NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

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| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** Switzerland  **If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):** |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:** Federal Office for Agriculture FOAG  **Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:**  State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO Holzikofenweg 36, 3003 Bern [tbt@seco.admin.ch](mailto:tbt@seco.admin.ch), [www.seco.admin.ch](http://www.seco.admin.ch) |
| **3.** | **Notified under Article 2.9.2 [****X],** **2.10.1 [****],** **5.6.2 [****],** **5.7.1 [****],** **other****:** |
| **4.** | **Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):** Organic products |
| **5.** | **Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:** Amendments to:   * Ordinance on organic farming and the labelling of organically produced products and foodstuffs (Organic Farming Ordinance) (910.18) (2 pages in French); * Ordinance of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER) on organic farming (910.181) (6 pages in French); * Ordinance of the Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG) on organic farming (new) (19 pages in French). |
| **6.** | **Description of content:**  Organic Farming Ordinance (SR 910.18):  Since the organic equivalence determination process for bilateral arrangements is led by the Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG), in future the competence for the inclusion of the countries in the list of countries shall fall under the responsability of FOA and not of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER) any longer (Article 23 (1)).  The approval procedure for control bodies and inspection authorities in third countries should only be used in special cases. For EU recognised bodies and authorities this shall be abandoned altogether (Article 23a (1-4), Article 24 (5 & 6)).  EAER Ordinance on Organic Farming (SR 910.181):  Repeal of Article 4 and Annex 4 concerning country lists and Article 4a and Annex 4a concerning the list of certification bodies following the proposed amendments to the Organic Farming Ordinance.  Minor amendments to annexes 1-3.  FOAG Ordinance on Organic Farming (new):  FOAG administers the list of countries (Article 1) and the list of certification bodies in third countries (Article 2) following the proposed amendments to the Organic Farming Ordinance. |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:** Delegation of administrative competencies; minor formal modifications |
| **8.** | **Relevant documents:**   * Organic Farming Ordinance SR 910.18 of 22 September 1997 (Status as of 1 January 2019), non-official translation   <https://www.admin.ch/opc/en/classified-compilation/19970385/index.html>   * EAER Ordinance on Organic Farming SR 910.181 of 22 September 1997 (Status as of 1 July 2019), non-official translation   <https://www.admin.ch/opc/en/classified-compilation/19970387/index.html> |
| **9.** | **Proposed date of adoption:** 28 October 2020  **Proposed date of entry into force:** 1 January 2021 |
| **10.** | **Final date for comments:** 10 May 2020 |
| **11.** | **Texts available from: National enquiry point [****X]** **or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:**  State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO Holzikofenweg 36, 3003 Berne  [tbt@seco.admin.ch](mailto:tbt@seco.admin.ch)  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/TBT/CHE/20_1180_00_f.pdf>  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/TBT/CHE/20_1180_01_f.pdf>  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/TBT/CHE/20_1180_02_f.pdf> |