Prevention of Fraud – AFI initiative at BIOFACH 2011-02-16 **Results of the Anti Fraud Initiative meetings in the US, Italy and Brussels**

Best practices to solve a variety of problems related to fraud prevention Imports and EU MS

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Direct supply chain actors

- Training required: No certificate without sufficient knowledge of the farmer and other actors on organic agriculture, processing, separation, traceability.
- Fair pricing to make training and careful handling possible
- Implementation of a QMS: Identification of organic critical points and continuous improvement of the operator

- Insistence on the part of buyers on good organic practices with their suppliers (CoC)
- Day trading vs vertical integrated chains
- Tool to evaluate vulnerability of a new suppliers for bad practices or fraud
- Tool to recognise signals that may indicate fraudulent practices.

Effective inspection & certification

- Risk oriented inspection (eg. inspection duration, unannounced inspections)
- Risk oriented testing by certification bodies (GMO, pesticides, isotopes)
- Precedent database
- Exchange of information (e.g. suspicion or detection of fraud, switching CB's)
- Cross-checks for verification of the product flow

- Electronic publication of certified operators as well as de-certified and suspended operations, e. g. www.bioc.info or other
- Complaints mechanism by CBs
- Inspector training in fraud detection investigation
- Tool to recognise signals that may indicate fraudulent practices

What can the EU contribute?

- Intensify bilateral recognition negotiations enlarge the third countries list (EU/US in particular), include cooperation between CAs.
- Establish and implement a risk-oriented, effective and cost-efficient supervision system for certification bodies operating within the EU and in Third Countries
- Establish an internet-based directory on certified, suspended and decertified organic operators in the EU member states and for third countries
- Establish an internet-based organic rapid alert system

- Have a complaints or whistleblower system like in the USA
- Continue to dialogue with the private sector (CBs and trade) to solve the problems which need interaction among the three stakeholder groups.