

**Question for written answer E-6052/2010
to the Council**
Rule 117
Christophe Béchu (PPE)

Subject: New organic food logo for the European Union

On 8 February 2010 the Commission selected the new European Union organic food logo. This new official organic logo, on a green background with stars in the shape of a leaf, will appear on pre-packaged food products in the European Union from 1 July 2010.

From that date, the EU organic logo must appear on all pre-packaged organic products which are produced in the Member States of the Union and meet the required standards. It will be optional for imported products. It will be permissible to affix other private, regional or national logos alongside the EU logo.

That being so, is making the logo optional for imported products not tantamount to allowing products which are subject to little monitoring and insufficient checks to claim to be organic on the internal market?

Are the required standards the same for EU organic produce, which is subject to strict checks, and imported produce?