



कृषि और प्रसंस्कृत खाद्य उत्पाद

निर्यात विकास प्राधिकरण

(वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

**Agricultural and Processed Food Products
Export Development Authority**

(Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)

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3rd June 2022

Subject: Advisory note on modification in scope certification process under NPOP

To All Certification Bodies,

It has been brought to our attention by several operators through helpdesk that they are facing difficulties to maintain the continuity of organic certification and credibility of organic products as Certification Bodies (CBs) are not issuing scope certificate within stipulated time period given under NPOP. Hence, to strictly follow NPOP standards and to maintain the credibility of organic products, some amendments have been made in operational structure of certification process under NPOP. Accordingly the following amendments are approved by National Accreditation Body (NAB):

1. The time period for issuance of scope certificate for new operators is 180 days from the date of registration at present. This has been reduced to 45 days for processor and trader. However, for individual farmers, grower groups and wild collectors, 180 days remains the same.
2. Any operators registered through No Objection certificate (NOC) from other Certification Bodies, the new Certification Body has 180 days to issue scope certificate at present. This has been reduced to 45 days for processor and trader. However, for individual farmers, grower groups and wild collectors, the period has been reduced to 90 days.
3. During the renewal of scope certificate, operator can apply for renewal of scope certificate 3 months prior to scope expiry and another 3 months as a grace period after scope expiry. Accordingly, CB has 180 days for renewal of scope certificate at present. This grace period has been reduced to 45 days after expiry of scope for individual producer, grower groups and wild collectors meanwhile for processor and traders there will be no grace period.
4. In case, Certification Body has been imposed with any disciplinary measure by NAB operator can register with any other Certification Body without waiting for discontinuation of registration, if operators are newly registered or registered through NOC and scope has not been issued by the Certification Body.
5. Whenever operator has taken NOC from a Certification Body intending to transfer to another Certification Body, but new Certification Body has been imposed with any

disciplinary measures during this period and operator has not been registered by the new certification Body, the operator can revert to the previous Certification Body.

6. Declaration to be made by Certification Bodies on verification of all registration documents including Aadhar Card, Pan Card, FSSAI and contact details for each operator. Details of the documents may be fed into system only with the knowledge of respective operators. In case of violation of document verification is detected, severe action will be taken against the Certification Bodies.

Based on the above requirements, provisions are being made on TraceNet for implementation. Hence, Certification Bodies may follow the same now onwards as further notice period shall not be provided after implementation on TraceNet.



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