 scientific and technical staff in Switzerland (Frick), 12 staff in Germany (Frankfurt) and 10 staff in Austria (Vienna). In addition, I am member of the board of Bioinstitut, a successful new Czech institute in Olomouc and of the IBLA, a research and advisory institute in Luxemburg, which was set up in 2007. I was a founder of the largest Swiss inspection and certification company bio.inspecta, which was outsourced from FiBL in 1998, and I have been a member of the board of directors since. In 2003, I initiated together with Ulrich Köpke the International the Society of Organic Agriculture Research (ISO FAR) for which I have been acted as vice-president since its foundation. I have advocated organic farming and sustainability themes as a member of different high level Standing Committees such as the German Research Foundation (DFG), the board of trustees of the German Federal Research Centre (FAL) or the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology ETH Zürich. I was involved in many strategic, advising or evaluating activities in different countries. At the ETH Zürich and at Kassel University, I am teaching Organic Agriculture. Most recently, I helped the IFOAM EU Group to develop a long-term Research Vision and a Strategic Research Program 2025 – together with other colleagues from the organic and the scientific community.

FiBL became a member of IFOAM in 1975. In 1977, FiBL organized the very 1st IFOAM International Scientific Conference in Sissach, and in 2000, we organized the 13th IFOAM Conference in Basel, with 1200 participants the biggest IFOAM event so far. After the Sissach conference, FiBL became the head office and world secretariat of IFOAM for five years, and the former FiBL director Hardy Vogtmann was elected as president of IFOAM. Other important contributions of FiBL to IFOAM: Otto Schmid was president of the standards committee from 1977 to 1997 and is now on the board of the IFOAM EU Group. Other colleagues like Beate Huber, Paul van den Berge and Lukas Kilcher are currently serving IFOAM. FiBL publishes together with IFOAM the global statistics about organic farming and markets every year (Helga Willer).

I would be proud to serve IFOAM and intensify my personal commitment. IFOAM has united the organic world for 35 years now and I want to help IFOAM to lead it. I have a strong knowledge of the roots of Organic Agriculture, my focus is science, education, advice and farmers. I want to address the big challenges of our society like natural resource care, biodiversity, climate change, soil degradation, food security and livelihood in rural areas. My knowledge and commitment might add to the important work of IFOAM in standardization and harmonization in Organic Agriculture.

Heather Lin

Dear Organic friends,

It is my greatest privilege and honor to present myself as the candidate for the IFOAM World Board.

I graduated from Kansas State University MBA program in 1989 and have been involved in the organic sector since 1990. When I assume the position as Representative of the State of Indiana U.S.A. Taiwan Office,(from 1994 – 2006) I worked very closely with USDA, Indiana State Department of Agriculture, Purdue University and Hoosier Organic Marketing and Education (HOME) to organize many Organic Workshop Sessions / conferences/training programs covering typical organic farming production practices, innovative marketing ideas and standards for certified organic production for Taiwanese farmers, organic products distributors, Researchers, Government officials etc.

I was also co-founder of “Organic World Cooperation”, one of the biggest Organic products distribution channels in Taiwan since 1991 with over 300 chain stores all over the island.

Currently I am working as Deputy Director of Youth Care Foundation supporting over 2000 underprivileged Jr. High school students in Taiwan. With my capacity as Executive Board Director of Association of Taiwan Organic Agriculture Promotion (ATOAP) at the same time, I am working on implementing organic farming practice and trainings in over 150 schools adopted by Youth Care Foundation. Working closely with the experts from Council of Agriculture, Certification organizations, local communities and organic products distributors, the concept of Organic Farming will hopefully be implanted into the lifestyle of younger generations.

As ATOAP is authorized by Council of Agriculture on inspection and –re certification of all imported Organic Products so as to provide the safeguard for consumers, the Board of Directors of ATOAP has assigned this important duty to me. I will be working with my committee to examine certification regulations from all major organic producers and provide credible guidelines and recommendations to Taiwan Government officials and consumers.

Joining IFOAM World Board and becoming part of the family of organic world will be extremely helpful for me to fulfill my duties.

I am also owner of a 3 hectares organic farmland, certified by (MOA) Mokichi Okada International Association in Taiwan.

If elected, I will be available to serve on the Executive Board of IFOAM World Board.

Thank you for your attention and support.

Sam Welsch

I have been involved in the Organic Agriculture movement for over 30 years, but my organic values were acquired much earlier from my family. My first exposure to organic was in the gardens of my mother and grandmothers. My father and grandfathers also taught me the importance of good soil conservation practices and the ethics of good stewardship at an early age. Life experience confirmed the importance of that stewardship ethic. I witnessed the decline of rural communities and the damage that chemical farming brought to our once natural environment. I kept bees for over twenty years and raised my children living close to the land and extended family.

Rather than list my accomplishments, I would like to share the values that motivated me to submit my name as a candidate for the IFOAM World Board. I believe that it is values, a willingness to discuss issues, and the ability to think of the future when making decisions that are the most important qualifications for this position. The following paragraphs are from a presentation I gave at a sustainable agriculture conference in 1990.

Values, not practices, make agriculture sustainable

There is a lot of discussion about what is sustainable agriculture—and a lot of debate about what are sustainable practices. But this type of discussion and debate misses the point. Practices don't make agriculture sustainable. Farmers do. Farmers who hold values that include sustainability as an essential goal for their farm. For them, farming is much more than a way to make a living—it is a way of life. Farmers make agriculture sustainable because they choose practices that allow them, on their farm, to preserve and manage their resources to provide for not only themselves, but all future generations as well.

Once sustainability is adopted as a goal, each farming practice considered as an option must pass several tests. We must evaluate the effect each practice will have on the environment—how will it affect the soil, water, air, plants, animals, people? Is it profitable? Are there alternatives that would be more beneficial? How will it affect my neighbors, my community? Does it require off-farm inputs? Are there on-farm alternatives?

While practices cannot be considered by themselves to be sustainable, there are certain principles that are components of a sustainable agriculture. First we must recognize that nature in her wisdom has already designed sustainable systems. We all know that nature does not allow bare soil. That is our first principle: **keep the soil covered**. We also know that nature designed plant and animal communities to be interdependent. That is our second principle: **include livestock**. We recognize that nature has limits. Soil type, rainfall, sunlight, and the seasonal distribution of the latter two are all limiting factors in determining a sustainable yield. Our consumption cannot exceed the sustainable yield. That is our third principle: **recognize natural limits**.

When farmers adopt sustainable agriculture as a goal they begin to integrate their values, and the principles derived from those values, into their decision making process. Whatever farming practices are used, it is the farmer's values that make agriculture sustainable.

Guy Jacques Wamba

A. Curriculum vitae

- Name: Guy Jacques WAMBA
- Situation: Married
- Nationality: Cameroonian
- Agricultural diploma: Agriculture Engineer

Has attained several trainings; in both Organic and Social Inspections and Audits since Year 2000.

Has participated as expert in several seminars among which:

- Malabo for Organic Coffee promotion at Inter Africa Coffee Organization;
- Douala for the CDE organic promotion seminar in processed fruits;
- Helvetas Bénin: Pineapple technical constraints and Organic production

Has done audit and inspection of several types of units and crops range from Pineapple, Pawpaw, Orange, Mangoes, Cashew, Vegetables, Citrus, Palm oil; Cotton, Coffee, Cocoa and processing units. These activities have been carried out both in English and French speaking countries. Report could be submitted either in French or English.

Note: In order to prepare for this work, I did submit an application for “The Programme in Organic Agriculture Development, Sweden 25 July - 19 August 2008 and Uganda 22 January - 4 February 2009”. If selected, this will enable me to have a good background on a theoretical base to be more useful.

Period	Post	Observations
October 2007 - Today	FLO-Cert Lead Auditor	Social Audits in West and Central Africa
July 2007 – October 2007	FLO-Cert Inspector	Social Audit in West and Central Africa
January 2007 – July 2007	Trainee FLO-Cert Inspector	
Since October 2007 - Today	Ecocert International Regional Inspector	Organic inspections in West and Central Africa on EU, BioSuisse, Naturland, NOP and JAS standards
January 2004 – October 2007	Ecocert Regional Inspector	Organic Inspections in West and Central Africa base on EU, BioSuisse, Naturland and NOP Standards
February 2001 – January 2004	Ecocert Regional Inspector	Organic Inspections in West and Central Africa base on EU, BioSuisse and Naturland Standards
November 2000 – February 2001	Ecocert International Local Inspector	Organic Inspections in Cameroon base on European Union Standards.
1998 - 2000	Pineapple Network Coordinator (In Cameroon) with action in the Regional Pineapple Project (based in Benin)	Within pineapple network, they were conventional and Organic producers and operators. Technical advises and training of trainers.
1991 - 1996	Extension worker within the Ministry of Agriculture under National Extension and Training Program	All the aspects of production is taken in consideration, both conventional and organic. Another good skill that has been developed is the teaching ability.

B. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREAS IN WHICH I COULD BE USEFUL TO THE WB

From my past activities, I'm prepared to contribute in areas such as:

- Agriculture advice
- Development of curricula for training
- Building up of technical tools

As Agricultural literate, Fairtrade Auditor and Organic Inspector, I could be useful for the IFOAM advancement especially while working in one of these committees: Standards committee, Criteria committee and will be ready to work in any other field other will feel I'm comfortable on.

I have good communication skills and a hard working capacity and self made man. This could be useful in working with the WB.

Finally, I fully agreed with the indications in the paper named: Job Description WB_V1_20080205

We can have much more time on Distance contribution.

Vanaja Ramprasad

In the last 30 odd years I have meandered through valleys and villages in India to search and understand the mainstream development and its impact sector wise on the poor . what impacted my understanding was the largely accepted flawed analysis as the real reasons for third world poverty and hunger.

A study I was involved in south of India during the 80s gave me to understand that the cultivation practices during the green revolution pointed towards the arrival of new seeds. The loss of genetic resources at the seed level had a phenomenal impact on farmers independence to save their seeds. In the early stages of starting this work on seed saving I was a close associate of Dr.Vandana Shiva who inspired me and subsequently felt the need to go deeper into the issue at the grass roots level in the south of India and the Genetic Resource, Energy, Ecology and Nutrition Foundation took genesis. . With this began the un chartered course of my involvement in seed saving by different communities in different ecological niches.

To date we have reached the various states in the south of peninsular India and networked with different civil society organizations . The concept of community owned seed banks has become popular . The rich experience that I gathered has been endowed with different ideas to make it sustainable and replicable.. Our work with the small and marginal farmers focused on reviving the lost genetic resources through practices of on farm conservation participatory seed selections and crop improvements . In an effort to market the diversity , certification needs have been met through participatory guarantee systems.

Green foundation is a member of many international networks like IFOAM.

I would like to take the message of conserving the indigenous heirloom seeds for sustainability through IFOAM. to the organic world.

As an aspiring World Board member

I wish to bring the message of small and marginal farmers and their perspectives to be integrated into the larger organic farming world through IFOAM and thereby protect the livelihoods of farmers across the world .

I envisage to play a crucial role in bringing social equity amongst the organic farmers irrespective of them as large, small and medium.

Given the opportunity would like to contribute substantially to mainstream Organic Agriculture , by focusing on the subsistence farmers from the developing world .and providing adequate opportunities for value addition and economic benefits derived from Organic Agriculture and Conservation.

With the impending threats of climate change looming large over agriculture would like to raise awareness about the diversity of food crops that can be grown under adverse conditions and bring awareness about ecological foot prints to mitigate the impact of life styles in the fast developing countries of Asia .

Make organic food available to the common person while it is still enjoys a niche market .

Would like to make organic food based on biodiversity a symbol of development advocated by IFOAM.

Fabio Piccioli

Fabio Piccioli (Italy)

Profession: Organic Farmer/ Technician.

Born on: 2nd of December 1953

Living in: Via Provinciale 1210c 41057 Spilamberto (Modena, Italy)

Short Curriculum

- I started to work in Organic Agriculture since 1986, in a small cooperative founded in 1979 by young unemployed persons (willing to create together their own job).
- In 1993, I started to work in my small organic farm near Vignola (Modena, Italy) producing fruit and grape for wine.
- From 1994 to 2000 I have been President of AIAB (Assoc. It. Agr. Biologica) - Emilia Romagna (italian organic association in my region).
- Since 1999 I am member of the Regional Board of AgriBioMediterraneo (IFOAM regional group of Mediterranean Countries: I am president since 2005).
- In the years '90, I started to collaborate in different Cooperation projects on Organic Agriculture and sustainable development in Latin America, Mediterranean, Africa, etc.
- Since 2002, I am also working as technician in organic certification, for ICEA (Istituto Certificazione Etica e Ambientale) in Italy and in other countries.
- In different years, I participated in the meetings of the Participatory Guarantee Systems IFOAM Task Force; and I represented IFOAM in the “3rd European Seed Seminar - Let's liberate Diversity”, and in the “1st Seminar - Local Organic Market in Latin America”.

My Candidature to the WB

I am offering my candidature willing to give my contribution to serve IFOAM, to support IFOAM's advancement, and to contribute in the decision making.

As I understand, in the period 2005 – 2008 IFOAM had to pay great attention to the financial situation, in order to maintain itself as an effective organization: this attention must be probably maintained as a priority also in the next three years.

So I imagine that the WB will be responsible to follow working as a good team, (together with the IFOAM HO), to be able to face all the other challenges linked with the IFOAM aims.

Personally, I am available to work in the area that it will be considered more useful.

In AgriBioMediterraneo we learned to consider diversity as a richness more than a problem; and we saw that problems often are not so different also in very far countries (e.g.: access for farmers to the market, to certification, to research and knowledge...).

I feel it would be also important to improve the communication with the “diverse” souls represented into IFOAM (i. e. Internal Bodies...), specially for the less represented regions (less developed countries), or groups (farmers) or item (seeds, biodiversity..) in order to reach the widest possible participation. And in order to strengthen the IFOAM role in Organic Agriculture advocacy, and in the leadership of the whole organic movement “in its full diversity”.

So I would like to commit myself to work for IFOAM also according with this vision.

Thank you.

Sang Mok Sohn

Meanwhile I am devoted to the development of Organic Agriculture and committed to the objectives of IFOAM since over 20 years.

In February 1986, I obtained a PhD degree (Major; Plant Nutrition) from the University of Goettingen following a 6 years doctoral course in Germany. Then I moved to Witzenhausen campus of Kassel University and stayed there another 6 months. For my post-doc, I did research on “Nitrogen in the Soil-Plant System” at the University of Manchester from 1991 to 1992 and on “Soil Nitrate testing methods” at the Virginia Tech Institute & State University from 1995 to 1996.

In May 1998, I served as a consultant for the joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Program (Codex Alimentarius Commission) in Ottawa / Canada for the Korean delegation. Since Jan 1999, I am a member in the Committee of Environmental Agriculture for Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in ROK.

Since September 1986, I am a professor for Organic Agriculture at the Dankook University, Cheonan / ROK. I have established and been appointed director of the “Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (RIOA, <http://www.rioa.or.kr>)” at Dankook University, which at that time was the first in Asia.. RIOA offers Ms and PhD courses for Organic Agriculture since 2001. We also offer Advanced Organic CEO Courses (1 year) which provide scientifically based knowledge and skills on Organic Agriculture.. Since 2006 I am managing the national certification body for Organic and GAP at Dankook University and I have been appointed Chairman of the Organic Food Committee in Korea FDA in 2006.

During IFOAM-Asia Conference in Hangzhou / China in October 2001, I took an initiative to establish an “Asian Research Network of Organic Agriculture (ARNOA)”with delegations from 17 Asian countries. I organized ARNOA Conferences three times in 2002, 2003, and 2004 respectively.

Furthermore I am a Board Member of the International Society of Organic Agriculture Research (ISOFAR) since its foundation in 2003 and I have just organized a regional ISOFAR Conference ‘Organic Agriculture in Asia’ in March 2008 in ROK uniting organic people of 18 countries.

