



Organics Council®

Conflict of Interest Management

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I. PURPOSE

This document's aim is to contribute to the prevention of conflicts of interest in line with the goals laid down in the Impartiality Memorandum of the Organics Council®.

II. SCOPE

This document lays down rules on the establishment and implementation of a system for processing Declarations of Interest. The rules apply to the Organics Council® Science and Audit Committees and other external science experts. No other Organics Council® member (i.e., Board of Directors and Administration Staff) can influence scientific decisions made by the Organics Council®.

III. DEFINITIONS

- a) **Interest:** the relation of being objectively concerned in something, such as having a right, title, claim or share in it.
- b) **Conflict of Interest (Col):** a Col is deemed to exist whenever the Organics Council® identifies any situation where an individual has an interest that may compromise or be reasonably perceived as compromising his or her capacity to act independently, and in the public interest in relation to the subject of the work performed at the Organics Council®.
- c) **Annual Declaration of Interest (ADoI):** the written declaration of interest to be submitted annually.
- d) **Specific Declaration of Interest (SDoI):** the written declaration of interest to be submitted before each meeting; it relates to the items on the agenda of the meeting.
- e) **Oral Declaration of Interest (ODoI):** the verbal declaration of interest to be made at the beginning of each meeting.
- f) **Family members** include:
- 1) the spouse;
 - 2) the partner with whom a person subject to this decision has contracted a registered partnership, if the legislation of the Member State treats registered partnerships as equivalent to marriage, and in accordance with the conditions laid down in the relevant legislation of the Member State;
 - 3) the direct descendants or dependants under the age of 21, including the descendants or dependants of the spouse or partner.
- g) **Interests of family members:** interests relevant under these rules that are held by family members of the persons subject to these rules.
- h) **Economic interest:** any economic interest in a company operating in the regulated industry (consumer food and non-food goods, food packaging, agriculture and consumer services), including holding of stocks and shares, equity, bonds and partnership interests in the capital of a company, one of its subsidiaries or a company in the capital of which it has a holding. Holding economic interests connected with a pension scheme contracted prior to the nomination or appointment at the Organics Council® and/or interests in non-nominal unit trusts or similar arrangements would not, in principle, have particular consequences.
- i) **Industry interest:** all activities performed during the preceding five years for or on behalf of a company operating in the regulated field (consumer food and non-food goods, food packaging, agriculture and consumer services), whether or not these activities have been subject to regular or occasional remuneration in cash or kind, including:
- participation in the internal decision-making of a company (e.g., Board membership and executive or non-executive directorship);

- permanent or temporary member of the personnel of a company (other activities performed within a company, such as traineeship, are also subject to declaration);
 - work contracted out by companies through consultancy or otherwise.
- j) **Intellectual interest:** interests with no pecuniary or material benefits to the individual arising from professional activities or affiliation with national or international organisations or bodies with tasks similar to those of the Organics Council® or from participation in public interest groups, professional societies, clubs or organisations which have an agenda, interest or involvement in the Organics Council®'s work.
- k) **Employment:** any form of regular occupation or business, part-time or full-time, paid or unpaid, including self-employment (such as consultancy), under an employer with an interest falling within the Organics Council®'s remit.
- l) **Employment by industry:** any form of employment under an employer who could be directly or indirectly impacted by the Organics Council®'s scientific outputs.
- m) **Occasional consultancy:** providing advice or services, paid or unpaid, to companies, trade associations or other bodies with an interest falling within the Organics Council®'s remit, when this occurs rarely, and it does not become a regular occupation; regular consultancy shall be declared under 'Employment'.
- n) **Research funding:** financial support (including grants, rents and reimbursement of expenses), sponsorships and fellowships for research or developmental work received from any public or private entity (including industry associations and Public-Private partnerships (PPPs)) either in a personal or professional capacity. The expert shall declare whether the research (co-)funding received from the private sector for the area under concern exceeds 25% of the annual research budget managed by him/her during the year preceding the submission of the DoI. This also includes projects funded by the organisation of the experts, benefiting him/her.
- o) **Intellectual property rights:** rights on items falling within the Organics Council®'s remit that are the result of human intellectual creativity, such as patents and trademarks; it does not include plain authorship and publications.
- p) **Other memberships or affiliations:** any membership or affiliation, not falling under the definitions provided above and relevant for the purposes of this document, to entities with an interest falling within the Organics Council®'s remit, including professional organisations.
- q) **Other relevant interest:** any interest not falling under the definitions provided above and relevant for the purposes of this document.

