


IFC Global Sertifikasyon Muayene ve Egitim Hizmetleri Anonim Sirketi	
TEXTILE&COSMETIC TERMINATION REDUCTION SUSPENSION or WITHDRAWAL of CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE	

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to determine the rules regarding the sanctions for the operator in case of failure to correct the non-conformities detected in the surveillance studies in a timely manner, or case of the detection of misuse of the certificates and other documents as a result of control studies or the feedbacks such as complaints, etc.

This procedure is also intended to identify personnel responsible for enforcing sanctions for termination, scope reduction, suspension or withdrawal of the certification.

2. DEFINITIONS

Ministry: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

Committee: Organic Farming Steering Committee established by the Ministry

3. RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

KEK.301-17065 Quality Manual

OEK.301 Organizational Structure Manual

LS.401 Sanctioned Operators List

4. IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Correction of the non-conformities detected in the control studies

If nonconformities are detected in the control studies carried out to determine whether the organic farming activities and products of the operators meet the Regulation on the Principles and Implementation of Organic Farming, GOTS-TE Programs (OCS-GRS-RCS), COSMOS standards, and these nonconformities do not require the suspension or the withdrawal of the certificate and/or the process, the Operator is given 1 month to correct these non-conformities. Evidence of corrective actions regarding nonconformities is required to be submitted to IFC GLOBAL within 1 month and a copy of the Nonconformity Notification Form is provided to the Operator.

If the corrective action evidence submitted by the operator is not sufficient and/or there is doubt about the accuracy and adequacy of the evidence, a follow-up control is performed in which the practices regarding the closing of the nonconformity need to be observed on site.

If the corrective actions for nonconformities are completed on time and deemed sufficient, the operator's contract and certification process are maintained.

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4.2 Suspension of the Certificate

The certification is suspended when:

4.2.1 General

- a) the certified economic operator voluntarily requests a temporary suspension,
- b) The operator fails to fulfill the financial provisions of the Organic Farming Control and GOTS-TE Programs (OCS-GRS-RCS), COSMOS Standards Certification Agreement

4.2.2 Regarding the nonconformities


If the identified nonconformities are not closed within 1 month or if the Operator does not allow the necessary controls to be made, the Operator's certificate is suspended. The maximum suspension period is 1 year. The operator with the suspended certificate:

- a) If the transition process has been completed, it will be transferred back to the transition process (suspension of the process). The transition period extension is for a maximum of one year. If no non-compliance is found in the annual control to be carried out at the end of the suspension period, the suspension is removed.
- b) If the detected non-conformity is against one of the fundamental rules of Organic Agriculture (for example, use of plant protection products, fertilizers, etc.), the producer is directly downgraded to the transition -1 process, regardless of their status.
- c) The maximum suspension period for the operators engaged in product processing, packaging, labeling, storage, transportation and marketing activities is 6 months.
- d) In cases where the GOTS-TE Programs (OCS-GRS-RCS) and COSMOS-standard requirements are not fulfilled, the suspension takes place between the dates in the suspension notification sent by IFC.

If the Controller recommends suspension of the certification as a result of the control, the suspension decision is taken by the Certifier. In other cases requiring suspension, those involved in the certification process may request the suspension of certification. Nevertheless, the Certifier makes the final decision on the suspension.

In case of suspension of certification, the operator shall be requested in writing to deliver the certification documents and to cease the use of all advertising materials referring to the certification. The operator has to submit the certification documents within 7 working days at the latest after receiving the notification.

The suspended certificate is invalid during the suspension period. IFC-GLOBAL has contractually guaranteed that the operator shall not promote/advertise the certification in case of suspension. In cases where it is determined that the operator does not comply with the terms of the contract, a written warning is given and if necessary, legal action is taken.

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4.3 Removal of the Certification Suspension

If the operator whose certification has been suspended notifies IFC GLOBAL in writing that the grounds for suspension have been eliminated, a control is carried out to confirm this. At the end of the control, the certification of the operator whose conformance has been verified is reinstated. The removal of the suspension shall be notified to the operator in writing.