My main research topics include nitrate accumulation in vegetables, N and P dynamics in the soil, liquid fertilizer injection, soil fertility, bio-gas production, creation of eco-villages

Based on my large background and experience in Organic Agriculture, it is my objective to support and expand IFOAM activities in the following areas;

- Education
- Extension
- Research networking
- Development of Organic Agriculture in Asia
- Certification

Moses Kiggundu Muwanga

Name of Candidate: Moses Kiggundu Muwanga
E-mail: mkmuwanga@nogamu.org.ug

I am a male Ugandan aged 35. I am currently the National Coordinator of the National Organic Agricultural Movement of Uganda (NOGAMU). I have been involved in the organic movement for the last 12 years. My work has spanned from working in the first organic certified export company in Uganda and therefore responsible for setting up the main organic system in the company, to offering technical and organisational advice to current and emerging organic projects, to getting involved in the setting up and running of the national organic agricultural movement of Uganda (NOGAMU), for which I am one of the founder members. NOGAMU is the umbrella organisation that brings together the producers, processors, exporters, NGOs and other institutions involved in organic agricultural development in Uganda. My involvement/activities/experience in the organic sector has been twofold; 1- Offering technical and advisory support in the areas of designing and developing organic out grower schemes and businesses, developing adapted and customised Quality control systems that would facilitate smallholder farmers to comply with Organic Certification and market requirements of major export markets, and identifying areas of competitiveness of smallholders in the domestic and export markets. I have also used my professional experience to assist in designing and setting up of produce handling chains, initiating and setting up practical and bottom-up food safety and produce quality assurance procedures based on the concept of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP), as additional complementary efforts to increase the competitiveness of organic exports from Uganda and hence generate more incomes for the participating smallholder farmers and other actors. 2- I have made key contributions to the structural designing and setting up of an effective National Organic Agricultural Movement, not only in Uganda, but also in the other sister countries in the east African region. I have also served on the IFOAM task force for the development of Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS), and also participated on the steering committee of Organic Standards East Africa (OSEA) a project run by IFOAM, and I was a member of the regional standards technical working group, that drafted the East African Organic Products Standards (EAOPS).

My interest in serving on the world board is to contribute to innovative ways of bringing all key stakeholders especially organic actors in the developing world and more so Africa into being active players in the world organic movement. I would also like to contribute to shaping innovative approaches in IFOAM that will see and ensure that decisions and strategic direction of movement is determined through a more bottom up mechanism and that the channels and mechanism of communication are more appropriate and allow participation of more members from the developing countries.

I hold a Masters Degree in Post-Harvest Horticulture and Marketing from the University of Greenwich, United Kingdom, a Post Graduate Diploma in Project Planning and Management from the Uganda Management Institute, and A Bachelors degree in Agriculture from Makerere University, Uganda.

Gabriela Soto

Born and raised in Costa Rica, I come from a long line (4 generations) of coffee farmers. When I returned home in 1992 from my graduate studies in soil ecology in the United States, I joined the National Organic Farming Association, and my life as an agronomist took a different twist that I have become increasingly grateful for as time goes by. In 1992 I became an organic inspector, and joined IOIA (Independent Organic Inspectors Association) as a trainer and board member. This gave me the unique opportunity to visit organic farmers all around Latin America, Africa and Asia. Everything that I know about organic farming, I learned from these farmers. I subsequently became an activist and supporter of organic farming in Costa Rica and abroad. Together with colleagues and friends, we promoted the National Regulation of Organic Farming (1997), which allowed some years later the Third Country Status of Costa Rica with the EU. We also developed the first National Organic Certification Agency (EcoLOGICA, 1997) of which I am still the president. I have also been a collaborating member of different IFOAM Committees including the Accreditation Standards Revision and Biodiversity Standards Committees. And of course, our organizations are part of and support the Latin American Group of IFOAM (GALCI). I became a professor of organic farming and agroecology at the University of Costa Rica and since 2001, have worked at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture and Education (CATIE). This position has allowed me to work more closely with farmers, assisting them with production, certification and marketing issues so they can access the organic and fair trade markets. My lifelong dedication to organic farming is due to my belief that organic farming is not just a farming technique which protects the environment and the health of consumers, but also, a rural development strategy that increases opportunities for small farmers around the world. It is important to promote the access of organic products by as many consumers as possible, but if elected to the IFOAM Board, I will also see that organic farming continues to be a development strategy for small farmers. I would also like to promote a greater presence of IFOAM in Latin America, as well as a greater presence of Latin America in IFOAM.

Gerald A. Herrmann

I was born in Germany in 1959, live in Munich, studied agriculture, followed by three years of scientific research. I worked as organic farm consultant, in the development of guarantee systems, as President and Director of Naturland and Vice-President of the German umbrella organization, and in advocacy and marketing. I lectured for about ten years, and co-authored a book on practical Organic Agriculture. Today, I am one of four partners of 'Organic Services', an international consultancy.

Since about 20 years I am engaged in voluntary positions, today serving as IFOAM President, as Vice-President of Ecoland, an IFOAM accredited farmers association and Board member of Nature & More Foundation.

IFOAM has recently gone through an exemplary participatory process when developing the Principles and equally the Definition of Organic Agriculture. I believe this has inspired many within but also from outside the movement.

The long discussion and development process of revising the IFOAM OGS has reached a significant point. This process has not been without tension and I understand that this is still continuing. I fully support the direction the OGS takes aiming at more harmonization accepting diversity while maintaining a clear line to what is not organic. At the same time, I share the unease that to date we have not been able to develop appropriate best practice scenarios. I am dedicated to listen and to continue working on solutions.

Organic is becoming mainstream. We have succeeded in leaving the niche, in delivering for environment and consumers and in bridging to new players. But control over development and strategy might as well slip out of our hands. What if lack in ethics and dedication leads to loss in credibility? Signs of this are evident. I am dedicated to defend our principles and to a movement open to new influences and change.

IFOAM has gone through a time of change. Last World Boards have stirred the – sometimes troublesome – process especially in regard to finances. Today IFOAM is in good shape. Setting up the Organic World Foundation is decided. Qualified staff and an engaged Executive Director are working in the Head Office and other IFOAM offices, and about 200 volunteers are participating, an engagement we can be very proud of. IFOAM has never been so well represented by members at events. I am dedicated to this development and democratic understanding.

IFOAM is the voice of the organic sector. Its credibility is stemming from its democratic structure, but also from the credibility in implementing its aims. Topics are manifold to which IFOAM should have a position and be engaged. The new IFOAM Program 2011 shall guide the World Board in this. Given its finances and full time staff it is a challenge to answer to all needs. I am dedicated to further develop IFOAM as an advocacy organization.

My colleagues and I on the World Board have been responsible for IFOAM during last years. We can take credit for what we have achieved, but we have also to give answers to what we have not done so well. Adjustments and corrections to IFOAM are necessary, but that changes need time.

If re-elected, I offer to continue my dedication. I am prepared to serve on the Executive Board and as President again.

Alessandro Triantafyllidis

Born 1966, married, two kids, living in the countryside. After the university set up an organic farm in 1994 in the mountains of Liguria, NW Italy producing organic honey and breeding sheep.

Studies. I got an Agriculture Diploma in 1993 (Milan University) and a Master of Science in Natural Resources Management in 1996 at Edinburgh University. In 1996 I specialised in Participatory Rural Appraisal at Edinburgh University.

Professional record. From 1996 to 2000 I worked for a National Farmers' Association (Coldiretti), as responsible of Organic Agriculture activities for Liguria region, which included technical advisory, training and project management.

Since 2000 I work for AIAB both at local and international level. More recently I have been working with the network of Italian National Parks to promote and spread organic farming in protected areas. I was involved as an expert consultant in different international projects funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and EU programmes on Organic Agriculture: Poland, Moldova, and Palestine dealing with harmonisation of local legislation with EU regulation on Organic Agriculture and IFOAM standards. Co-operated with IFAD in a recent study on "Organic farming and poverty reduction in China and India".

At regional level I am mostly engaged in helping our producers to shorten the supply chain, selling directly to organised citizens groups, or on-farm.

Me & IFOAM. I crossed my path with IFOAM back in 2001 in Denmark for the conference that launched the European action plan of organic farming. It was the first time I met the wide network of inspired people that cooperate to promote organic farming in the world.

Since then I have been actively involved in the movement, having been appointed to represent Italy in the IFOAM EU board from 2002 so far. In the group I am involved in policy issues mainly related to rural development, Common Agricultural Policy, GMOs, and now climate change.

From 2006 I am one of the two Vice-Presidents of the IFOAM EU group.

In the same period I have been appointed by AIAB (the Italian Association for Organic Farming) as responsible for international relations that allowed me to look far beyond the European borders.

Aiab is a non profit association promoting an eco-sustainable development model, especially in rural areas, through lobby work, publications, standard setting, training, and dissemination activities. It associates farmers, food processors, retailers and distributors, technicians, and consumers. Aiab is the biggest organic association in Italy: founded in 1988, it is organised in 17 regional associations out of 20 Italian regions.

From 2000 I am President of the AIAB Liguria region.

If elected? I share the vision that Organic Farming is the model for a real sustainable rural development and food production. Our - now small - world is urging us with important questions from climate change to water management, from consumer's health to animal welfare, from global vs local market and food sovereignty. Organic farming has many solutions. If elected I will work actively to promote this solutions in the context where IFOAM is involved. Always with the point of view of the producers.

Not available to serve in the Executive Committee.

PVSM Gouri

The organic movement in India can proudly look back to what it has achieved since its formal inception eight years ago. As a result India is on the world map, though in a small way. It is the first Asian country to regulate group certification. Working as a part of this movement, guided by the four principles of Organic Agriculture, has inspired me. The opportunities given to me by my country for contributing to the development and implementation of the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) continues to encourage me. Therefore my focus will be in pursuing the promotion of farmer's sustainability and in their enhancement of group empowerment.

A significant institutional development in India has been the accreditation of the certification bodies for organic products. With the understanding that harmonization of standards will facilitate free flow of organic trade globally, my efforts will be to make significant contribution in this direction and strengthen IFOAM's mission in India and other Third World countries. This will also help us to learn, build and live together in a world that is eco-friendly and a happy place for our farmers to live successfully.

I would be happy to be a member of the World Board of IFOAM, which positions itself at the zenith to successfully protect Organic Agriculture and take the movement forward and facilitate trade.

Your valuable support of my candidature for the World Board will help in realizing our mission together.

Katherine DiMatteo

Professional History:

- Senior Associate – Wolf, DiMatteo + Associates, New Castle, Virginia and Leyden, Massachusetts, USA since 2007
- Executive Director – Organic Trade Association, Greenfield, Massachusetts, USA, 1990-2006
- Interim Executive Director – Northeast Sustainable Energy Association, Greenfield, Massachusetts, USA, 1989-1990
- Development Director – Peace Development Fund, Amherst, Massachusetts, USA, 1985-1989
- Worker Collective - Western Massachusetts Food Coops, South Hadley, Massachusetts, USA, 1980-1984

Community Service:

- IFOAM World Board member, co-opted 2006
- The Organic Center for Education and Promotion (TOC), Founding member and secretary of the Board of Directors, 2002 to present
- Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI), Board of Directors member, 1996-1999
- Northeast Cooperatives, Inc., Board of Directors member, 1986-1995 serving as president 1987-1989 and treasurer in 1986, 1991 and 1992.
- Town Meeting Moderator, Leyden, Massachusetts, USA, 1998-present

All my professional and community service experience are assets that I can bring to fulfill the responsibilities as a member of the IFOAM World Board. Through the years I have been responsible for business plans, budgets, marketing and promotion, fundraising, advocacy, mediation, policy development, consensus-building, staff and board administration, management and implementation of administrative functions, and strategic decisions. My work has been largely with non-profit, non-governmental, multi-stakeholder organizations because I believe that it is through such organizations that positive and progressive solutions for long-term social, economic and environmental sustainability are developed. These organizations should hold governments and businesses accountable for their policies and practices but also should work with them to implement change.

Currently I am a partner in an independent consulting business. I have a flexible schedule and the support of my partners to commit the time and financial resources necessary to fully participate on the IFOAM World Board.

I have had the good fortune to not only be part of the organic community in the United States as its national standards were created, debated, and implemented but also to serve on the Organic Working Group with IFOAM and government representatives to write the Codex Guidelines for Organic. It is with a combined regional and global perspective that I have, and will continue to consider the issues that come before the IFOAM World Board.

I am very familiar with the spectrum of passionate opinions and differing requests that come from a broad-based membership and the necessity to find the common ground. The challenges and opportunities that face IFOAM and the procedures under which IFOAM functions have become clear to me during the two years as a World Board member. I am prepared, if elected, to support the executive director in advancing the current critical areas, especially fundraising, advocacy and strategic planning and to respond to the directives of the 2008 General Assembly. I believe the board must also provide leadership as a group of individuals that weave the past together with a vision of a future organic world that is respectful and tolerant of its diversity.

I stand willing to work with integrity to accomplish the IFOAM mission and goals.

Johan Cejie

My name is Johan Cejie, and I hereby declare my availability and willingness to serve on the IFOAM World Board.

Currently I work as the Standards Development Manager at KRAV, a Swedish organisation for standard setting, certification and promotion in the organic sector. I have worked for KRAV and its subsidiary Aranea Cert for eight years, also holding the position of Quality and Environment manager. When working as a quality manager I was involved with the collaboration between the IFOAM Accredited Certifiers. Within IFOAM, I have been serving on the Norms Management Committee and for the last three years as a member of the World Board. Earlier I have worked as a consultant with environmental and quality management issues in all sizes of operations in the food chain. I have also worked in the fish industry. My formal education concerns marine biology.

I think IFOAM has three challenges ahead where I can contribute to making the movement stronger:

- We need to create more space and new arenas to assist the leaders of the Federation and the movement. IFOAM's mission contains two elements that may seem in opposition of each other; leading and uniting. For a few years now, resources have been invested in working with the dimension of uniting. We have attempted to make the OGS attractive and available to most of the movement, we have engaged with trade issues together with UN institutions, we assist governmental structures as best we can. This has created tension with people and members of the Federation that have always been on the leading edge of organic. It is time for us to create space for the leaders to develop their ideas and systems. It is the leaders who find the ways ahead and create solutions that can then be used in a broader scale.
- We need to continue and reinforce the work to create a financially stable, and eventually strong, IFOAM. Creating space and arenas for the leaders cannot mean we reduce efforts to unite, to assist everyone who wants to become a member of, or stay in the organic movement. We need to work hard to create new financial resources to work more with the leading dimension. Creating greater financial stability and control will allow us to focus management and board time more on assisting the movement rather than taking care of financial emergencies.
- We need to continue working with the governance of IFOAM to become more efficient. Efficiency in IFOAM means that we spend our resources (voluntary time, staff time and money) wisely while making it attractive to get involved in IFOAM. This point is about unleashing the power of our voluntary organisation. By focusing that we allow each person can work to her best, we can achieve great results.

I am convinced the organic movement and IFOAM is only at the beginning of its greatness. I would be greatly honoured to serve for a second term on the World Board.

José Carlos Anselmi

My name is José Carlos Anselmi, I was born in Argentina, and I am 56 years of age.

Since I was a child, I spent time in family agricultural and livestock holdings, and carried out all sort of rural work, which led me later on to consolidate my vocation for rural development.

During my youth, I distributed by time studying and doing rural works, cultivating my first wheat crop at the age of 16 and never afterwards abandoned farming and related subjects.

Afterwards I obtained my university degree as an Agricultural Engineer, specialized in the agricultural production, administration, and consulting work for other agricultural companies. I also worked alternatively teaching rural teenagers. I emphasized my work in sub-wet areas and semi arid lands.