IV. PROCEDURE

IV.1. General statements

- a) The Organics Council® shall act independently in the public interest. It shall make its best efforts to refrain from getting involved in any activity that would result in a conflict of interest. The Organics Council® shall inform the assigned impartiality oversight authority of any changes in its interests
- b) The identification and prevention of ColS are based on the evaluation of the ADol and, where appropriate, of the SDol and ODol submitted by the specific individual.
- c) The responsibility for a complete and truthful DoI lies with the individual completing the DoI. Those submitting Dols to the Organics Council® impartiality oversight authority confirm whether or not they consider themselves to have a Col concerning any Organics Council® activity in which they are involved.
- d) Individuals subject to these rules only have to declare current activities and past activities that have taken place in the five years preceding the day of submission of the DoI.

- e) Individuals submitting Dols provide all relevant details about the subject matter of each declared interest. They indicate the domain in which the activity is or was carried out, clarify the exact interest and role of the entity or organisation of relevance for each interest and indicate their specific role within that entity or organisation.
- f) Interests are screened taking into consideration whether they are compatible with the tasks to be assigned by the Organics Council® Science Committee to the person that declared the interests, with regards to the mandate of the group in which the person will participate and the role and function that he/she is required to take on within that group.
- g) The individuals subject to these rules are not allowed to assess, rate or review their own work.
- h) Individuals employed by industry are not allowed to become members of the Organics Council® Science and Audit Committees.
- i) The screening of interests of close family members is performed following the same procedure used for interests of the individuals submitting the DoI. However, the general principles referred to under items g) and h) will not apply to close family members.

IV.2. Organics Council® Science Committee

IV.2.1. Reporting Col

- a) **ADoI.** All Organics Council® Science Committee members shall declare any interest outlined above using the form provided in Annex I. These individuals shall indicate whether the declared interests are current, meaning that the activities are ongoing at the moment of the submission of the DoI, or past, meaning that the activities are not ongoing but occurred during the five years preceding the submission of the DoI.
- b) Members of the Organics Council® Science Committee update and resubmit their ADoI to the Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee in a timely manner, following any change in their interests.
- c) **SDoI.** All Organics Council® Science Committee members shall declare any interest defined above in relation to the items on the agenda of each meeting they plan to attend or output they are asked to contribute to. This is done using the form provided in Annex I. Only experts who have had their SDoI positively screened by the Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee before the meeting takes place may attend the meeting.
- d) When a specific product, substance, process or claim is under discussion, the screening process carried out by the Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee will also take into account an expert's interest in relation to companies or bodies that develop, manufacture or market:
- products/substances that would be used in conjunction with the one under discussion; or
 - products/substances that would compete in the market with the one being reviewed.
- e) **ODoI.** At the beginning of each meeting of the Organics Council® Science Committee, the chairperson will ask all members to declare any interests not already declared elsewhere that might be considered prejudicial to their independence in relation to the items on the agenda. Any declared interests will be recorded in the minutes.
- f) All Organics Council® Science Committee members shall make an annual declaration concerning confidentiality and commitment (see Annex II).

IV.2.2. Screening of Dols

- a) **ADoI.** The Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee is the responsible officer who performs the screening of the ADoIs according to the criteria listed in Annex III. The Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee reports any Col to the Organics Council®

Audit Committee. The decisions on the outcome of the screening of the ADols rest with the Organics Council® Audit Committee.

b) **SDol.** The same procedure applies as per ADol.

c) **ODol.** The chairperson of the meeting is the responsible officer who performs the screening of the ODols before starting the discussion of any of the items on the agenda. He/she performs the screening in accordance with the criteria laid down in Annex III. The decision on the outcome of the ODol screening falls within the responsibility of this officer.

d) Any measure taken to prevent the occurrence of Cols is recorded and made publicly available (see section V).

