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Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs FDEA

Federal Office for Agriculture FOAG
Quality and Sales Promotion Unit

CH-3003 Berne, FOAG, sas

Certification Bodies recognized for Ukraine, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation

Reference:
Your reference:
Our reference: sas
Contact person: Sabine Schäfer
Berne, 25 January 2018

Dear Sir or Madam,

We refer to our letter of 31st of January 2017. The European Commission revised the additional control and reporting measures for certain groups of organic products grown and processed in defined countries.

Switzerland shares its basic import provisions for organic products with the EU. Switzerland aims to maintain equivalent requirements and modalities with the European Union regarding imports from third countries and is focused on the prevention of pesticide residues and fraud in imported organic products.

Therefore, the Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG) has decided that the revised control and reporting measures as described in the official letter of the European Commission for the year 2018 shall also apply for imports to Switzerland, for the control bodies recognized by the FOAG as equivalent according to art. 23a of the Organic Farming Ordinance (SR 910.18) for Ukraine, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation. **Please note that the measures will apply from 2018 onwards without time limit.**

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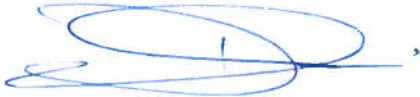
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In compliance with art. 23a of the Organic Farming Ordinance (SR 910.18) relating to recognition of your certification body by Switzerland, the FOAG can “request all additional information which it considers necessary” and “may in particular remove certification bodies and inspection authorities and change entries and put time limits on them.”

Therefore please be advised that we expect your organisation to fully comply with the measures as outlined in the letter of the European Commission also for exports to Switzerland. These additional control and reporting measures apply with immediate effect.

Yours sincerely

Federal Office for Agriculture FOAG



Patrik Aebi

Head of Quality and Sales Promotion Unit