A permanent concern for the common good added to the professional activity a long and successful management of the rural union and agricultural business, executive member of the Rural Society of Gral. Pico, and representative of this society for more than a decade. I also worked in CARBAP, second grade institution. I was then elected representative for the Province of La Pampa in the Argentine Rural Society and finally accepted a delegation of Argentine Rural Confederations; to represent them in one of the regions of the National Institute of Agricultural Technology, once democracy was reinforced throughout our country.

On teaching, developing my professional activity and working with the union made me accomplish teamwork, interaction with third parties and the search of common interests.

The administrative activity, in the early 70, did not allow the use of agricultural chemicals due to their elevated cost, which forced me to look out for solutions against animal plagues in pastorals systems, where I discovered one by one the goodness of the organic solutions, convenient for the whole production. As I learnt about the strengths of nature and its correlation I was able to visualize the holistic way and choose real values.

After another period of learning, being part of companies that commercialized grains and meat; I developed a personal endeavor of organic apiculture, which still stand forth.

With the arrival of certifying agents, I was also named as member of the certification independent committee where I could incorporate several tools to use method in the evolution of the organic development in Argentina. I actively participated in the definition and implementation of the national organic rules of apiculture in the SENASA.

I understand that, from these life and working experiences, I can contribute to the different projects of IFOAM, taking into account a strong interest in achieving a double way of communication between Latin America and the BOARD.

During 2007, I was invited to teach organic apiculture, in a master course of Universidad Catolica Argentina.

It is always good to be able to reward, which was received for free in your life.

Chido Makunike

I hereby offer myself as a candidate for election to the World Board of IFOAM at the General Assembly of June 22-24, 2008 at Modena in Italy.

I have many years of experience of organically tilling the soil, and am well acquainted with the production/cultivation challenges, as well as the considerable benefits once those challenges are overcome. I am well familiar with the difficulties of differentiating organic produce in a market in which they are poorly understood, which has led me into advocacy. I have also become intimately familiar with the policy, marketing, standards-setting and many other issues that are at the cutting edge of Organic Agriculture.

All this gives me a very well-rounded understanding of the challenges and opportunities Organic Agriculture faces and offers. What I would offer the World Board and the international organic movement in general, is the benefit of practical experience as well as of perspective, particularly from the African point of view.

My candidacy is supported by IFOAM member organizations who are well distributed across the regions of sub-Saharan Africa. This will give me authority to speak on behalf of the continent on the WB. This strong support would also make me an effective conduit of sentiment from Africa to my fellow board members should I be elected. This will further strengthen the sense of inclusion of IFOAM's African members, with many associated benefits to IFOAM and to the development of Organic Agriculture in Africa.

I am in the unique position of having been an IFOAM member of staff. I therefore have particular empathy for the high expectations put upon them by member organizations. My insider's knowledge will make me a good intermediary between the WB and the Head Office; and between the IFOAM governing/executive structures and the membership.

Being from southern Africa and now based in western Africa would make me an effective trans-continental bridge between IFOAM member organizations who often feel very distant from each other despite sharing many experiences and challenges in common. Similar benefits will accrue to the membership from my being from an English-speaking country, Zimbabwe, but now being based in a French-speaking country, Senegal.

Over the years I have built an international profile from writing widely about Africa's developmental challenges. My writing has expanded and sharpened in recent years to focus more specifically on Africa's agricultural challenges. I believe the media access I have earned will be an asset to having IFOAM's positions better understood and more widely disseminated.

My current experience of being a trader dealing with small scale producers in Africa as well as importers out of Africa also gives me insight into issues that occupy the daily lives of many people in IFOAM member organizations across the globe.

Should I be elected onto the WB, I would be willing to serve on the Executive Board as well as in other assignments that may come up.

Ong Kung Wai

Name: Ong Kung Wai
 Date of birth: 04 Nov. 1960
 Nationality: Malaysian
 Current work: Consultant and Trainer with GroLink [www.groLink.se] based in Malaysia, including

- Commissioning Editor, The Organic Standard, [www.organicstandard.com]
- Administrator, Certification Alliance [www.certificationalliance.org]
- Chair, Organic Alliance Malaysia, [www.organicmalaysia.com.my]
- IFOAM World Board member [from 2005] and Chair of Norms Management Committee [from 2006]
- Director, Life Spirit, operator of a Rudolf Steiner education based kindergarden [www.taskanania.com]

The world grows organic – together or apart?

Organic is growing. Will we grow to represent fragmented national organic economies in conflict with each other or usher in an integrated global economy that reflect sound environmental stewardship, equitable economy and social responsibility.

Different certifications required for different markets today, is an obstacle to trade and sector development. Moreover, government officials in many countries are lead to believe they need to establish regulations similar to the EU and USA. Requirements the EU and USA organic industry did not have to contend with at a similar stage of their development. Development in many emerging markets is in danger of being strangled by regulations that are not commensurate to production and sector development conditions in the country.

The world is unevenly developed. The desire by some to ‘step up’ should not marginalize those who have yet to step in. Mainstreaming implies becoming no longer special. A paradigm shift is required of the organic movement to mainstream as it is for mainstream to adopt organic principles. We do not inspire conversion and consumption with an entangling web of rules and control mechanisms. I support the revision of the Organic Guarantee System IFOAM has taken. Also IFOAM’s work in the International Task Force on Harmonisation and Equivalence in Organic Agriculture (ITF).

Organic cannot mainstream unless the sector is prepared to do away with non-critical differences in standards and conformity assessment. We need to be inclusive to move forward in a united wave. Divisions hampers establishment of united national organic movements, a critical factor for sector development. More so as governments have emerge as pro-active actors. The need for untied private sector counterparts to facilitate effective public-private sector partnership for sector development is greater than ever.

“Why is producing and marketing organic products made so complicated?” Elected, my focus would be on empowering membership and organic communities worldwide to take advantage of growth opportunities for further development of their respective sectors. I am willing to serve in the Executive Committee. Following on the OGS revision, I see a need for IFOAM to develop better understanding and strategies for evolving towards 100% adoption under unevenly developed conditions, including the role of international trade. As the sector grows, the movement will increasingly be drawn into and need to address similar issues conventional agriculture is struggling with. Perhaps it is time for the organic movement to begin crafting an Agreement on (Organic) Agriculture, something the WTO has failed to date.

The future is ours to lose.

Organic is not the only development trend. Genetic Engineering is another. There is no biological space for co-existence without contamination. Clearly, the organic sector has to be more inclusive to prevail or be derailed.

Arthur Stevens

Arthur Stevens has been involved in the organic sector in Africa for more than 15 years. Originally he was involved through the Shire Highlands Organic Growers Association in Malawi, a former IFOAM member, as Vice Chairman, which represented the interests of organic growers in that country. Through his own farm activities which included organic production of herbs, herbal teas and spices amongst other crops in Malawi, he was involved in all issues from production and export through quality control and certification. In addition he was instrumental in the setting up of SHOGA and its establishment on the local, regional African and international scenes. Within the African region he was instrumental also in helping establish organic movements, especially in Mocambique – through assistance in establishing organic herbal tea production – and in Rwanda through assistance in establishing organic birds eye chillie production and especially in QMS areas.

Subsequently Arthur has sold his organic farm in Malawi and has concentrated his activities instead on his role as, initially, Business Services Manager and currently as Supply Chain Manager for PhytoTrade Africa. This organisation covers 8 southern African countries and seeks to promote the sustainable commercial development of products from a select grouping of indigenous species, including baobab and marula. Amongst a wider range of activities undertaken especially in supply chain development for this organisation, Arthur is responsible also for the certification of the suppliers of product to the international markets. Primarily this includes the organic certification of harvesters and processors of lipid oils for the cosmetic sector and also the organic certification of some pulps for the food sector. To date he has been closely involved with the organic certification of marula oil and devils claw in Namibia, mafura oil in Mocambique and the anticipated organic certification of baobab products in Malawi and mongongo products in Zambia.

Currently Arthur has moved his residential base to London, United Kingdom. He continues to act as the Supply Chain Manager for PhytoTrade Africa and spends around half to two thirds of his time in this role. He is available outside of these times for other consultancy activities – and this would include the time available for involvement to the extent indicated on the IFOAM World Board (and understands that this is a non-remunerated position). Especially through his role in PhytoTrade Africa he is able to bring substantial regional experience to the World Board including but not limited to decision and policy formulation in a practical manner.

Toshio Kijima

I have a background of research and teaching about Traditional/Natural Agriculture. My specialized subjects are about Traditional farming; Phytopathology(soil-borne disease), Interaction of plant and microorganisms, Allelopathy and Biological control of plant diseases. I worked for Biotechnology Division of Tochigi Prefecture Agricultural Experiment Station for more than 10 years, and spend more time to do research on soil and Agriculture. I spend last 10 years for mainly teaching and training Organic Agriculture and Traditional/Natural Farming. I teach in Brazil, Taiwan, U.S., Korea and other places especially during the project of JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency: the governmental organization).

I am willing to promote the Organic Agriculture for a sustainable system of food production based on the Principle of Organic Agriculture. I also have strong interest on improvement of the situation of self-sufficiency in the world, particularly within the third countries. Using my knowledge and skills of Agricultural techniques and experiences of teaching, researching and training of Organic Agriculture, I am passionate to promote Organic Agriculture just like IFOAM Program says.

I propose to spread of Organic Agriculture and Nature Farming, which based on circulation that increase Bio-diversity in this planet. I concern about the area such as Asia, Central and South America because these area is facing to huge influence from overseas capital and economy activity cause negative environmental impacts.

I propose to run for the World Board member of IFOAM.

Jim Riddle

I have been involved in the organic sector for over 28 years. I was a full-time organic farmer from 1980-1993 and founding president of the Winona (MN) Farmers Market Association. My wife, Joyce Ford, and I still raise a huge organic garden and sell crops to area restaurants. We live in our owner-built, earth-sheltered home, powered by solar and wind energy. We integrate our values into our life choices.

I worked as an organic inspector for 20 years, and was founding chair of the Independent Organic Inspectors Association (IOIA). I helped IOIA develop standardized forms and training materials that are used throughout the world. I co-authored the IFOAM/IOIA International Organic Inspection Manual. I have taught organic inspector training courses throughout the US, Canada, Latin America, Australia, Japan, Russia, Finland, and Taiwan.

I served on the IFOAM Accreditation Programme Board from 1996-2000, and have spoken at IFOAM Conferences in Copenhagen (1996), and Victoria (2002). During 1997-2002, I served on the U.S. Codex delegation, when the Codex International Organic Guidelines were adopted. In 2006, I organized the First IFOAM Conference on Animals in Organic Production, held at the University of Minnesota. I raised over \$40,000 from companies and organizations to help fund the IFOAM Organic Livestock Conference.

In 1997, I wrote a comprehensive analysis, complete with replacement language, of the USDA's first Proposed Organic Rule. My comments were adopted and supported by many individuals and organizations. In 1999, I co-authored the Organic Trade Association's American Organic Standards. In 2000, I was commissioned to compile the OTA's comments on the USDA's second Proposed Organic Rule.

Since 1991, I have served on the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's organic advisory board. I originated the State's organic certification cost-share program in 1998. I also helped implement an organic transition incentive program, which brought over 20,000 hectares into organic production in 2002, the first year it was offered.

I served a five-year term on the USDA National Organic Standards Board (NOSB). I was elected to the NOSB's Executive Committee every year, serving as chair in 2004-2005. Following my lead, the NOSB adopted Principles of Organic Production and Handling, draft standards for organic apiculture, mushrooms, and greenhouses, and procedures for the certification of grower groups.

I currently am the University of Minnesota's Organic Outreach Coordinator. I represent the UMN in a variety of public venues and contribute to the UMN's organic research program. I organize educational workshops and field days, give classroom presentations, write articles, and manage the UMN's www.organicecology.umn.edu website.

Through my life's work, I have demonstrated my ability to provide leadership and motivation in the areas of public policy, standard setting, inspection, certification, research, education, and outreach. I am an articulate spokesperson for Organic Agriculture at local, state, national, and international meetings.

I believe that IFOAM is uniquely positioned to advance the cause of Organic Agriculture through support of research, education, outreach, cooperation, inspiration, and leadership, and the maintenance of high standards. I would be honored and humbled to serve on the IFOAM World Board.

Roberto Ugas

Writing this text at an Andean town over 3,000 m.a.s.l. while doing ethnobotanical research is an invitation to think about the relevance of IFOAM for small farmers around the globe. There is no obvious answer but the question is fundamental for a federation with a majority of its members explicitly declaring an emphasis in smallholder issues. In most countries food supply is strongly dependent on what smallholders do but poverty in the developing world is higher in rural areas, while extreme poverty is basically a rural phenomenon. For them, to be organic or conventional is often a non-issue. Some people say that IFOAM prestigious basic standards are too stringent or alien for small farmers, becoming a barrier for market access. They propose that our standards should be broader and rather imprecise in order to embrace the world, but standards are not at the top of the list of priorities of the organizations of small farmers that I know (in fact, for many of them participatory guarantee systems are on the top). On the other hand, IFOAM made a big difference when it adopted, lobbied for and improved the criteria for internal control systems, a practice that started in Latin America and that have enabled several hundreds of thousands of smallholders worldwide to become certified organic. IFOAM wisely stated that its mission is to lead and unite the organic world in its full diversity but we need to establish mechanisms to check every major development against its potential impacts on small farmers, on the integrity of organic production and on the health of our federation.

I am an agronomist and university lecturer and researcher in Peru, my home country; my grandfather was a farm manager up in the North but I live in a large city. My work, both at the university and as a consultant, is mostly linked to rural development, biodiversity and agroecology and I recently became permanent advisor of Peru's National Association of Organic Farmers. I am grateful for having been allowed to learn and to make friends in IFOAM for the last 15 years, as a member of the accreditation programme that became the IOAS and participating in a few task forces and assignments. If honored to be part of the World Board, I hope to contribute with a Latin American perspective and to strengthen democracy within IFOAM, for which I think that we should increasingly rely on regional groups for consultation and feedback. Market forces are strong but certainly not enough or not always the best, so I think that the emphasis on market development and the OGS needs to be balanced with other areas like research and technology development and policy making, not only in the organic world. A recent task was to be part of the group that drafted the principles and the definition of Organic Agriculture: I really hope that these principles will enlighten us and keep high the joy of being organic and part of IFOAM.

Thanks

Brendan Hoare

I am passionate and committed to Organic philosophy, theory and practice, and concur with IFOAM's mission and goals. I sincerely wish to continue to serve the international Organic community for the next three years and am seeking re-election to the IFOAM World Board.

As a current WB member I have willingly contributed my skills across a wide range of activities including:

- Representing IFOAM at conferences, expos and events through Europe, Asia and the South Pacific.
- Leading and being a member of task forces, working groups and policy development.
- Representing IFOAM on Unilever's Sustainable Agriculture Advisory Board
- Actively supporting and encouraging our management team.
- Providing leadership and articulating a 'critical voice' as required.

In addition to these official tasks, I have maintained an active role in the wider Organic community. I successfully work with a wide range of people and players from government to indigenous groups, grass roots to commercial organisations. I focus on developing united Organic communities so we can collectively achieve the worldwide adoption of ecologically, socially and economically sound systems based on the principles of Organic system approaches. Over the last three years this has resulted in the following personal collaborative events:

- Launch of a successful peer reviewed journal www.organic-systems.org
- Initiation and assistance in creating the East Asian Organic Forum
- Initiation and facilitation of the emerging Oceania Pacific Organic Forum
- Designing and implementing an award winning development programme in Mentawai, Indonesia. www.surfaidinternational.org

My formal learning includes a Masters in Agriculture Systems and Rural Development and a Degree in Urban, Regional and Landscape Planning from Australia and a Diploma in Horticulture from New Zealand.

This is backed by 26 years of practical application including certification, auditing, research, extension, lobbying, seven years field research in Asia looking at traditional land-use practices, managing research facilities and the development of certified family farm using perennial polyculture systems adapted from Asia and the Pacific.

I have proven governance experience, and have successfully served the Organic community in New Zealand over the last nine years in achieving several significant milestones.