IV.2.3. Selection procedure

a) The Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee is put forward by the Board of Directors, subject to meeting the scientific credentials and impartiality vetting in line with this document and showing the best of skills, commitment and track record of working to protect the public and the planet, and subject to the Organics Council® Audit Committee approval.

b) A minimum of three members, including the Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee, constitute the quorum required to conduct the work carried out by the Organics Council® Science Committee.

c) The Board of Directors of the Organics Council® puts forward minimum twice the required number of member candidacy for filling the vacant Organics Council® Science Committee chairs.

d) The Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee, with the advice from the Board of Directors, selects the members and submits them to the Organics Council® Audit Committee for approval.

e) In case the Organics Council® Audit Committee rejects the proposed candidates, the new candidates shall be put forward by the Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee to obtain approval from the Organics Council® Audit Committee; the Organics Council® Science Committee will resume work when the minimum quorum is present.

IV.2.4. Appeal of a Col determination

a) If an appeal of a Col determination is made, a reconsideration meeting is called by the Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee.

b) The conflicted individual may be required to attend the reconsideration meeting chaired by the Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee.

c) The decision on Col re-review may be further appealed to the Organics Council® Audit Committee by the conflicted individual.

d) The individual must notify the Organics Council® Audit Committee of any intended appeal within five days of receiving notice of the management plan.

e) The Organics Council® Audit Committee will form an ad hoc Appeal Panel comprised of three senior scientists and other consultants as needed, who will have 30 business days to review the relevant materials.

f) The Appeal Panel's recommendation is made to the Organics Council® Audit Committee, which will render a decision within ten working days. The decision will be final, and there shall be no further appeal.

IV.2.5. Omissions of declarable interests

- a) Once a year, the Organics Council® Audit Committee checks the compliance and the veracity of a sample of the Dols submitted in the context of this document and makes publicly available the outcome of this exercise.
- b) In case the Organics Council® becomes or is made aware of information that is not consistent with or that is missing from the Dol of an individual subject to this document, and a preliminary assessment of this information suggests that it concerns a declarable interest, the Organics Council® seeks additional information from the expert and asks him/her to update his/her Dol to include the missing information.
- c) Once the expert has completed the update, the Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee screens the Dol in accordance with this document.

IV.2.6. Process regarding breaches of Organics Council®'s rules on Dols

- a) If the screening of the updated Dol following the process described in the IV.2.5 results in the identification of a Col, the omission is considered as a breach of the rules laid down in this document.
- b) When the seriousness of a breach of the rules is such that it is considered a breach of trust, the Organics Council® Audit Committee considers dismissal of the concerned member from the Organics Council® Science Committee.
- c) The Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee assigns a 'Reviewer' (another Organics Council® Science Committee member) to perform a review of the scientific outputs to which the expert in question contributed. The Reviewer clarifies whether and the extent to which that expert influenced the output and reports the findings to the Organics Council® Audit Committee. The Organics Council® Audit Committee takes all measures it deems fit to address these findings.

