



United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development



International Federation
of Organic Agriculture
Movements



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

INTERNATIONAL TASK FORCE ON HARMONIZATION AND EQUIVALENCE IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

**EIGHTH MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL TASK FORCE ON
HARMONIZATION AND EQUIVALENCY IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE**

6-7 October 2008

Room XXV, Building E, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

AGENDA

Monday 6 October, 2008

- 09:00 -10:00 Introduction
- Opening remarks, Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary General of UNCTAD
 - Agenda approval
 - Introductions
 - Steering Committee Report
- 10:00 -10:30 Presentation: EquiTool (Guide for Assessing Equivalence of Organic Standards and Technical Regulations), Final Draft
- 10:30 -11:00 *coffee/tea break*
- 11:00 -12:30 Discussion: EquiTool, Final Draft
- 12:30 -14:00 *Lunch*
- 14:00 -14:30 International Requirements for Organic Certification Bodies (IROCB) Report
- 14:30 -15:30 Presentation and Discussion of ITF Summary Report
- 15:30 -16:00 *coffee/tea break*
- 16:00 -17:00 Discussion of ITF Summary Report (continued)
- 17:00 -18:00 Presentation and Discussion of ITF Communiqué

Tuesday 7 October, 2008

- 09:00 -10:30 The Way Forward
 - Outreach
 - Concept for follow up project
- 10:30 -11.00 *coffee/tea break*
- 11:00 -12:30 Approval of ITF Tools and Results
 - IROCB
 - EquiTool
 - Final Report and Recommendations
 - Communiqué
- 12:30 -14:00 Lunch
- 14:00 -15:00 Closing Session
 - member reflections and commitments
 - closing remarks
- 15:00 -15:30 *coffee/tea break*

15:30 -17:30 High Level Public Session

- 15:30-15:35 Welcome remarks, UNCTAD
15:35-15:50 Overview of the ITF presentation
- 15:50-16:20 High-level speeches by UNCTAD, FAO and IFOAM

 - Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General, UNCTAD
 - Dr. Alexander Müller, Assistant Director-General, FAO
 - Dr. Urs Niggli, Vice-President, IFOAM
- 16:20-16:25 Launching of IROCB and EquiTool (tools developed by the ITF)
16:25-17:30 Statements and comments by ITF and UNCTAD members
17:30 Closing

17:30 – 19.00 Organic Reception, Escargot Bar, 3rd floor, Lausanne end of building

Wednesday 8 October, 2008

Field Trip organized by FiBL (Research Institute of Organic Agriculture) for advance-registered ITF members only.