In addition to these voluntary positions, I am employed as a Senior Academic in Sustainable Production Systems at Unitec New Zealand www.unitec.ac.nz. I also serve as the Director of the Unitec Hortecology Sanctuary / Mahi Whenua (PGS certified demonstration and research facility).

IFOAM is a unique organisation which has a real opportunity and responsibility to evolve. How we do this is crucial. People based change requires uniting strategies where we assist the world becoming Organic in its full diversity without any loss in authenticity while simultaneously demonstrating future best practice.

Again, I can commit all my skills, energy and networks to IFOAM and bring to it:

- Leadership - by example and enabling.
- Inspiration - based on demonstrated achievable visions.
- Experienced knowledge - by being a practitioner.
- Excellent communication skills and a.
- Working appreciation of how to create change.

I am willing and able to serve IFOAM on the Executive Board.

Andre Leu

The Need for IFOAM

I am a strong supporter of IFOAM because it has a series of vitally important roles for the world organic community. It very important that all us of around the world have a forum where we can define organic systems in an open, democratic and participatory way.

Keeping the Integrity of Organic

The current trend of increasing government intervention is causing concern within the organic movement. Organic standards are being constantly eroded with producers and consumers having to fight their own governments to ensure the integrity of products and systems. Some governments are trying to allow factory farming and imposing tolerances for GMOs that do not have the support of the majority of the organic sector. This is causing consumers and organic critics to question the integrity of organic products.

It is critical that all organic systems are determined by democratic and participatory processes through sector organisations. The IFOAM process is flexible, democratic, transparent and open. We need IFOAM to set the criteria for ensuring that organic systems are credible.

Promoting the Value of Organic

It is also very important we have a way to communicate the benefits of organic farming systems and organic food and other products to the wider community, governments, media and industry. Organic Agriculture needs to be promoted as the viable and superior alternative to GMOs. IFOAM as truly representative international organisation has credibility with the international agencies like FAO and governments worldwide.

Education and Training

Adopting best practice Organic Agriculture is one of the best ways to improve the amount and quality of food produced in many countries. This is a critical activity in countries where one of the causes of poverty is due to food shortages. This is also of great value to the whole world through improving the quality of food. IFOAM has a vitally important role in facilitating education and training in these areas.

Facilitating Fair Trade in Organic Products

The fair trade in organic products has an important role in improving the standard of living for communities around the world. IFOAM's role in standards setting and on the International Task Force for Harmonization contributes substantially to these processes. IFOAM's role as a world representative body is critical to driving these agendas to ensure that they are fair to all parties.

Environmental Benefits of Organic Systems

IFOAM has a key role in promoting scientific research showing the considerable environmental benefits of organic farming systems. These include increased soil health, biodiversity, energy use efficiency, soil carbon sequestration, better water use efficiency, significantly lower nutrient runoffs and no pesticide drift or runoff.

Climate Change

IFOAM has a key role in promoting that Organic Agriculture can help reverse climate change. Scientific studies show that best practice Organic Agriculture emits less greenhouse gases than conventional agriculture and the carbon sequestration from increasing soil organic matter leads to a net reduction in greenhouse gases.

Eugene Milovanov

I was born in 1967 in Ukraine and now live in Kyiv, Ukraine. I graduated from National Agricultural University in 1991.

In 1990-1991 I was working in the farm not far from Kyiv. The farm was mainly using organic methods of agriculture, as I understand now, but at that time in the Soviet Union, as in the major countries of the world, organic idea as such was not so popular yet, as now.

1991-1997 – Agricultural business (foreign trade with grains and other agricultural commodities)

1997-1999 – Head of the Department in the Ukrainian Ministry of Agriculture.

In 1999, as Representative of Ukraine I was attending International Environmental UN Conferences in Maastricht (The Netherlands) and in Nairobi (Kenya)

In 2001 I got my PhD in Economics in the National Agricultural University of Ukraine.

Since 1999 – active in the organic business (foreign trade, consulting, lobbying, etc.)

2003-2008 – as invited speaker, I had four times my presentations on the subjects of the organic sector development in Ukraine and other Former Soviet Union countries at BioFach annual Conferences

Since 2004 - Member of AVALON Network and take active part in its meetings and activity

Since 2004 – constant participant of BioAcademy in Czech Republic

2005 Co-Founded and since that time – President of Organic Federation of Ukraine – the Ukrainian organic umbrella organization

2005 – Participated at IFOAM Organic World Congress and General Assembly in Adelaide, Australia.

2005 took part at the IFOAM Key persons meeting in Bonn

2006 – Participated as invited speaker at the Conference “Organic India 2006”

In 2005 and in 2007 I represented IFOAM at the Organic Conferences in Kyiv (Ukraine) and in Tbilisi (Georgia)

Since 2006 – I have initiated and I am involved in the management and preparation of the monthly newsletter of the Organic Federation of Ukraine, which is distributed among its members and other stakeholders in Ukraine and some other neighboring countries

Since 2007 – Member of the Organic working group in Ukrainian Ministry of Agriculture

2008 – Initiated holding the International Conference on the Organic sector development in Eastern/Central European and Central Asian countries in Kyiv, Ukraine, which is dated in April

May 2008 – invited speaker at Organic Marketing Forum in Warsaw, Poland.

The organic sector is strongly developing around the world with every year growing consumer demands for organic food especially in EU and North America. During last years, organic has picked up pace and will soon become an increasingly stronger stream in the countries of Central/Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union countries. The development of the last three years shows highest growth rates in these countries among all European countries, although absolute figures are still at low level.

This above Region is in the stage of further organic development and, as IFOAM’s mission – leading, uniting and assisting the organic movement in its full diversity; I believe that it’s already high time to speed up process of more deep integration and cooperation of these countries with all other Regions and countries. More attention of the Organic Movement to be paid on the more publicity on the scandals, connected with conventional products. All positive experience of organic sector development to be available and more shared among stakeholders around the Globe!

I can commit all my skills, energy and networks to IFOAM. I am able to prepare for and attend World Board meetings and to participate in the work of the World Board.

My E-Mail: ofu@organic.com.ua

Lamine Bara DIAO

Madam, Messier,

I wish to be an IFOAM World Board member for better combining my devotion for Organic Agriculture development.

Since 1996, I work in freelance, for the control of Organic Agriculture, in West Africa. Between 1996 and 2004, I realized inspections for Ecocert France / Ecocert International in the following countries: Senegal, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Bénin. So I did inspections Production, transformation (preparation), and export of fruit and vegetables, and others agricultural produces such as cotton, groundnut, ginger, and cocoa.

In April 2004, I stopped my full liking to work with Ecocert France / Ecocert International. Since November of the same year I work with Ecocert Belgium which becomes CERTISYS since 2007. New products such as the fonio *Digitaria exilis*, the hibiscus *Sabdariffa L* and Arabic gum were added to my experiences.

Since 2004, I am Lead Auditor of FLO-CERT and ISACert respectively for the Fairtrade according to FLO (Fairtrade Labelling Organisation) standard, and Eurepgap (which becomes Globalgap) standard for fresh fruits and vegetables.

I am certified international auditor of quality management system, by the IATCA / AFNOR France under the number: 0341-A3.

Since 1994 I sell my services according to rules of my country (Commercial Register N° 94 A 5574 - NINEA 0135427). My two spheres of activities which are intimate dependent are: 1) the international development near the organizations such as FAO, the World Bank, CBI, USAID, COLEACP, and; 2) the quality and the environmental management within the companies and small producers' organizations for a sustainable agriculture.

I am convinced that if I become member of IFOAM World Board, I will be able to combine devotion to a professionalism necessary in any action for sustainable development.

Agenda Point No. 15: Member motions I: Seeds and Patents

Motion 15.1: The GA instructs the World Board to develop a position paper on the use of organic seed and propagation materials in Organic Agriculture.

Rationale: There is a polarised debate on organic seeds, or rather the requirement of use of (certified) organic seeds in organic standards and regulations. Those in favour, cite arguments including:

- if there is no requirement for use of organic seed, commercial organic seed production will never be viable as most organic farmers will only demand such seed if it is mandatory
- Organic Agriculture should not be dependent on conventional farming for the production of seed, it threatens the integrity and credibility of organic farming
- Organic farmers can produce their own seeds and by that the seed is organic

Those against cite arguments such as:

- He requirement for organic seed threatens the diversity on organic farms as it limits the number of varieties that organic farmers can use, relegating the organic farmers to fewer varieties and diminished choices than conventional agriculture
- Own seed production and informal exchange of seeds is threatened when seeds have to be double certified, both as organic and as seed. The requirement for certified organic seeds thereby supports the take-over of the power of seeds from farmers by big corporations
- Many farmers can not grow their own seed and especially not get it certified as seed
- In addition, if the requirements for organic seeds would be joined with requirements for the use of so called organic varieties, the problems identified would be multiplied in severity.

Similar issues and debate apply to the use of some other propagating materials as well, e.g. grafting materials, cuttings and some plants. In some parts of the world it is still not possible even to get untreated seeds.

IFOAM needs to bring consensus, or at least an acceptable compromise on this issue. It is important that the debate is not limited to standards, but also considers the wider issues in the context of IFOAM's mission and the Principles of Organic Agriculture. The consultation, debate and consensus building process should offer guidance to IFOAM members in their daily work and lobbying activity to influence how organic standards and regulations are formed, including, but not limited to the IBS.

Submitter: Grolink, Sweden

Endorsing Members: GreenNet; Thailand; National Association of Ecological Producers of Peru (ANPE), Movimiento de Agricultura Organica Costarricense (MAOCO), Costa Rica

WB comment: IFOAM has done the following:

- Organized in 2004 the First World Conference on Organic Seed
- Published in 2007 the manual on gmo free regions to support amongst others gmo free seed multiplication http://shop.ifoam.org/bookstore/product_info.php?cPath=64_68_78&products_id=411
- Published a training manual on seed saving http://www.ifoam.org/organic_facts/farming/pages_FG/I-GOInformationResources/seed_tm_en.php
- Published a leaflet on seed diversity http://www.ifoam.org/organic_facts/benefits/pdfs/Seed_Leaflet.pdf
- At FAO our liaison officer is very active at the meetings of the treaty on plant genetic resources. In 2007 a side event was organized where several organic farmers and seed multipliers showed their work and linked organic to diversity. Basically she attends all the meetings on CBD and the treaty and makes statements on diversity, organic and seed. Look also at page 5 of http://www.ifoam.org/pdfs/E_and_F_42.pdf
- Is heavily engaged in organizing Planet Diversity www.planet-diversity.org, the huge side event during the CBD meeting in Bonn, May 2008
- Is in the planning phase of the Breeding conference, that will take place in 2009 in Santa Fe, New Mexico, with the close collaboration and support of Seeds of Change <http://www.seedsofchange.com/> The conference is also to cover animal breeding practices.

Motion 15.2: We demand the WB to establish a position paper on seeds and propagating material in Organic Agriculture that should be consistent with the following needs: Contributing to the sustainability of farming systems: the choice of a variety well adapted to the environmental, social, cultural and market conditions is paramount to improving the organic cultivation; Assuring the dynamic conservation of agrobiodiversity and its associated social and cultural value, including local varieties, farmers' varieties and old commercial varieties; Assuring the product and system integrity, in particular the absence of GMOs.

Rationale: Seeds and propagating material in Organic Agriculture should be consistent with the following needs:

- a. Contributing to the sustainability of farming systems: the choice of a variety well adapted to the environmental, social, cultural and market conditions is paramount to

improving the organic cultivation;

- b. Assuring the dynamic conservation of agrobiodiversity and its associated social and cultural value, including local varieties, farmers' varieties and old commercial varieties;
- c. Assuring the product and system integrity, in particular the absence of GMOs and contamination, and the fact that all the food chain is organic.

All the three needs should be equally achieved, but they have different importance according to the diverse farm conditions. Therefore maintaining all these values needs a double strategy. Small farmers, with a local food chain, should continue to use local varieties and ecotypes, even though they are not certified; in the other hand organic farmers using commercial varieties they have to adopt organic certified varieties.

We have to bear in mind that seed multipliers are farmers and if organic seed sector was a reality many of them could contribute to it with their specific knowledge and experience.

Finally, in the mid-long term organic sector has to implement projects and strategies to start organic breeding (using as raw material local varieties as well commercial). That breeding should include farmers in all the process (participatory plant breeding – PPB) and pay particular attention to the fair use of intellectual property rights, avoiding the corporate control of seed industry.”

Submitter: Associazione Italiana per L'Agricoltura Biologica (AIAB), Italy

WB comment: IFOAM has done the following:

- organized in 2004 the First World Conference on Organic Seed
- published in 2007 the manual on gmo free regions to support amongst others gmo free seed multiplication http://shop.ifoam.org/bookstore/product_info.php?cPath=64_68_78&products_id=411
- published a training manual on seed saving http://www.ifoam.org/organic_facts/farming/pages_FG/InformationResources/seed_tm_en.php
- published a leaflet on seed diversity http://www.ifoam.org/organic_facts/benefits/pdfs/Seed_Leaflet.pdf
- At FAO our liaison officer is very active at the meetings of the treaty on plant genetic resources. In 2007 a side event was organized where several organic farmers and seed multipliers showed their work and linked organic to diversity. Basically she attends all the meetings on CBD and the treaty and makes statements on diversity, organic and seed. Look also at page 5 of http://www.ifoam.org/pdfs/E_and_F_42.pdf
- is heavily engaged in organizing Planet Diversity www.planet-diversity.org, the huge side event during the CBD meeting in Bonn, May 2008

planet-diversity.org, the huge side event during the CBD meeting in Bonn, May 2008

- is in the planning phase of the Breeding conference, that will take place in 2009 in Santa Fe, New Mexico, with the close collaboration and support of Seeds of Change www.seedsofchange.com/ The conference is also to cover animal breeding practices.

Motion 15.3: To encourage the use of seeds within organic systems that are bred and maintained using open pollination and natural crossing techniques.

Rationale: Well maintained open pollinated varieties adapted to local conditions provide the best genetic foundation for an ecological agriculture. They can be saved and maintained on the farm where they are to be grown and help to reduce farmers' dependency on the major seed companies.

In the biodynamic movement a number of quite new, tasty and productive open pollinated varieties of vegetables and cereals have been developed. These thrive under organic conditions and adapt well to the local needs of specific farms.

A reliance on organically produced, well maintained, open pollinated seed will close the circle and advance the integrity of Organic Agriculture throughout the world. It will also encourage greater interest in the production of farm saved seeds and increase support for further organic plant breeding work.

Submitters: Biodynamic Agricultural Association, United Kingdom

WB comment: IFOAM is in the planning phase of the Breeding conference, that will take place in 2009 in Santa Fe, New Mexico, with the close collaboration and support of Seeds of Change. <http://www.seedsofchange.com/>

Motion 15.4: This Assembly requires of the WB the formulation of a clear IFOAM policy position prohibiting in principle the creation and the use of any Property Patents on Living Organisms particularly in plants and seeds in Organic Agriculture, these being a threat to BioDiversity.

Rationale: IFOAM has supported some initiatives against patents on living organisms and signed the Global Appeal [of 19..?] against patents on seeds. IFOAM approved in 2005 the Principles of Organic Agriculture, which clearly support the idea of closing the cycles on the farm and support Social Equity in Organic Production Systems. They also consider the right of farmers to choose the technologies to be used in organic farming and the need to share economic and other benefits between all involved.

IFOAM supported the case against the Neem Patent at the European Patent Office, which was finally successful in 2005.

But no clear internal policies and standards have been approved that would prohibit patented living organisms in Organic Agriculture.