IV.3. Organics Council® Audit Committee

IV.3.1. Purpose and quorum of the Organics Council® Audit Committee

- a) The Organics Council® Audit Committee ensures all Organics Council® Science Committee activities are performed in accordance with established protocols and procedures. The Organics Council® Audit Committee conducts a planned annual audit of Organics Council® Science Committee ADols and compliance with established procedures and also performs spontaneous checks during the year.
- b) Members of the Organics Council® Audit Committee are allowed to attend meetings and events organised by the Organics Council®. They are not allowed to take part in the discussion, drafting, deliberation of the scientific output at hand or other activities that require active engagement.
- c) For transparency reasons, all members of the Organics Council® Audit Committee shall submit an ADol prior to being appointed to serve at the Organics Council® Audit Committee.
- d) The Organics Council® Audit Committee comprises two permanent members (representatives of the Organics Council® Science Committee) and two public members. Membership in the Organics Council® Audit Committee without a break is limited to five consecutive years.
- e) The permanent members of the Organics Council® Audit Committee are appointed by the Director of the Organics Council® Science Committee, but the Director is not allowed to serve at the Organics Council® Audit Committee. New, permanent members are subject to Dol check, to be performed before the Committee starts work (see point 5 below).

f) Public members of the Organics Council® Audit Committee are selected in accordance with the procedure indicated below:

1. To become a public member of the Organics Council® Audit Committee, one shall propose his/her candidacy using the web service 'Vote Health Campaigns' on whatishealthy.info. Members of the whatishealthy.info community elect the Organics Council® Audit Committee public members by means of voting;
2. Candidates for public membership of the Organics Council® Audit Committee may be proposed by any employee of the Organics Council®, out of the election on whatishealthy.info. The proposed candidate shall:
 - a) Be employed by a non-governmental organisation that works in support of environment or consumer health protection; or
 - b) Hold a PhD related to environment or consumer health protection;
3. To ensure that applicants (both put forward on whatishealthy.info and by the Organics Council®) are free from industrial interests, they shall provide their Dols in their applications. These Dols will be published on the Organics Council® website and are subject screening by other candidates and members of the current Organics Council® Audit Committee in accordance with criteria listed in Annex III. If a Col is found, the concerned candidate is eliminated from the selection process. Members of the current Organics Council® Audit Committee are responsible for decisions on Cols of candidates;
4. The final selection is a majority voting process carried out annually by all candidates (those elected through whatishealthy.info and put forward by the Organics Council®). Candidates elect the top-three most credible and free from industry-vested interest members who will join the two permanent members of the Organics Council® Science Committee;
5. Each member of the newly gathered Organics Council® Audit Committee is required to sign the Commitment to Impartiality and Confidentiality provided in Annex II and to screen Dols of other members before the Organics Council® Audit Committee is approved to start work. If a Col is identified, the concerned member is eliminated from the Organics Council® Audit Committee, and a new member is either selected from public members candidacies or assigned by the Board of Directors, depending on which member was eliminated.

IV.4. Common rules

IV.4.1. Training

- a) The Organics Council® ensures that its staff members and the members of its Science and Audit Committee follow a mandatory training course on how to comply with these rules.
- b) For this purpose, the Organics Council® implements systematic training courses for staff and experts and keeps an advisor on hand at all times to answer questions or clarify doubts from staff and experts about how the rules should be implemented.

IV.4.2. Protection of personal data

- a) This article is applicable to the Organics Council® and to all individuals subject to this procedure.
- b) The Organics Council® processes all Dols pursuant to Personal Data Protection Act 2010 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Organics Council®.
- c) The purpose of the data processing is to safeguard the independence of the Organics Council®.

- d) The legal basis for Dols processing is provided in this document.
- e) The Organics Council® Audit Committee is responsible for handling the Dol.
- f) The nature of interests to declare, the obligation to do so, as well as possible consequences of not declaring and the publication of Dols are explained in this document and are also available on the Organics Council®'s website.
- h) The conservation period of Dols per category of data subjects is ten years from the date of submission.
- i) Data subjects with active involvement in the Organics Council® have a right to access their Dol and update or correct it at any time. To meet this requirement, the Dol IT tool, available through username/password authentication, is permanently accessible to data subjects. In case the Organics Council® has knowledge of information that is not consistent with the declared interest, or in case of failure to submit a Dol, the data subject concerned is contacted and requested to update the Dol with the missing information. In case an internal breach of the rules procedure is opened, the data subject is notified without delay.