4.4 Partial Sanctions, Scope Reduction in the Certificate

If the operator has signed a contract on behalf of the producer group, or if the individual operator practices Organic Farming for more than one scope or more than one parcel or product and is certified, and the non-compliance requiring suspension is specific to a certain parcel or product, the suspension of certification may be partially applied.

If an operator fails to meet the certification requirements for some part of the certification scope continuously or severely, IFC-GLOBAL may reduce the operator's certification scope to exclude the nonconforming process.

Compliance with the requirements of Article 1 of the Regulation on the Principles and Implementation of Organic Farming is taken into account in partial sanctions and scope reduction.

4.5 Withdrawal (Cancellation) of the Certificate

a) If IFC-GLOBAL determines that the non-conformity has not been closed at the end of the suspension period, the contract is cancelled.

b) If the nonconformities cannot be eliminated by the operator and prevent the operator from practicing organic farming (structural unsuitability of the land, facility and enterprise within the scope of organic production, etc.), the producer is excluded from the organic farming system. The contract is cancelled.


c) In addition, the certification is withdrawn and the contract is cancelled when the operator:

- does not accept the suspension requirements, their objection is not justified,
- does not allow for follow-up control at the end of the suspension period,
- does not request re-certification,
- requests the withdrawal on their own,
- terminates its activities within the scope of certification,
- changes legal entity, cannot be found at the address, does not reply to notifications,
- use the certificate misleadingly and unfairly for scopes outside the scope of certification,
- tampers with the certificate and its annexes.

5. Notification

The suspension of certification shall be notified in writing to the relevant operator. The operator who has been suspended shall be notified to the Ministry within one (1) month at the latest from the

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decision. IFC-GLOBAL publishes suspended manufacturers and documents on the website www.ifcglobal.com.tr.

Operators whose certificates have been withdrawn are notified to the Ministry, TÜRKAK and other control and certification bodies within one (1) month at the latest from the decision.

6. Objection to the sanctions and complaints

The operator may appeal to IFC GLOBAL within one (1) month from the date of notification for the sanctions imposed on them. IFC GLOBAL addresses the Operator's appeal according to its Complaints and Appeals procedure.

The operator whose certification has been withdrawn may appeal to the Committee within one (1) month from the date of notification by IFC-GLOBAL regarding the action taken on them. In this case, IFC GLOBAL sanctions-related information and documents are submitted to the Ministry within 21 days at the latest.

In the event of an appeal or objection against the sanctions, the Ministry has the authority to review the subject and request new documents. The Ministry requests information and documents related to the subject and initiates an investigation. As a result of the review, if it is determined that the operator's practices contrary to the provisions of this Regulation continue intentionally, The Ministry prohibits the operator from organic production activities for a period of five years and notifies all authorized organizations.

When it is determined that the operators engaged in product processing, packaging, labeling, storage, transportation and marketing activities violate the provisions of the Regulation, the violation continues intentionally, the Ministry prohibits the operator from organic farming activities for five years and notifies all authorized organizations.


Regardless of the reason, the Operator shall fulfill the following requirements in the event of withdrawal of certification (revocation of the contract):

- a) The use of the IFC-GLOBAL certificate and logo shall be ceased.
- b) Unpaid certification fee or control fees shall be paid.
- c) Within one (1) month following the withdrawal of the certification, the operator shall remove the logo granted to the organization by IFC GLOBAL from all correspondence and promotional materials.

If the operator does not comply with the requirements of the certification withdrawal, IFC-GLOBAL announces in various media that the operator has used the certification illegally by violating the contractual rules, and it takes legal action to compensate for the pecuniary and non-pecuniary damages.

REVISION INFORMATION		
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0	-	Initial release.
1	20.09.2021	Textile&Cosmetic requirements added
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