Submitters: Spanish Society for Organic Farming (SEAE), Spain

Endorsing member: Fédération Nationale d'Agriculture Biologique des Régions de France (FNAB), France

WB comment:

- The Principles of Organic Agriculture exclude patents on life.
- IFOAM signed on to the Treaty Initiative to Share the Genetic Commons (WB term 2000 – 2002).
- IFOAM challenged successfully the patent on neem.
- IFOAM signed on to the 'no patents on life campaign' in 2006, asking our members to do the same.
- IFOAM supported the Biosafety Network in South Africa by providing the complete overview of the neem case, including all juridical arguments, for their case on a landrace that was patented (unfortunately they lost).

Agenda Point No. 16: WB Election

The GA elects the new World Board. The voting procedure will be presented, see also Rules of Procedure, Agenda Point No.5, page 7.

According to § 10 of the GA Rules of Procedure in the first WB election round each member may vote for a maximum of 10 candidates. Any vote that is rendered for less than 5 candidates is void.

Elected are the first 10 candidates who have received more than half of the votes of the electing members.

If not all positions are filled in the first round a second ballot is taken for the remaining positions.

Agenda Point No. 17: IFOAM Program 2011 Recommendations from the Monday break out sessions

The rapporteurs from the 6 IFOAM Program 2011 break out sessions will present the outcome of the process to the plenary. The plenary will vote upon recommendations formulated through the consensus process of each group. The new World Board will consider the recommendations and report back to the next General Assembly.

Agenda Point No. 18: Approval of budget 2009-2011

The outgoing World Board has developed the strategic plan and budget for the coming years. It is understood that the newly elected World Board will work with the budgets as decided by the GA, but will adapt them as required.

The I-GO funding, which has supported many IFOAM activities and institutional costs, will end in December 2008 and other sources of income will have to replace this funding. IFOAM will continue to develop areas like conference and event management and other services. It will also continue to use the policy on cooperation to engage with members and partner organizations in projects, but with the intention to reduce our dependence on project funding over time; which is reflected in the reduction in project income starting in 2011. Project funding will be increasingly focused on supporting the core activities of IFOAM.

Other areas of development for income sources for the future lie in income from the Organic World Foundation and income from Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programs. A policy on cooperating with company CSR programs will expand our ability to work with companies looking to support the Principles of Organic Agriculture to benefit both IFOAM as well as their own CSR needs. Additionally, IFOAM is looking for ways to fund the norms maintenance and development of the IFOAM accreditation program(s).

In order to run a professional organization with satisfactory results, IFOAM must strengthen its human resources. Starting already in 2008, the budget plans for staff standard of living salary raises at a minimum (which have not been possible in recent years) if not higher. Staff training is budgeted for and will be used to ensure that staff has the capacity to perform their duties with both personal and operational satisfaction. Additionally, in years 2010 and 2011 slight increases in staff numbers are planned. The staff restructuring and staff turnover in 2007 and 2008 has optimized the recruiting of new staff.

As of December 2007, IFOAM is no longer the employer of IFOAM EU Group staff and therefore the staff salaries as well as the reimbursement figures have been adjusted accordingly, which allows the budget to present a more accurate figure of IFOAM's financial planning.

Although the WB recognizes the need to remunerate WB members for their involvement this is still not foreseen in the immediate future.

The purpose of the Head Office restructuring is to position IFOAM for focusing on its advocacy work and creating the structure to effectively communicate both internally (e.g. membership, internal bodies) and externally (e.g. potential members, governments, organic movement at large, media). This will make IFOAM's many accomplishments more visible and pertinent and allows it to better leverage its strengths. This new structure will allow IFOAM to engage actively in marketing and public relations, besides improving the services provided to its members and capacity to attract new members. With one consistent and strong voice, IFOAM's message will be far reaching, increasing IFOAM's ability to spread its advocacy work and be better positioned to secure sustainable revenue streams.

Motion from the World Board:

The General Assembly approves the IFOAM budget proposal for 2009, 2010 and 2011 as published in IFOAM In Action # 97, April 2008.

Tables: Budget 2008 (WB revision, for information) and Budgets 2009 to 2011 (for decision)

INCOME	for information	for decision		
	2008 Revised WB Budget	2009 GA Budget	2010 GA Budget	2011 GA Budget
Fees				
Members	265	273	287	310
Associates	32	33	35	37
Supporters	8	8	10	12
Registration fees	3	3	3	3
Sub-total Fees...	308	317	334	362
Donations, Grants and Foundation				
Donations	45	55	60	85
Grants	--	--	25	75
Corporate Social Responsibility Program	--	50	70	100
Foundation	--	10	40	100
Sub-total Donations, Grants and Foundation...	45	115	195	360
Office				
Reimbursements	31	32	33	34
Interest income, exchange gains	10	8	8	8
Miscellaneous	10	10	10	10
Sub-total Office...	51	50	51	52
Services				
Conferences & Events, GA	183	293	293	210
Patronage	35	35	35	35
Honoraria	10	12	15	25
Advertisements in publications and Web	35	35	40	55
Sale of books and magazines	25	30	32	37
Family of Standards	2	2	2	3
IFOAM Accreditation Programs	--	17	17	17
Sub-total Services...	290	424	434	382
Project salaries, overheads and income from services				
IGO (staff and services)	185	--	--	--
IAO (staff and services)	65	15	15	65
IAO	16	16	16	16
OGS Revision (end 2009 by ICCO)/Best practices (2010-2011)	60	60	25	50
IFAD II	20	20	--	--
OSEA II	81	81	81	--
ITF	57	15	15	--
BioFach Africa Pavillion	0	--	--	--
CFC	32	30	14	--
RSF	--	--	--	--
- Fundraising grant 25TS	--	--	--	--
- Project 1	1	--	--	--
- Project 2	3	--	--	--
EU Project	8	--	--	--
ISEAL	--	--	--	--
Group Certification	2	6	--	--
LA Representation Office	--	30	30	30
China Representation Office	--	30	30	30
Rome FAO/IFAD Liaison Office	25	50	50	50
Other projects	--	200	250	250
Sub-total project salaries, services and overheads...	555	553	526	491
Projects In - 100% balanced by Projects Out...	700	600	600	500
TOTAL INCOME...	1,949	2,059	2,140	2,147

EXPENSES	for information	for decision		
	2008 Revised WB Budget	2009 GA Budget	2010 GA Budget	2011 GA Budget
Staff				
Salaries	713	794	826	962
Travel	10	12	15	20
Training	10	10	10	15
Sub-total Staff...	733	816	851	997
Office				
Rent HeadOffice, Rome office	34	36	38	40
Postage	13	15	15	17
Telecommunication	12	12	13	14
Office supplies	18	20	22	30
Consultancies and audit	68	37	27	37
Representation	10	10	10	15
Depreciation	10	10	10	10
Loss of claims	1	1	1	1
Bank charges, exchange loss	10	11	12	13
Miscellaneous	11	11	11	11
Sub-total Office...	187	163	159	188
Services				
Conferences & Events, GA (travel, accommodation, food, etc.)	93	270	290	100
Patronage (travel, accommodation, food, etc.)	13	13	13	13
Honoraria (travel, honoraria, etc.)	9	9	9	15
Directory and Ecology and Farming, printing, layout + editing	20	15	20	30
Other publications, printing, layout + editing	10	10	15	25
Public Relations & Corporate Identity	10	15	20	35
Sub-total Services...	155	332	367	218
Internal Structures				
World Board Meetings	25	38	38	42
Executive Board Meetings	8	11	11	15
NMC (SC/CC)	20	20	26	30
Other committees and task forces	0	0	0	10
Member meetings and campaigns	5	5	8	10
Remuneration	0	0	0	0
Sub-total Internal Structures...	58	74	83	107
Other expenses				
NGO membership	7	7	8	9
Fundraising	25	20	30	30
Foundation registration	32	--	--	--
Sub-total Other...	64	27	38	39
Projects Out - 100% balanced by Projects In...	700	600	600	500
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,897	2,012	2,098	2,049
TOTAL INCOME	1,949	2,059	2,140	2,147
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	52	47	42	98

Agenda Point No. 19: WB Election (Second Round)

According to the GA Rules of Procedure § 10 – see page 9 – a second election round is required for the case that in the first WB election round less than 10 candidates have received more than half of the votes of the electing members.

If not all positions are filled in the first round a second ballot is taken for the remaining positions. The maximum number of votes for candidates cast by each voter shall equal the number of seats. Candidates who have received the most votes in this ballot are elected to fill the remaining positions.

Any vote that is rendered for less than 50% of the open seats is void.

Agenda Point No. 20: Member motions II: Organic Guarantee System, IFOAM Basic Standards, Organic Integrity

Motion 20.1: The GA instructs the World Board to maintain the IFOAM Accreditation Program, based on the IFOAM Basic Standards and the existing IFOAM Accreditation Criteria, and provided by the IOAS, as a Best Practice program.

Rationale: There is a need for a tool to promote continuous improvement in the organic sector. The IAP allows not only certifiers, but also farmers and processors who want to improve their practices, to work towards or to attain a global best practice standard. When they can demonstrate compliance with the best practice level, they should be recognized in the market with a distinction of excellence.

Submitter: Agro Eco, The Netherlands

WB comment: The OGS is under revision according to the decision of the 2005 GA. This motion would reverse the GA decision and ongoing process.

Motion 20.2: That this assembly asserts our rights as a farmer-scientist-consumer partnership to regain control of technical standard-setting from the hands of government regulators and, in so doing, liberate the Standards Committee from its current constraint, as ordered by the WB, so that it can pursue an unfettered, transparent and independent consultation with the IFOAM membership, redeveloping the technical standards that are the historic hallmark of IFOAM.

Rationale: not submitted.

Submitter: National Association for Sustainable Agriculture Australia (NAASA), Australia

Endorsing member: FNAB, France, FiBL, Switzerland

WB comment: The motion and its consequences are unclear and may contradict the IFOAM statutes.

Motion 20.3: That this assembly recognize that Organic practices that have shaped our sector are at risk of collapsing under the current WB leadership which insists on the abandonment of strong standard-setting in favour of the uncertain pursuit of harmonization.

Rationale: not submitted.

Submitter: National Association for Sustainable Agriculture Australia (NAASA), Australia

Endorsing Member: FNAB, France

WB comment: The 2005 GA decided to revise the OGS to fulfill several specific objectives including both access and integrity, and in addition to create a system for best practices. The WB has been following the GA decisions.

Motion 20.4: That this assembly of the IFOAM membership direct the WB to amend its focus on harmonization as its principle pursuit and instead re-establish IFOAM as a leader in technical standard-setting and, in so doing, recapture IFOAM's important role in shaping the nature of Organic Agriculture.

Rationale: not submitted.

Submitter: National Association for Sustainable Agriculture Australia (NAASA), Australia

Endorsing Members: FNAB, France,

WB comment: The 2005 GA decided to revise the OGS to fulfill several specific objectives including both access and integrity, and in addition to create a system for best practices. The WB has been following the GA decisions and will continue to work with the membership on best practice. Please also see the Program 2011, Goal 2.

Motion 20.5: This Assembly expects the "IFOAM Basic Standards" to be maintained, protected, developed and regularly revised, as they are IFOAM's identity, allowing clear distinction of the Organic Method from non-organic methods.

Rationale: not submitted.

Submitter: Fédération Nationale d'Agriculture Biologique des Régions de France (FNAB), France

Endorsing Members: Forschungsinstitut für Biologischen Landbau (FiBL), Switzerland; AgroEco, The Netherlands

WB comment: The 2005 GA decided to revise the OGS to fulfill several specific objectives including both access and integrity, and in addition to create a system for best practices. The IFOAM Basic Standards are being revised according to the objectives established for the revised Organic Guarantee System.

Motion 20.6: That this assembly require recommendations and draft standards to be retained in the Basic Standards as indication of those areas, where further development is necessary or in progress. The function of the Basic Standards as guidance document should be kept. The actual IBS structure with “aims”, “recommendations” and “minimum standards” perfectly allows “guidance” on the one hand and “reflection” of current practices on the other hand. This allows a balanced approach as between facilitating market access and protecting integrity. Over many years, the “draft standards” enabled the accredited certifiers as well as the member organisations to adapt their standards on a middle-term basis. The proposed structure for “Benchmark standards” do not allow for a concept of development in such areas as social accountability or energy/natural resources/climate.

This assembly asks therefore for the IFOAM World Board to maintain and further develop the existing instruments.

Rationale: not submitted.

Submitter: Forschungsinstitut für Biologischen Landbau (FiBL), Switzerland

Endorsing members: FNAB, France

WB comment: The 2005 GA decided to revise the OGS to fulfill several specific objectives including both access and integrity, and in addition to create a system for best practices. The recommendations in the current IBS and the draft standards will each have their optimal place in the system, and there should be flexibility for placing them rather than a GA decision to lock them into a specific format.

Motion 20.7: This assembly wishes the final political (not technical) decisions on the various complete or partial revisions of the “IFOAM Basic standards” to be submitted to this assembly.

Rationale: not submitted.

Submitter: Fédération Nationale d'Agriculture Biologique des Régions de France (FNAB), France

WB comment: no comment

Motion 20.8: The IFOAM Benchmark for Standards must be, at a minimum, compliant with the Codex Alimentarius Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods.

Rationale:

The goals of the IFOAM Organic Guarantee System are to unite the organic world through a common system of standards, verification, and market identity. In order to unite the organic world IFOAM needs to recognize the organic regulatory systems that are accepted in the marketplace. The IFOAM Benchmark for Standards should provide a clear distinction between organic and conventional agriculture and be aligned with the major existing organic standards around the world including Codex Alimentarius, the European Union's organic standards and the US National Organic Standard.

Submitter: Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA), USA

WB comment: The IFOAM and Codex norms are two different processes – private and government – although in the revision IFOAM is taking Codex into account. However, to require compliance in all respects with Codex Organic Guidelines.

Motion 20.9: The Accredited Certification Bodies call for the IFOAM membership to reject the proposed benchmark for standards, as written.

Rationale:

1) The 2nd draft does not adequately address the vague nature of the 1st draft and remains a grossly deficient document. Besides being vague, fundamentally the document represents a low floor (baseline) rather than a goal or a ceiling. The document should inspire organic practices to improve in key areas such as social standards and biodiversity.

2) The ACBs understand the political purpose behind the document, however the proposed benchmark will not be useful for equivalency. The standards are too general and allow for such broad interpretation that CBs are unlikely to recognize each other's certification on the basis of this document.

3) The benchmark is too vague to allow for meaningful, verifiable standards to be set by the certification body and

in turn objectively assessed by an accreditation body.

4) Even for current ACBs, the gaps in the benchmark will provide no assurance for ongoing mutual recognition and will damage, if not destroy, the basis for the MLA.

5) The second draft as a major component of the OGS revision will cause the influence of the private sector to be lost and encourages government regulation to become the de facto leader of the organic movement, as the strong reference point once provided by the IBS retreats into the background. IFOAM has historically guided government – indirectly – through the Codex guidelines and this influence will be lost.

The ACBs support the development of an IBS that provides a benchmark, which is at least equivalent to Codex and provides for market access in major importing countries (US, EU, Japan). The benchmark should align with those standards that are common amongst the major importing countries as specified in the 2005 IBS.

Submitter: International Certification Services Inc. dba Farm Verified Organic, USA

Endorsing Members: IFOAM Accredited Certifier Members (ACBs)

WB comment: This motion contradicts our standard settings process according to policy 20 as well as the code of good standard setting.

The restructured document supports the objectives of the revised OGS to open the system while upholding organic integrity. The WB has decided that there is a need for another round of comments.

Motion 20.10: IFOAM and the World Board will renew their dedication to maintain the high bar set by the IFOAM Basic Standards and work energetically for organic integrity around the world.

Rationale: The rapid growth of organic markets presents great opportunities and serious challenges to the integrity of Organic Agriculture.

Submitter: Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA), USA

Endorsing Members: Florida Organic Growers (FOG), USA

WB comment: The 2005 GA decided to revise the OGS to fulfill several specific objectives including both access and integrity, and in addition to create a system for best practices. There is no disruption of IFOAM's work towards excellence in organic practices and organic integrity throughout the world.