V. RECORDS

V.1. Maintained records

- a) All records relevant to this procedure are maintained for a minimum of three years.
- b) The Organics Council® maintains the following records relevant to this procedure:
 - Commitment to Impartiality and Confidentiality (attached to a Personal File);
 - ADol (attached to a Personal File);
 - SDol (attached to the Meeting Minutes);
 - ODol (recorded within the Meeting Minutes);
 - Meeting Minutes;
 - Decisions on found ColS (for conflicts identified on the basis of the ADol, the decision is attached to the Personal File of the individual; for conflicts identified on the basis of the SDol or ODol, the decision is attached to the Meeting Minutes);
 - Decisions on found breach of the rules (attached to a Personal File);
 - Appeals to Col determination.

V.2. Publicly available information

The Organics Council® publishes all the below docs on its website:

- ADol of all members of the Organics Council® Science and Audit Committees;
- Commitment to Impartiality and Confidentiality of all members of the Organics Council® Science and Audit Committees;
- Decisions confirming breach of the rules on Dol.

ANNEX I**ANNUAL DECLARATION OF MEMBER'S INTERESTS**

First Name: _____

Surname: _____

Profession: _____

Position: Member of the Organics Council® Science Committee Member of the Organics Council® Audit Committee Other _____

hereby declares to have the following interests relating to his/her Organics Council® activities (please specify the interest that you or your close family members currently have or have had in the past five years and detail the appropriate period of time,¹ organisation² and subject matter³).

Interest types:

- I. Economic ⁴
- II. Member of a managing entity or equivalent structure ⁵
- III. Member of a scientific advisory entity ⁶
- IV. Employment ⁷
- V. Occasional consultancy ⁸
- VI. Research funding ⁹
- VII. Intellectual property ¹⁰
- VIII. Other membership or affiliation ¹¹
- IX. Other ¹²

I confirm that:

- I think I have a Col with respect to the following Organics Council® activity (fill in for ADol): _____

- I think I have a Col with respect to the following agenda items (fill in for SDol):

- I think I do not have any conflict of interest with respect to my activity(ies) at the Organics Council®.

I hereby declare that I have read the Conflict of Interests Management document and that the above declaration is truthful and complete.

DONE AT: _____ ON: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

1. Please specify the relevant period of time when each activity took place (month/year).
2. Please indicate name, location and nature of the organisation.
3. Please indicate the subject matter of the activity, your specific role and the activity of the entity (such as types of substances, products, guidance documents, processes or policies) and how it relates to the remit of the Organics Council® and its Science Committee.
4. Please indicate any economic stake or share in an entity with an interest falling within the Organics Council®'s remit (or interest on one of the items on the agenda or on the mandate), including its stocks, equities or bonds, or of one of its subsidiaries or of a company in which it has a holding. Financial instruments on which the individual has no influence are not to be considered relevant for the purposes of this document.
5. Please indicate any participation in the internal decision-making (such as Board membership or directorship) of an entity with an interest falling within the Organics Council®'s remit (or interest on one of the items on the agenda or on the mandate).
6. Please indicate any participation in the works of a scientific advisory entity with an interest falling within the Organics Council®'s remit (or interest on one of the items on the agenda or on the mandate). Any advice related to 'regulated products', their development and/or their assessment methods are declared exclusively under 'Employment' or 'Occasional consultancy', depending on the level of intensity of the relation between the entity and the individual declaring the interest.
7. Please indicate any form of regular occupation or business, part-time or full-time, paid or unpaid, including self-employment (such as consultancy), with an employer with an interest falling within the Organics Council®'s remit (or interest on one of the items on the agenda or on the mandate).
8. Please indicate any consultancy activity occurring so rarely that it does not become a regular occupation, and in which the concerned individual provides advice or services to companies, trade associations or other bodies with an interest falling within the Organics Council®'s remit (or interest on one of the items on the agenda or on the mandate). This also includes services provided free of charge. Regular consultancy shall be declared under 'Employment'.
9. Please indicate any funding for research or developmental work (or on items on the agenda or on the mandate) received from any public or private entity either in a personal or professional capacity. It includes grants, rents and reimbursement of expenses, sponsorships and fellowships. It also includes funding received from the organisation employing the expert. Please also indicate whether the research (co-)funding received from the private sector during the year preceding the submission of the DoI exceeds 25% of the annual research budget that is managed by you for the area under concern or that is otherwise benefiting you, including research funding by your organisation.
10. Please indicate any right on items falling within the Organics Council®'s remit (or on items on the agenda or on the mandate) that are the result of human intellectual creativity, such as patents and trademarks. Plain authorship and publications are not to be declared.
11. Please indicate any membership or affiliation not falling under the definitions provided above, and relevant for the purposes of the Conflict of Interests Management document, to any entity with an interest falling within the Organics Council®'s remit (or interest on one of the items on the agenda or on the mandate), including professional organisations.
12. Please indicate any interest not falling under the other definitions and categories above and relevant for the purposes of the Conflict of Interests Management document or for items on the agenda or on the mandate.

