

NOTIFICATION

PROCEDURE FOR EXPORT OF ORGANIC PRODUCTS UNDER THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND AUSTRALIA CONCERNING EQUIVALENCE IN ORGANICS

1. Scope of Recognition

1.1 The following procedure is in pursuance of the Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) between India and Australia. The procedure authorizes agricultural products specified under the arrangement and certified as “organic” by either organic system to be exported and imported for sales in the other market **w.e.f 24.09 2025**.

1.2 The implementing Agencies for the MRA are The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under Department of Commerce, Government of India and The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), Government of Australia

1.3 Coverage of the MRA:

1.3.1 This arrangement covers organic products that are grown and processed in the jurisdictions of the Participants, including:

- a. Unprocessed plant products, excluding seaweed, aquatic plants, and greenhouse crops;
- b. Processed foods composed of one or more ingredients of plant origin. This includes certified organic ingredients sourced from third countries meeting domestic regulatory requirements, provided they are processed in either Australia or India and then exported to the other country; and
- c. Wine.

1.3.2 The following categories *are excluded* from the arrangement:

- a. In conversion agricultural products and processed products made from in conversion agricultural products;
- b. Aquaculture products, including algae, seaweed and other aquatic plants or plant-like species;
- c. Greenhouse crops;
- d. Mushroom products;
- e. Apiculture products; and
- f. Livestock products.

1.4 Standards:

- 1.4.1 Export from India to Australia: The National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP).
- 1.4.2 Export from Australia to India: Australian National Standard for Organic and Bio-Dynamic Produce.

2. Export of Organic Products to Australia under MRA

- 2.1 The export of organic products to Australia will comply with the following requirements to ensure certification compliances, integrity and safety of organic products through process certification, labelling etc.
 - 2.1.1 Adherence to NPOP requirements with respect to the Crop production, Handling and Trading requirements to ensure the integrity of the organic products exported. In addition, the food safety requirements as applicable against the National Regulation will also be complied with.
 - 2.1.2 The Certification Bodies accredited under NPOP will ensure that every consignment of organic goods destined to Australia is accompanied by a Transaction Certificate issued on NPOP's traceability system Tracenet in the prescribed format.
 - 2.1.3 Ensure that the product is within the scope of arrangement.
 - 2.1.4 The Certification Bodies for export to Australia will treat the non-compliant product/lot as conventional if non-compliance is found and will apply disciplinary measures as per Sanction catalogue as per NPOP in such events.
 - 2.1.5 Organic agricultural products exported from India to Australia must bear the Indian Organic logo.

3. Export of Organic Products from Australia to India under MRA

- 3.1 The export of organic products to India will comply with the following requirements to ensure certification compliances, integrity and safety of organic products through process certification, labelling etc.
 - 3.1.1 Adherence to National Standard for Organic and Bio-Dynamic Produce requirements with respect to the crop production, handling and trading requirements to ensure the integrity of the organic products exported. In addition, exports will comply with the food safety requirements as applicable against the *Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991*, the Food Standards Code and relevant State and Territory regulation.
 - 3.1.2 The Organic Approved Certifying Bodies recognised under the Export Control (Organic Goods) Rules 2021 will ensure that every

consignment of organic goods destined to India is accompanied by an Organic Goods Certificate (OGC) in the prescribed format.

3.1.3 Ensure that the product is within the scope of arrangement.

3.1.4 The Certification Bodies for export to India will treat the non-compliant product/lot as conventional if non-compliance is found and will apply disciplinary measures as per the Sanctions section in the National Standard for Organic and Bio-Dynamic Produce in such events.

3.1.5 Organic agricultural products exported from Australia to India must include on the label a logo from an Australian Certifying Body (ACB) approved by the Australian Competent Authority.

4. Effective date of organic equivalency between Australia and India

4.1 The arrangement was signed and will come into effect on **24.09.2025**.

4.2 Only Transaction Certificates (TC) and Organic Goods Certificates (OGC) issued after the promulgation of this procedure on **24.09.2025** are valid for trade in organic agricultural products between Australia and India.