Motion 20.11: The GA instructs the WB to work intensively with the IOAS and others in the movement who are taking initiatives that address threats to organic integrity.

Rationale: The integrity part of the Revision motion voted upon at the Adelaide GA has not received enough attention. There is increasing concern about the integrity and the consequent credibility of organic labeling, especially in fast growing markets. The occurrence of irregularities and frauds seriously undermines the image and growth of the organic sector and the trust in organic integrity by the consumer. Some work has been done, much more work remains to be done. IFOAM is the global platform from which to address such threats.

Submitter: Agro Eco, The Netherlands

WB comment: The WB works intensively and continuously with its subsidiary company (the IOAS) on the OGS and other topics related to organic integrity. It is important for the WB and Head Office to maintain flexibility to decide its operational commitments and activities within the available financial resources.

Agenda Point No. 21: Announcement new WB

The newly elected WB members will come to the stage and present themselves jointly to the members.

Agenda Point No. 22: Announcement of new EB

The EB has been elected by the WB. The new EB will be announced to the members.

Agenda Point No. 23: Approval of statutes

As informed in IFOAM In Action # 94, June 2007, the WB could not implement the change of the statutes purpose (preamble and §2) as approved by the GA 2005 due to legal requirements in regard to IFOAM's non-profit status in Germany. In addition the proposed new statutes include a paragraph regulating ballot voting (§5).

Statutes

of an international federation that joins the efforts of its members to further Organic Agriculture as an ecologically, socially and economically sound and sustainable system of farming.

to promote throughout the world the production of high quality food sufficient to feed all people, while protecting the soils and enhancing their fertility, as well as minimising environmental pollution and the use of non-renewable natural resources,

1. Name, Seat, Language

The name of the federation is "IFOAM - International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements". It is registered in Bonn, Germany and carries in Germany the indication "eingetragener Verein," abbreviated "e.V.," after the name. The seat of the federation is situated in Bonn, Germany.

The official language of the federation is English, except in dealings with German authorities, in which case it is German.

2. Statutory Purposes

The purpose of the federation is to protect **humankind**, nature and the environment by promoting Organic Agriculture.

~~The federation is leading, uniting and assisting the organic movement in its full diversity. Its goal is the worldwide adoption of ecologically, socially and economically sound systems that are based on the principles of Organic Agriculture. IFOAM promotes throughout the world the production of high quality food sufficient to feed all people, while protecting the soils and enhancing their fertility, as well as minimizing environmental pollution and the use of non-renewable natural resources.~~

Toward this end the Federation may provide, for example, for the exchange of knowledge and ideas among its members, the information of the public, representation in parliamentary and administrative rule-making, the development and permanent revision of Standards for Production, Processing and Trading Standards. It may for that purpose support global and transnational regional co-operative efforts and develop a common generic logo to be used by IFOAM-accredited certifying organisations.

The Federation pursues the public interest solely and directly. Its activities are benevolent only. It does not engage in activities primarily intended to accumulate capital. Its funds must be used exclusively for statutory purposes. Its members may not benefit from payments by the Federation, which are not covered by the scope of its purpose, or from payments which are disproportional.

3. Affiliation

There are three categories of affiliation with the Federation: member (with voting right), associate and supporter (without voting right).

Affiliation as member or associate is open to organisations including but not limited to farmers, producers, processors, traders and consumers as well as to those engaged in research, education, training, consulting, certifying, promoting and advocacy.

All members and associates must actively pursue the Federation's objectives. The activities of members must be predominantly consistent with the statutory purposes and standards of the Federation. Members must be prepared to provide proof of compliance with the membership requirements.

Organisations which do not meet the activities requirements for members may affiliate as associates. Individuals may affiliate as supporters. The Board decides upon admission of members and associates. It may expel affiliates that act against the Federation's objectives or interests. Affiliates may cancel their membership by means of a written statement.

All disputes between IFOAM and its affiliates related to affiliation status which may occur in the context of these statutes or with reference to their validity will be finally decided upon, without the possibility of recourse to legal action, according to the arbitration rules of the German Institution for Courts of Arbitration (DIS) which form an essential part of these statutes.

Place of the arbitration process is Bonn, Germany; the court of arbitration is formed by one single arbitrator; the substantive law to be applied is German law; the language of the arbitration process is English.

4. Organs

The Federation's organs are the General Assembly, the World Board and the Executive Board. The Executive Director carries out their decisions.

5. General Assembly

A regular General Assembly is held every three years. It is announced in writing by the World Board. On the written request of 25 % of the members or the World Board an extraordinary General Assembly is called.

General Assemblies must be announced three months in advance.

The General Assembly elects a Chair. Decisions of the General Assembly are recorded in Minutes, which are signed by one member of the Executive Board, who was present at the GA. The refereed minutes shall be sent to each affiliate.

The quorum shall be established by at least 25 per cent of the members represented at the opening of the General Assembly. In case the General Assembly will not meet the established quorum of 25 per cent a call for a second General Assembly (subsequent assembly) with identical agenda has to be sent out together with the call for the General Assembly (primary assembly). No quorum will be required for the subsequent assembly. The subsequent assembly may take place one hour after and at the same place of the primary assembly. The simultaneous call for the subsequent assembly has to explicitly clarify that the subsequent assembly will have a quorum independent from the number of members represented.

The General Assembly votes by simple majority. Members have one vote each. Representatives have to prove their authorisation and the payment of their membership fee on request. If they cannot do so, they may not vote. Voting is open or by secret ballot, if so requested by one member. Votes by written proxy are permitted, but restricted to a total

of five votes per person.

IFOAM members and the World Board may submit motions to the General Assembly. Motions from members must be proposed to the World Board at least 120 days before the session of the General Assembly. Motions must be sent out at least 60 days before the session of the General Assembly. Motions from the floor may only amend the aforementioned motions. Adopted motions must be implemented. Once adopted, the content of a motion can only be changed by a new motion at the next General Assembly.

The GA or the WB may decide that GA votes may be executed in writing and may be transmitted electronically; this includes votes for the election of an officer or board member. Votes may be cast in person, by mail, by fax, by email or by using an internet portal. The Executive Board shall appoint a natural person to carry out the voting procedure. This person shall also convey the voting results to the voting members in a suitable form. Voting members shall receive the ballot as well as information about the deadline, address and method for submitting the votes at least 30 working days before the deadline for casting the votes. Ballots sent by air mail are considered received 4 days after depositing it with the postal system. To consider: A vote is considered cast on the day it is delivered personally, deposited with the postal system as airmail, or sent electronically.

6. Elections

Every regular General Assembly elects ten World Board members. Candidacies must be received at least three months before the regular General Assembly and must be endorsed by five members. A presentation of the candidates must be sent to the members at least 60 days before the General Assembly.

The World Board chooses an Executive Board (see § 8) from amongst the elected members before the end of the General Assembly. The World Board may co-opt up to three further World Board members. The World Board may elect additional Executive Board members and replace them as appropriate during the term.

7. World Board

The World Board decides all issues not yet determined by the General Assembly. The World Board establishes rules of procedure for the World and Executive Board and the General Assembly, which are to be approved by the General Assembly. The World Board may set up Working Groups, Committees, and regional or thematic task groups. It may also delegate specific tasks to such bodies or to individuals. The World Board takes decisions by simple majority with at

least half of the members present and by open vote. On the request of three World Board members a meeting is called with six weeks notice.

8. Executive Board

The Executive Board is constituted by three members of the World Board: The President and two Vice-Presidents. The Executive Board represents the Federation, executes the decisions of the General Assembly and World Board, decides on issues not yet decided upon by the General Assembly or the World Board, reviews the organisation performance and initiates the remedy of short-comings. Executive Board decisions are taken by simple majority with at least half of the members present and by open vote; IFOAM is legally represented by two members of the Executive Board acting jointly.

9. Executive Director

The World Board may appoint an Executive Director (ED), and may install an office, which executes the decisions of the Federation's organs under guidance by the Executive and the World Board.

10. Amendments, Modifications

The World Board may unanimously pass provisional amendments of these statutes that remain in force until the relative decision is taken by the next General Assembly. Any such amendments have to be made known to all members at least three months before they are implemented. Any modification of the statutes proposed by the World Board should be sent to the members not less than two months before the next General Assembly. A majority of two-thirds of the votes given is required to amend the Statutes.

11. Finances

Affiliation fees are fixed by the General Assembly. The World Board submits a financial report covering the period since the preceding General Assembly to every regular General Assembly. This report is to be approved by an auditor installed by the World Board. The members of the World Board are not personally liable for the Federation's debts. A budget covering the period until the next General Assembly is to be submitted to the General Assembly by the World Board for approval.

When the Federation is terminated its remaining assets shall be transferred to a public interest organization (Körperschaft des öffentlichen Rechts) or to another tax exempted organization in Germany, to be used for tax-deductible purposes specified in these Statutes.

*Approved by the General Assembly in Adelaide, Australia, September 2005
Latest amended by the World Board in September 2006, Kutztown, USA
To be presented to the GA 2008, Vignola*

Motion from the World Board:

The General Assembly approves the "IFOAM Statutes" as published in IFOAM In Action # 97, April 2008.

Agenda Point No. 24: Approval of Terms of Reference for the IFOAM Internal Auditors

In coordination with the 2005 - 2007 Internal Auditors the World Board has completely revised the Terms of Reference (former mandate) for the Internal Auditors during this past term.

Terms of Reference for IFOAM's Internal Audit

1. Purpose

The IFOAM General Assembly (GA) in Budapest 1990 appointed two Internal Auditors with the objective to "review the financial reports of the treasurer and give their statement to the next GA."

The main objective of the Internal Audit is to assess whether the motions and recommendations of the previous GA have been carried out and whether the activities developed & implemented by the World Board and Head Office have been in accordance with IFOAM's goals and objectives as mentioned in IFOAM statutes and the program for the respective term.

The service of the Internal Auditors is understood as complementary to the service of the external auditors

(currently PricewaterhouseCoopers-PwC). The latter audit IFOAM financial statements and bookkeeping system in regard to its completeness, integrity and in accordance to legal requirements. PwC does not audit the relevance or effectiveness of activities undertaken by the World Board or Head Office.

2. Duties

The tasks of the Internal Auditors include:

2.1 to evaluate IFOAM's activities of the term as being in accordance with the decision approved by the previous GA. There are two different categories of GA decisions to be taken into account:

Motions: IFOAM statutes § 5 define what a motion is:

“IFOAM members and the World Board may submit motions to the General Assembly. Motions from members must be proposed to the World Board at least 120 days before the session of the General Assembly. Motions must be sent out at least 60 days before the session of the General Assembly. Motions from the floor may only amend the aforementioned motions. Adopted motions must be implemented. Once adopted, the content of a motion can only be changed by a new motion at the next General Assembly.”

Recommendations: The Rules of Procedures of the GA provide the members present at the GA with the opportunity to guide the World Board with the recommendation process as follows (§ 9)

“9.1 Recommendations shall be presented to the GA in written form. All recommendations are based on a consensus process the procedures for which shall be made clear to the membership at the beginning of the GA. A recommendation must get a majority vote to be accepted. The recommendations are included in the minutes. The World Board reports to the following General Assembly what actions or considerations it has made related to the recommendations.”

2.2 to evaluate IFOAM's activities against the program goals and objectives as developed by the World Board (WB) for the respective three year period between GAs.

2.3 to evaluate the budget and financial management for the respective three year period against the respective budget as approved by the GA. The Internal Auditors shall focus their evaluation on:

- a. whether the decisions made to adjust expenditures considered priority program activities as presented to the GA.
- b. the expenditures sufficiently and effectively supported program activities undertaken.

c. expenditures were managed in a way that used funds efficiently.

2.4 to communicate the results of their findings and appropriate recommendations to the WB in a written report latest 30 days after each audit.

2.5 to present a compiled written report of findings and recommendations to the GA (compiled of annual Internal Auditors reports, in case there is more than one audit per term). The report shall be an agenda topic of the next GA directly following the topic “WB report”.

2.6 The IFOAM WB and HO/ED shall be given the opportunity to provide comments and additional information on the report(s) and recommendation(s) as of 2.4 and 2.5 latest until one week after the EB/WB meeting following the submission of the report. It is to the discretion of the Internal Auditors to incorporate the comments and additional information.

The WB can submit a separate document to the GA commenting on the Internal Auditors report.

3. Accountability

The Internal Auditors are accountable to the GA. The Internal Auditors report to the GA is addressing the membership and is published in the IFOAM In Action newsletter before the GA. At least one Internal Auditor shall be present at the GA to present the report and recommendations. In case none of the Internal Auditors can attend the GA they are responsible to appoint a replacement for reporting in cooperation with IFOAM.

4. Qualifications

The Internal Auditor is

- 4.1 a person working for/related to a member of IFOAM
- 4.2 fluent in English
- 4.3 skilled in writing reports
- 4.4 experienced in the evaluation of organizations

and preferably

- 4.5 familiar with IFOAM's structures and work programs
- 4.6 experienced in project management and evaluation

Like for all IFOAM structures and functions a regional and gender balance should be considered. However, budget implications in regard to the personal meetings to be held in the Head Office (HO) should also be considered.

5. Appointment procedure

The WB proposes two candidates for the two Internal Auditor positions.

Nominations shall be handled as a motion following the rules for GA motions as laid down in the Rules of Procedure of the IFOAM GA.

The IFOAM GA appoints two Internal Auditors for the term until the next GA.

6. Internal Auditors meetings with the HO management

The HO provides all necessary information the Internal Auditors request.

The frequency of Internal Auditors meetings with the HO management should be at least once a term between two GAs up to once a year. In the case the frequency of visits and reports is once a year the World Board is given the opportunity to use the findings of the Internal Auditors for improvements during the term.

Meeting dates are determined between the Internal Auditors and the ED at the beginning of each term.

The travel and accommodation expenses for the Internal Auditors to visit the HO are covered by IFOAM. Working time will not be reimbursed since it is a voluntary assignment.

7. Confidentiality

When starting their assignment the Internal Auditors sign a confidentiality agreement with IFOAM.

First Internal Auditor mandate approved by the WB 2002-05-06, Victoria, Canada. Completely revised ToR, approved by the EB, 2007-08-10

Motion from the World Board:

The General Assembly approves the Terms of Reference for IFOAM Internal Auditors as published in IFOAM In Action # 97, April 2008.

Agenda Point No. 25: Appointment of Internal Auditors

Motion from the World Board:

The General Assembly appoints Eva Mattsson, Grolink, Sweden and Frank Rumpe, Russia/Switzerland as Internal Auditors for the term from 2008 until 2010.

Agenda Point No. 26: Member motions III: Plant Breeding and Propagation, Shrimp in Organic Agriculture

Motion 26.1: All seed varieties (including propagation material or young plants) derived from protoplast/cytoplasm fusion breeding techniques are excluded from cultivation on organic farms.

Rationale: Protoplast/cytoplasm fusion is a patented, genetic engineering (GM) technique (it falls under the EU definition of genetically modified organism (GMO)), but is not labelled as such. The organic movement may lose credibility if this breeding technique is not specifically prohibited. It would also leave the door open to other (novel) GM-techniques that might also fall out of the GM-labelling category.

The CMS technique violates the integrity of life since it creates cells without cell walls, no cell nucleus and interferes with the coherence of the cell as the basic entity of organised life. It also violates the genetic integrity of plants by forcing, through protoplast fusion techniques, the crossing of natural barriers. The technique is applied particularly in cabbage breeding, (but also in other species) in order to create cytoplasmic sterile lines (CMS) from which to create hybrids. In some species CMS occurs naturally (e.g. onion, carrot), however, not in cabbage. To obtain CMS lines in cabbage the CMS trait from radish (*Raphanus sativus*) is forced into cabbage (*Brassica oleracea*) through cytoplasm fusion. This cannot occur naturally since they belong to different non-crossable species within the same family (Brassicaceae). See also sunflower CMS cells fused with chicory.