Interest type (number)	Interest	Current (yes/no)	Period from/to	Organisation	Subject matter

DONE AT: _____ ON: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

If you need more space to declare your interests, please ask for more blank sheets, sign each one of them and attach them to this form.

ANNEX II**COMMITMENT TO IMPARTIALITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

First Name: _____

Surname: _____

Profession: _____

Position: Member of the Organics Council® Science Committee
 Member of the Organics Council® Audit Committee
 Other _____

1. Commitment

While contributing to the Organics Council® activities, I will:

- Comply with the Organics Council®'s internal security policy and measures made available to me;
- Comply with the Organics Council®'s rules on Declarations of Interest and Independence;
- Comply with the confidentiality rules detailed in point 2 of this Declaration;
- Read and understand the way personal data are processed as detailed in point 3 of this Declaration;
- Ensure appropriate use of scientific publications provided by the Organics Council® and respect copyrights as explained in point 4 of this Declaration;
- Always contact the Public Relations Department prior to communicating with media, stakeholders or the general public on a matter that falls within the Organics Council®'s remit.

2. Duration

The validity of this Declaration is limited to one year from the date of signature unless the expert or member informs the Organics Council® on the termination of her/his activities within the Organics Council®. The renewal of this commitment shall be done on an annual basis.

3. Confidentiality

Should I receive confidential information or restricted information in the course and context of my duties within the Organics Council®, I confirm that I will treat and process this information under conditions of strict confidentiality; I will use such information exclusively for the purpose for which it has been made available to me, and I will not divulge it to any third party. The above implies that I:

- Will not disseminate, publish or otherwise make available this information to anyone else without prior written consent from the Organics Council®, including after completion of the event or assignment I am involved in with the Organics Council®. The duty of confidentiality exists vis-à-vis any third party, including employees, employers or affiliates and the general public;
- Will not use the information received from the Organics Council® for personal benefit or that of any third party;
- Will ensure safe storage of information identified by the Organics Council® as confidential or restricted, applying appropriate security measures if the information is

managed electronically, and will not retain the information for longer than needed for the completion of the assignment or event with the Organics Council®. In case the Organics Council® provides me with a password to access information available on the the Organics Council® servers, this password will not be shared with any other individual, and it will only be used to carry out the relevant assignment;

- Will compensate the Organics Council® for any damages arising directly or indirectly from the breach of any of the above-mentioned statements or of any other obligation laid out in the Organics Council®'s internal rules with regard to my tasks or role. I acknowledge I may be required to accept more specific confidentiality requirements as needed, by means of a dedicated statement pertaining to the specific event or assignment I am involved in with the Organics Council®;
- 'Confidential information' means information transmitted to or from the Organics Council® and classified or declared as confidential by the applicant/owner of the document in compliance with applicable law. Furthermore, it includes any information which is not made available or disclosed to unauthorised individuals or entities;
- 'Restricted information' includes all documents, notes, analyses, studies, reports, comments and any other materials produced during evaluation processes and to which authorised Organics Council® staff have access, directly or indirectly. Furthermore, it includes any information whose unauthorised or uncontrolled external disclosure may harm the interests of the Organics Council® or of any third party.

4. Processing of personal data

I am considered a processor of personal data on behalf of the Organics Council®. As a processor of personal data, I acknowledge I am subject to the following obligations:

- To process the data received in the context of the assignment with the Organics Council® solely for the purpose for which it was transmitted;
- To act only on instruction of the Organics Council®, in its capacity of controller, with regard to any personal data processing in the context of the assignment with the Organics Council®;
- To ensure the confidentiality and security of personal data processing without prejudice to the obligations regarding confidentiality and security laid down in the national data protection legislation of the European Union Member State in which my residence is established;
- To follow specific instructions of the Organics Council® in case of transfer of personal data to any third party, therefore observing appropriate security safeguards to avoid unauthorised processing and disclosure.

5. Copyright and library working tools provided by the Organics Council®

If involved in the preparation of scientific outputs, I may receive from the Organics Council® scientific publications and journals protected by copyright, either hard copies or via email. I will be allowed to make limited use of journals and scientific publications, but I will not:

- Distribute copies of articles and journals to third parties;
- Use articles or journals for commercial purposes;
- Use the materials for other purposes than the Organics Council®'s assignment.

6. Duty of care of Organics Council®

I take note of the Organics Council®'s commitment to:

- Provide me with appropriate and up-to-date information, training and guidance to facilitate compliance with the rules and principles mentioned above;
- Defend my reputation in the media in case of unfounded allegations are put forward by third parties;
- Provide me with the adequate administrative, communication and scientific support to allow me to carry out the tasks linked to my role at the Organics Council® in an effective manner.

DONE AT: _____ ON: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

ANNEX III. PERMITTED INTERESTS PER MEMBER'S POSITION

Interest	Current/ Past	Organics Council® Science Committee Director	Organics Council® Science Committee member	Organics Council® Audit Committee Chairman	Organics Council® Audit Committee member
Economic	Current	not allowed	allowed	not allowed	allowed
	Past	allowed	allowed ³	allowed	allowed ³
Member of a managing entity or equivalent structure ¹	Current	allowed	allowed	allowed	allowed
	Past	allowed	allowed	allowed	allowed
Member of a managing entity or equivalent structure ²	Current	not allowed	not allowed ³	not allowed	not allowed ³
	Past	not allowed ⁴	allowed	not allowed ⁴	allowed
Member of a scientific advisory entity ¹	Current	allowed	allowed	allowed	allowed
	Past	allowed	allowed	allowed	allowed
Member of a scientific advisory entity ²	Current	not allowed	not allowed ³	not allowed	not allowed ³
	Past	allowed	allowed	allowed	allowed
Employment ¹	Current	allowed	allowed	allowed	allowed
	Past	allowed	allowed	allowed	allowed
Employment ²	Current	not allowed	not allowed ³	not allowed	not allowed ³
	Past	not allowed	not allowed ⁴	not allowed	not allowed ⁴
Occasional consultancy ¹	Current	allowed	allowed	allowed	allowed
	Past	allowed	allowed	allowed	allowed
Occasional consultancy ²	Current	not allowed	not allowed ³	not allowed	not allowed ³
	Past	not allowed	allowed	not allowed	allowed
Research funding ⁵	Current	not allowed	not allowed ³	not allowed	not allowed ³
	Past	allowed	allowed	allowed	allowed

Intellectual property	Current	not allowed	not allowed ³	not allowed	not allowed ³
	Past	allowed	allowed	allowed	allowed
Other membership or affiliation or other relevant interest or family member interests	Current	depends on the mission, scope of activities, funding of the relevant organisation etc.			
	Past				

1. Entities related to environment or consumer protection.
2. Entities not related to environment or consumer protection.
3. When the expert has a conflict of interest of a general nature that would regularly lead to the exclusion of the expert from the meetings.
4. When interest ended within the past year.
5. Research funding from the private sector exceeds 25% for the area under concern.