At present several non CMS hybrid cabbage varieties based on 'self incompatibility' are still on the market. Without a clear worldwide signal from the organic movement those varieties will gradually disappear and be replaced by new CMS hybrids. We therefore urge the organic sector to make clear that breeding methods which go beyond the organised cell level have no place in organic plant breeding and seed production.

It would be a great help to the organic sector if the IFOAM definition on Genetic Engineering expressly includes not only cell fusion but the methods of protoplast and cytoplasm fusion as well!

Submitter: European Consortium for Organic Plant Breeding (ECO-PB), The Netherlands

Endorsing Members: Foreningen for Biodynamisk Jordbrug, Denmark; Biodynamic Agricultural Association, United Kingdom; Urtekram A/S, Denmark, Veräin fir biologesch-dynamesch Landwirtschaft asbl. (Demeter-Bond Lëtzebuerg), Luxembourg; Association of Bio-Dynamic Plant Breeders eV (ABDP), Germany, Bio Dynamic Farming & Gardening

Association in New Zealand; Demeter International, Germany; Forschungsring e. V., Germany; Demeter e. V., Germany.

WB comment: This motion is a request for new work in the standards. There is a specific policy and procedure for changing the standards which was approved by a vote of IFOAM members in September, 2007. Therefore the WB recommends to the GA to direct that the motion should follow Policy 20 for revision of the IFOAM Norms, and not to take up the technical discussion at the GA.

Motion 26.2: Complete work on the draft plant breeding standards as soon as possible with the view of adopting them as IFOAM (certification) standards at next IFOAM GA.

Rationale: In the current version of the final draft of the IBS in chapter 4 “Crop production” it reads “The objective is to ensure that organic practices are implemented along the entire production chain from propagation to final product including the production of seed and propagation materials”.

We agree with this objective but want to ensure that the breeding process is included along with the production of seed and propagation material. Such has already been made explicit in the IBS with respect to breeding under animal production (see 5.2) and under aqua production see 6.2) by stating that: “Only breeding techniques consistent with organic production methods are used.” Such a statement is missing for crop production!

Organic plant breeding has long been an essential part of organic farming. Because of this we consider that IFOAM must now give clear guidance regarding the nature of organic plant breeding. It would otherwise be in danger of leaving the door open to all manner of inappropriate claims regarding the term, organic plant breeding. To make a public statement on organic plant breeding methods, it is vital that the current draft standards on plant breeding become full standards as soon as possible.

We would like to offer our expertise within the ECO-PB network to assist IFOAM in refining standards for organic plant breeding and adapting them to the IBS framework (maybe as certification standards) over the coming year in time for the next IFOAM GA. But regardless of the need for refinement we now demand that in the meanwhile these draft standards stay published to feed the awareness that IFOAM is working on full standards.

Submitter: European Consortium for Organic Plant Breeding (ECO-PB), The Netherlands

Endorsing Members: Foreningen for Biodynamisk Jordbrug, Denmark, Biodynamic Agricultural Association, United Kingdom; Urtekram A/S, Denmark; Veräin fir biologesch-

dynamesch Landwirtschaft asbl. (Demeter-Bond Lëtzebuerg), Luxembourg; Association of Bio-Dynamic Plant Breeders eV (ABDP), Germany; Bio Dynamic Farming & Gardening Association in New Zealand; Demeter International, Germany; Forschungsring e. V., Germany; Demeter e. V., Germany.

WB comment: The plant breeding draft standard is still in the system and has not been forgotten. However, it has been a priority to implement the decision of the 2005 GA for comprehensive revision of the IFOAM Organic Guarantee System, including a restructuring of the IFOAM Basic Standards. It is important to wait until we have this revision finished before placing new items into it; otherwise they may not fit the revised system. The WB assures the GA that the plant breeding draft standards will be taken up again and finished at an appropriate point.

Motion 26.3: We ask for a moratorium to certification of tropical shrimp until an independent study has been undertaken to determine the means to transform shrimp aquaculture into an activity which is equitable and ecologically compatible with the principles of sustainable development and the Principles of IFOAM. The study should determine the basis on which a socially equitable and environmentally sound aquaculture activity can be built including a serious consultative process with affected communities and organisations that are working on both the environmental and human rights aspects relating to tropical shrimp farming. If such study for any reason cannot be undertaken, we instead ask for an urgent standard revision of exclude tropical farmed shrimp from the aquaculture standard.

Rationale: The tropical mangrove forests is one of the most productive ecosystems in the world, being nurseries for fish, shrimps and other creatures. Moreover, the mangrove belt protects the coast and people living there against floods, tsunamis and erosion. Millions of people depend on the mangrove forests and the intertidal area for their livelihood. Unfortunately, the mangrove is disappearing at an alarming rate and one of the main reasons for this human and environmental disaster is commercial aquaculture of tropical shrimp.

Shrimp farming often implies high use of chemicals but can be carried out without chemicals and artificial feed but then extensive tracts of the intertidal wetlands, of which the mangrove forest is a part, are needed. Inherently this also implies a decreased output per hectare as the natural

ecosystems are incremental to many natural species.¹ Moreover, independent studies have pointed at problems in the implementation of some of the more elaborate so called organic certification standards; that the standards are not in compliance with the principles of ecology and fairness, that certified farms do not manage to comply with the standards, that the farms did not fulfil the requirements of national legislations regarding the protection of the coastal regions and that corruption is prevalent.²

Due to the special circumstances of aquaculture in mangrove intertidal areas, we believe it can not be put at par with other types of aquaculture. Moreover, commercial shrimp farming has since long been marred by conflicts with local populations as the tidal lands have been of customary use for fisheries and many other goods and services and also contributed to social equity since net monetary benefits are distributed to large groups of marginal people. Thus, a low use of chemicals and artificial feed require more valuable land than intensive farms would need and thus may lead to serious conflicts with local populations and questioning by environmental and human rights NGOs. This needs to be carefully considered as it threatens to severely damage IFOAM's credibility as standard setter as well as the credibility for organic products in the public perception³.

In conclusion, we do not see how shrimp produced on intertidal lands, where serious environmental and social problems are created, can be certified as products of sustainable production practices. Nor can we see that it is in compliance with The Principles of IFOAM.

Submitter: Swedish Biodynamic Association, Sweden

WB comment: It is unprecedented for IFOAM to exclude any segment of primary production from its scope and especially without compelling rationale for why an organic production system is impossible. Furthermore, IFOAM is only able to control its own Accreditation Program. Certification bodies can and do run multiple organic certification programs and they determine which of these to place under the IFOAM Accreditation Program. The result would be that more

shrimp farming functions outside the IFOAM Accreditation Program.

Agenda Point No. 27: Definition of Organic Agriculture

The GA 2005 instructed the WB to develop a definition of Organic Agriculture based on the Principles as approved in Adelaide, 2005. A Task Force was established and several consultation rounds were conducted. See details at: http://www.ifoam.org/organic_facts/doa/index.html. The process led to the following definition:

Organic Agriculture is a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions, rather than the use of inputs with adverse effects. Organic Agriculture combines tradition, innovation and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and a good quality of life for all involved.

Agenda Point No. 28: Recommendations from the Motion Bazaar

The Recommendation Board Moderator will present the outcome of the motion bazaar process to the plenary. The plenary will vote upon recommendations formulated through the recommendation board. The new World Board has to consider the recommendations and report back to the next General Assembly about whether the recommendation has been taken up or not.

1. The natural production of mangrove associated fish and shellfish is about ten times that of the production in extensive ponds. Moreover it generates a wide variety of other eco system goods and services (P. Ronnback). Independent studies of current certified "organic" shrimp aquaculture have shown a yield of 100 kg or less per hectare as compared to 1,000 – 10,000 kg/h depending on intensity (P. Ronnback).

2. Certificando la Destrucción, C-Condem, Ecuador 2007. Critical Analysis of Certified Organic Shrimp Aquaculture in Sidoarjo, Indonesia, P. Ronnback 2003 for SSNC, Sweden.

3. Examples of statements questioning current certification schemes by organisations working with affected communities <http://www.redmanglar.org/redmanglar.php?c=301>

Agenda Point No. 29: Member motions IV: Gender, Tendering, Co-option, Internal Bodies, Internal Control Systems and Participatory Guarantee Systems, Energy and Food Sovereignty

Motion 29.1: IFOAM will include the gender perspective in all of its work, and make every effort to empower women to participate fully in IFOAM projects and leadership.

Rationale: Gender equality is, first and foremost, a human right. Women are entitled to live in dignity and in freedom from want and from fear. Empowering women is also an indispensable tool for advancing development and reducing poverty.

In reality access to equal rights and equal opportunities varies from country to country. In some countries and cultures the inequality between men and women is leading to different forms of violence against women up to date, though equal rights for women is declared as a Universal Human Right:

“In 1993, 45 years after the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted, and eight years after CEDAW entered into force, the UN World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna confirmed that women’s rights were human rights. That this statement was even necessary is striking – women’s status as human beings entitled to rights should have never been in doubt. And yet this was a step forward in recognizing the rightful claims of one half of humanity, in identifying neglect of women’s rights as a human rights violation and in drawing attention to the relationship between gender and human rights violations.”

Yet discrimination against women and girls – including gender-based violence, economic discrimination, reproductive health inequities and harmful traditional practices – remains the most pervasive and persistent form of inequality. This to the point that the UN has adopted in October 2007 during its 62nd General Assembly a new MDG Framework, which among others includes:

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women	
Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005 and in all levels of education no later than 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ratio of girls to boys in primary, secondary, and tertiary education • Share of women in wage employment in the nonagricultural sector • Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament

Many studies and experiences show that the inherent values and principles of Organic Agriculture favor the empowerment of women in society. The organic movement has progressed tremendously in its work and capacity to fine tune

development work. Hence, It is timely to pay more attention to the inclusion of gender equality in its daily work as well as in development work using Organic Agriculture as a tool either for rural development, ecological preservation and restoration, socio economic improvement of communities, poverty alleviations and other concerns.

It is time that the organic movement includes the component of gender equity in an organized, structured, systematic and standardized way. We are in times wherein “Social Justice” is a main concern and topic in our work and is reflecting in organic standards, the same for fairtrade. Needless to say that the “gender” element has been if not left out, at least neglected.

This motion presented and proposed to the General Assembly of IFOAM in June 2008 in Modena shall constitute a tool to improve the performance of the organic movement worldwide.

Submitter: Organic Certification Center of the Philippines (OCCP)

Endorsing members: Alter Trade Corporation, Philippines; The Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA), USA, Philippine Development Assistance Programme Inc. (PDAP)

WB comment: The WB recently approved the IFOAM gender Policy.

www.ifoam.org/intranet/news/policies/pdfs/18_Gender.pdf

Motion 29.2: IFOAM will develop a proposal to be submitted to funding agencies for the development of a study on how to include the gender perspective in all development projects of Organic Agriculture where donor and/or government money is used.

Rationale: Gender equality is, first and foremost, a human right. Women are entitled to live in dignity and in freedom from want and from fear. Empowering women is also an indispensable tool for advancing development and reducing poverty.

In reality access to equal rights and equal opportunities varies from country to country. In some countries and cultures the inequality between men and women is leading to different forms of violence against women up to date, though equal rights for women is declared as a Universal Human Right:

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WB comment: The WB recently approved the IFOAM gender Policy.

www.ifoam.org/intranet/news/policies/pdfs/18_Gender.pdf

Most donor agencies have gender included in their project criteria which are in line with IFOAM’s gender policy.

Motion 29.3: This assembly would naturally expect to be informed of any contracts that have been awarded by or through IFOAM to consultancy companies over the past three years and, in each case, what procedure was followed for soliciting tenders. In particular, this assembly wishes to know of any contracts given to companies associated with current or previous WB members including those contracts offered by ITF the International Task Force of which IFOAM is a prominent member.

Rationale: not submitted.

Submitter: Fédération Nationale d’Agriculture Biologique des Régions de France (FNAB), France

WB comment: The involvement of consultants is done at the basis of policy 35, including selection criteria as annex: “Policy on Call for Tenders and Selection Criteria for Tenders”.

At any amount above 5.000€ this policy has to be applied. A format for call for tenders and Terms of References do exist and are used. IFOAM is always able to make the table used for the analysis of the offers based on the selection criteria transparent, in case there is a request. A complete list of contracted consultants with the amount paid for projects tendered will be available at the GA.

Motion 29.4: That this assembly ask the WB to propose new procedure for co-opting new WB members, thus allowing for co-option of new WB members only after first consulting the IFOAM membership in the continent where resides the proposed nominee for co- option and ask that the result of such consultation be published.

Rationale: Before co-opting new members to the World Board, the World Board of IFOAM would be well-advised to consult with active IFOAM members in the region of origin of a new WB member, so that the appointment will strengthen grass-roots support for the organization. Complex regional politics sometimes polarize IFOAM members. The World Board should avoid inadvertently taking sides in regional disputes.

Submitters: The Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA), USA

Endorsing members: FiBL, Switzerland; FNAB, France

WB comment: There may be several reasons to co-opt world board members, e.g. a further need for competence or perspective to enhance decision making of the Board as a whole. The IFOAM statutes are designed for the WB as a body to make decisions in between General Assemblies. They also provide for up to three co-optations should the WB believe there is a need for them. The need for co-optation may not arise and may vary from GA to GA. World Board members are not elected as regional representatives. Should a consultation be needed in between GAs for co-optation, it would be appropriate to consult the full membership. If feedback is to be binding on the World Board, amendments to the statutes for co-optation are required. If feedback is not binding, such a procedure will add to bureaucracy cost for IFOAM but not necessarily resolve the need for co-optation.

Motion 29.5: IFOAM shall create a representative task force aiming to evaluate and propose the most suitable mechanisms to enable and strengthen regional group participation inside IFOAM.

Rationale: Regional Groups of IFOAM are the organized membership in a region that builds a regional agenda with specific priorities. Regional groups analyze the situation of Organic Agriculture, identifying problems and potentialities for the development of Organic Agriculture in the region. Promotion, development, dissemination of information, knowledge and expertise, are the main features that this groups work on specific topics. Lobbying and advocacy is another working line that a regional group develops. Regional groups analyzes the state of the art of Organic Agriculture from its own perspective, having the added value of being capable to include other specific aspects such as, e.g. ancestral knowledge, agro biodiversity, cultural identity and diversity; aiming to generate proposals that will feed the organic world worldwide through IFOAM as an international umbrella organization.

IFOAM should encourage participation of regional groups in its overall performance. Consultation to regional groups should be a regular practice and highlighted participation of regional groups should be considered in IFOAM key activities and events. IFOAM Program 2008 already considers the strategic role of members and regional groups to implement the program. Therefore, there is the need to increase membership not only in numbers but also in qualitative terms. Regional groups is a concrete and empowering space to strengthen and position IFOAM globally.

Submitter: Asociación Nacional de Agricultura Orgánica (ANAO), Costa Rica.

Endorsing Members: GALCI, IFOAM Regional Group in Latin America and the Caribbean

WB comment: The WB currently has a task force evaluating the both the policy for internal bodies and IFOAM representative offices. Additionally, the head office is undertaking a revision of the internal body policy (policy 24) in consultation with the leaders of the internal bodies and developing a manual for guiding internal bodies. Results of the WB task force will be integrated in the work of the head office.

Motion 29.6: This assembly requests the WB to propose ways of giving more weight to the representation of farmers' membership organizations, thus reflecting their real weight and value and decision-making rights in the IFOAM.

Rationale: not submitted.

Submitter: Fédération Nationale d'Agriculture Biologique des Régions de France (FNAB), France

Endorsing members: BioAustria, Austria; Vlaamse Beroepsvereniging voor Biologische Boeren (BELBIOR), Belgium, AIAB, Italy

WB comment: IFOAM's mission is leading, uniting and assisting the organic movement in its full diversity. The WB agrees that farmer's organizations are essential for the organic movement and for IFOAM. As a membership association, there might be constraints related to assigning values to the different categories of members.

Members are encouraged to organize themselves as an IFOAM Internal Body to address special needs and do specific tasks.

Motion 29.7: IFOAM shall strengthen systematization and lobby regarding group certification through internal control systems, so that it can get full legal status worldwide, particularly in the main markets where smallholders and family farmers export their products.

Rationale: The certification of grower groups started in Latin America and now it is practiced worldwide, assuring hundreds of thousands of smallholders' access to dynamic markets in their countries and abroad. Latest estimates show that about 70% of organic products reaching markets in the Northern Hemisphere are produced by smallholders in the South, most of it certified through farmers' organization with internal control systems (ICS). However, group certification is questioned or has not attained full legal status in the main markets. This regulatory uncertainty affects organic markets worldwide, increasing risk at the farm level.

IFOAM should continue actively engaged in lobby efforts trying to persuade competent authorities about the technical advantages of group certification and its social and economic importance. This implies mainly lobby efforts from the Head

office and through its members, structures and regional groups, but also coordinations to systematize and analyze experiences of group certification worldwide in order to demonstrate that it does not constitute a certification of lower quality.

Submitter: BioLatina, Peru,
Endorsing Members: GALCI, IFOAM Regional Group in Latin America and the Caribbean

WB comment: WB considers that IFOAM is already strongly supporting and lobbying for preserving the recognition by governments of group certification, particularly in major importing markets. The WB resolves to continue this effort, for which new funding is already secured in 2008.

Motion 29.8: IFOAM has to consider establishing in its internal structure a permanent and inclusive PGS space for the discussion, analysis and accompaniment to the PGS development processes in the world; therefore, formal IFOAM support to the PGS should be allowed.

Rationale: Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) are a reality in Latin America and in the rest of the world, they assess the agreement of the products and processes with the recognition organic production rules, by means of the participation of producers, consumers and support institutions and with procedures adapted to different politics contexts and socio cultural realities.

IFOAM has been contributing to the development of PGSs exchange and fortress spaces since 2004, with de Torres World Meeting, which promoted an IFOAM sponsored Task Force (TF).

In most Latin American countries, governments have assured the importance of developing Organic Agriculture Promotion Policies; it is necessary to introduce political incidence strategies to promote PGS in these governments' statements with the support of an internationally recognized organization like IFOAM.

PGS in Latin America is recognized and supported by the different regional organic movement expressions, like Galci, Maela and Rapal.

Submitter: National Association of Ecological Producers of Peru (ANPE), Peru

WB comment: WB notes that PGS is in the IFOAM Program 2011. WB has directed the Organic Guarantee System Department at the Head Office to incorporate PGS into its framework and for the Norms Management Committee to take up issues concerning it. Therefore, there is already a space in IFOAM assigned for PGS. The nature and extent of

activities on PGS will depend on funding, although PGS is already part of several funded projects in which IFOAM is actively engaged.

Motion 29.9: IFOAM and the World Board will protect and promote Grower Group organic certification exclusively for small-scale family farms that market jointly.

Rationale: Around the world, many family-scale organic farms that produce such crops as coffee, chocolate, sesame seeds, etc., lack the resources on their own to afford organic certification. As a solution, IFOAM has taken the lead in developing and promoting the certification of Grower Groups with internal control systems. The farms form cooperatives to market cash crops jointly. Instead of inspecting every farm annually, the outside organic inspector only inspects a percentage of the farms, while the group's internal control system insures that all of the farms fully adhere to organic standards. This Grower Group system has enabled thousands of the smallest farms in developing countries to enter world markets and earn desperately needed cash.

Submitter: Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA), USA

Endorsing Member: Florida Organic Growers (FOG), USA

WB comment: IFOAM has continuously worked for and promoted grower group certification. Our work is based on the IFOAM Accreditation Criteria 2005 which is not limited to small-scale family farms. IFOAM's mission is leading, uniting and assisting the organic movement in its full diversity and not any single group.

Motion 29.10: The GA instructs the World Board to develop a position paper on the role of smallholders and family farmers in the context of agriculture worldwide, of Organic Agriculture in particular and within the federation. This position paper should serve as the basis for the development of internal policies, lobby activities and program development.

Rationale: The organic industry is growing at an unprecedented rate worldwide and IFOAM has stated that its mission is to lead, unite and assist the organic movement in its full diversity. Smallholders and family farmers are the basis of Organic Agriculture worldwide and they were at the heart of the origins of IFOAM and of every national organic movement. Smallholders and family farmers deserve special attention for several reasons. They are fundamental for the conservation of plant and animal genetic resources and are the core of traditional cultures that contribute to make Earth a diverse planet. However, smallholders and family farmers

do not necessarily share the benefits of economic growth or at least do not do so in an equitable manner. Moreover, in the developing world poverty is higher in rural areas.

IFOAM is actively engaged in the development and promotion of policies for Organic Agriculture and in the development of the organic sector worldwide. But this may not be enough since policies dealing with smallholders and family farming in general, both at the national and international levels, may have a direct impact on what organic farmers do. In order to be able to have a stronger influence in the future of agriculture, which in most of the world is comprised mainly of smallholders and family farmers, the federation needs to set up a clear position.

Submitter: Asociación Nacional de Productores Ecológicos del Perú (ANPE), Peru

Endorsing members: GALCI, IFOAM Regional Group in Latin America and the Caribbean

WB comment: IFOAM's mission is leading, uniting and assisting the organic movement in its full diversity. IFOAM has a position paper on the full diversity of Organic Agriculture, <http://www.ifoam.org/press/positions/full-diversity-organic-agriculture.html> that considers any form of agriculture; whether small or large scale, formal or informal, as organic, as long as it adheres to the principles of Organic Agriculture. The work on Participatory Guarantee Systems and Internal Control Systems is benefiting small holders and family farmers.

IFOAM published building sustainable organic sectors. http://www.ifoam.org/pdfs/Building_Sustainable_Organic_Sectors_WEB.pdf

Motion 29.11: IFOAM recognizes the potentials and dangers stemming from regenerative energy production and will thus establish a working group to specifically deal with the application of organic farming principles in renewable energy production and utilization.

Rationale:

- Energy needs: Energy use and energy production are decisive factors for today's world's development. Enormous increases in the overall energy demand are yet to come and will gain strong influences on land-use in general.
- Energy systems impact: The present tendency to replace petroleum based, non-renewable energy sources with regenerative supplies is a step towards justice, peace and sustainability. However, there is a danger to repeat old mistakes: extensive monocultures for bio-diesel plants, energy lumber, or ethanol production may lead to the further impoverishment of our natural resources and produce massive negative changes of our landscapes.
- Bio-diversity needed: A bio-diversity oriented production strategy may improve the efficiency and productivity of such systems, and create positive ecological as well as social effects.
- Procedures proposed: Renewable energy schemes need guidance and interdisciplinary dialogue concerning the farmers' role and potentials, technologies used, village development effects and rural structures development.

Submitters: Trees for People, Germany/Mexico

Endorsing Members: EKOLOGISKA LANTBRUKARNA, Sweden

WB comment: IFOAM is in the process of developing a background paper on agrofuels. In the IFOAM Program 2011 climate is taken up as objective under Goal 1.

Motion 29.12: That this assembly instructs the WB to formulate and implement a policy for the promotion of Food Sovereignty as instrument for promoting Organic Agriculture.

Rationale: At the last GA in Adelaide we had a battle getting the food sovereignty concept into the Principles and we won against the WB's opinion. After that, in the last three years, the WB has frozen the concept and still in the congress in Modena we have a session on food "security" and we hardly even mention food sovereignty and when we do so, not very strongly. The purpose of the motion is to ask the WB to assume the food sovereignty concept as a framework in which organic farming has a main role and to develop a policy paper on that and give priority to field projects that include this policy.

Submitter: Fédération Nationale d'Agriculture Biologique des Régions de France (FNAB), France

Endorsing members: BioAustria, Austria; AIAB, Italy; FiBL, Switzerland

WB comment: no comment.

Agenda Point No. 30: OWC 2011 Bid Proposals

The Negros Island Proposal

The Philippine Archipelago with its 7,107 islands is described as “GALAPAGOS TIMES TEN” in its biological richness, one of the highest ranking worldwide in biodiversity per unit area. It is one of 17 mega-diversity countries that contain 70% to 80% of global diversity.

Negros Island is situated in the south central portion of the Philippine archipelago. Originally called Buglas, it was renamed NEGROS by the Spanish explorers who “discovered” the island because of its dark-skinned natives.

Traditionally having a mono-crop sugar economy, Negros aggressively increased production through chemical inputs and cleared forestlands to maximize profit from the US guaranteed sugar export quota in the 1940s.

This adversely impacted both the island’s ecology and the food security. When the sugar economy plummeted in the 1980s, Negros caught world attention with international media featuring severely malnourished “BATANG NEGROS” (Negros children) posters.

Even after sugar prices stabilized, skyrocketing chemical fertilizer costs and diminishing production inspired some farmers to take the closer look at organic inputs with positive results, sparking the interest in Organic Agriculture.

Negros is the only island in the Philippines that politically and culturally belongs to two separate regions: Negros Oriental to the Cebuano region and Negros Occidental to the Ilonggo region. The organic movement is now bonding the two provinces in a shared mission to make Negros the ‘Organic Food Island’ of Asia.

NISARD (Negros Island Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development Foundation) was founded to fulfill the vision of a united organic Negros Island.

The organic movement is proving to be an effective solution to the food security problem and the concomitant social issues. The concerted effort is improving the lives and health of the locals, especially in the marginalized sectors.

Synergizing the Land and the Sea

As an island, Negros is a microcosm of the world and stands witness to the fragile interdependence of the land and sea. Thus, it is imperative that the world’s organic movements take a closer look at holistic (land-sea relationship) approaches in the development of organic standards and protocols. This is the rationale behind the theme that Negros Island is setting forward for the 17th IFOAM OWC.

Proposed Dates and Venues

- April 20 to 22 Dumaguete City for the Organic World Congress
- April 25 to 27 Bacolod City for the General Assembly

Negros Island has a lot to offer to the organic world. Delegates will not only be able to share new developments in the worldwide organic movements. They will also be able to see the rich biodiversity of the Philippines, and Negros Island in particular. They will have opportunities to observe and learn from the experiences of the local practitioners. And, above all, they will enjoy the fabled warmth of Negrense hospitality and savor its culinary richness.

Finally, the recognition that IFOAM will bestow on the people and farmers of Negros Island will be a legacy that will help realize its dream of becoming the Organic Food Island of Asia.

Please find a link to the full proposal and promotion video at www.ifoam.org/ga.

The Korea Proposal

Aims

The 17th IFOAM Organic World Congress (OWC) 2011, to be held in Namyangju City, Gyeonggi Province, South Korea, will focus on the theme of “Organic Agriculture toward an Environmentally Benign Community.” The Congress intends to shape communities by providing a platform for sharing ideas about environmentally benign and safe Organic Agriculture and addressing broader themes of the organic movement.

The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 will contribute significantly to world peace by easing the tension between the two Koreas. The Congress will provide a valuable opportunity for open exchanges and greater participation of North Korean researchers and farmers in the OWC. Tours will be arranged for foreign participants to visit North Korean farms in efforts to enhance understanding of North Korean agriculture.

The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 will also work to further increase the participation of developing countries (non-OECD member countries) in the OWC. A special fund will be set up to address the expenses and needs of participants from developing countries, marginalized groups and organizations with limited resources.

Hosting Organizations

All nine IFOAM members in South Korea have come together to cooperate fully to host the 17th IFOAM OWC and the Korea Bidding Committee (KBC) for the 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 was established in July 2007.

Sponsors

The KBC has already received pledges of support for the 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 from the following sponsors:

- Gyeonggi Province and Namyangju City
- Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery (MFAFF)
- Rural Development Administration (RDA)

The Governor of Gyeonggi Province, Mr Kim, Moon-soo has also promised his full support in an official letter to the IFOAM head office and the province will be sponsoring funds of 2 billion won (equivalent to US\$ 2 million) in support of the events.

Bio-Tours: Pre- & post-conference tours will be organized as follows:

- 1) Route A (South Korea); 5-day tour of organic farming sites + Seoul sightseeing
- 2) Route B (South & North Korea); 5-day tour of organic farming sites in South & North Korea + the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) + Mt Geumgang
- 3) Route C (South Korea & Japan); 3.5-day tour of organic farming sites + sightseeing in Kyoto and Tokyo & 3.5-day tour of South Korean organic farming sites + Seoul sightseeing
- 4) Route D (South Korea & China); 3.5-day tour of Chinese organic farming sites including sightseeing in Beijing and Great Wall & 3.5-day tour of South Korean organic farming sites + Seoul sightseeing

The 17th IFOAM OWC will bring together the world’s leading organic farming practitioners, policy makers and innovators to interact on the sustainability of organic farming and investigate long-term strategies for the future. New and exciting organic approaches will be introduced and extensive conference tours will provide an enriching experience. Participants will be rewarded with a unique experience at the 17th IFOAM Organic World Congress (OWC) in 2011 in South Korea.

Please find a link to the full proposal and promotion video at www.ifoam.org/ga.

The Taiwan Proposal

Taiwan possesses a robust market economy, which belies its relatively small population (23 Million) and scant natural resources. The world's 19th largest economy is home to a world-renowned high-tech sector. Furthermore, with one of the highest per capita GDP and household disposable income rates in Asia, Taiwan has become a very attractive consumer market for organic product exporters all over the world.

Though agriculture accounted for less than 2 percent of Taiwan's gross domestic product (GDP) in 2006, Taiwan imports \$9.35 billion Agricultural products in 2005. Organic growers, now more than 10,000 -- and a significant presence in Taiwan's fruit and vegetable industry -- are experiencing rapid growth nationwide as interest in healthier food continues to spread from local farmers' markets to major supermarkets across the country. But growers are not nearly keeping pace with consumer demand for organic products, estimated to be expanding by 200 % a year. According to local industry estimates, the market is worth more than \$40 million USD, virtually all of which is imported.

Taiwan government is now dedicating to Organic Agriculture, because this farming system protects the environment and produces natural foods. To propagate and create public awareness about the importance and benefits of organic farming, we would like to propose the 17th IFOAM OWC be held in Taipei, Taiwan, September/October 2011. A unique opportunity for Organic Agriculture practitioners to stay abreast of new technical developments in the quickly-evolving arena of Organic Agriculture and a fantastic chance to demonstrate the value of Organic Agriculture in the design of truly sustainable enterprises to the organic community on a global stage.

As one of the economic powers in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as the world, Taiwan is strategically located at the heart of Asia and ideally positioned to further growth and expansion.

Dynamically emerging as the region new trade capital, Taipei is well equipped to meet the complex demands of the 21st Century.

ATOAP – Association of Taiwan Organic Agriculture Promotion- is a nationwide established association. Our long-term objectives is to make Taiwan an Organic country.

Towards a sustainable World was chosen as the motto for the Congress to highlight the role of Organic Agriculture in sustaining healthy, vibrant society.

Proposed Congress and GA Venue: Taipei International Convention Center (TICC).

The most exciting news will be, the 17th IFOAM OWC and GA will be held in conjunction with the Taipei International Organic Food exhibition 2011, an annual event that will be held in 2nd half of the month of October.

We will take advantage of this marvellous event to arrange An "IFOAM pavilion" in the show so as for all participants of IFOAM OWC to promote its products/ services in the exhibition.

All IFOAM OWC Participants/Exhibitors will receive full market support services from ATOAP.

Please find a link to the full proposal and promotion video at www.ifoam.org/ga

Agenda Point No. 31: IFOAM Recognitions

IFOAM will honor persons that have contributed extraordinarily to the development of the Federation through their voluntary engagement. IFOAM wants to thank these persons with the IFOAM Recognition and to publicly pay tribute to their dedication and spirit.

Agenda Point No. 32: Closing

The President of the outgoing World Board closes the Assembly and gives the word to the new President of IFOAM to address the General Assembly and to bid farewell to the participants.

Imprint

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