

## Application form:

- to recognize Catastrophic circumstances,
- to request especial Derogations



### General information:

The current legal framework for organic production includes some exceptional production rules that are strictly necessary for organic production to continue or recommence. Nevertheless, those derogations should be limited in time and only be granted to the affected types of production, or, where relevant, land parcels, and to all relevant operators in the area concerned, or to the individual operator covered by the formal decision.

The majority of them may be applied in case of catastrophic circumstances for plant, livestock, beekeeping, and aquaculture production because when operators<sup>1</sup> are affected by catastrophic circumstances, they cannot ensure the total fulfilment of the regulation, and some exceptions are needed to continue or recommence the organic production.

In this frame, catastrophic circumstances are any extraordinary events or emergencies that can affect the certification body and its certified operators. This kind of event could be derived from an 'adverse climatic situation', 'animal diseases', an 'environmental incident', a 'natural disaster' or a 'catastrophic event', as well as any comparable situation, that Kiwa BCS recognizes a situation as catastrophic circumstances based on a statement issued by the relevant authorities of the third country in which the situation occurs or by evaluation based on official organizations justifying the catastrophic circumstances.

If the operation that you are in charge of is affected by a similar situation, you must request the recognition of a catastrophic circumstance and, if it applies, request one of the following derogations.

1. For the use of non-organic animals to renew (or reconstitute) the herd or flock in the case of high mortality of animals and when organically reared animals are not available, provided that the respective conversion periods specified in point 1.2.2 of Part II of that Annex II (Reg (EU) 2018/848) are complied with. It also applies to the production of bees and other insects.
2. For the use of non-organic feed instead of organic or in-conversion feed in livestock production when feed production is lost or restrictions are imposed.
3. For the adaptation to grazing on organic land, the stocking density in buildings and minimum surfaces for indoor and outdoor areas when the production unit of livestock is affected.
4. For the reduction of the percentage of the dry matter consisting of roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage in daily rations provided that the animal's nutritional requirements at the various stages of its development are met when feed production is lost or when restrictions are imposed.
5. For feeding bee colonies with organic honey, organic pollen, organic sugar syrups, or organic sugar when the survival of the colony is endangered for other reasons than climatic conditions.
6. For moving bee colonies in areas not respecting the provisions for the placing of the apiaries when the survival of the colony is endangered,
7. For the use of non-organic aquaculture animals to renew (or reconstitute) the aquaculture stock in case of high mortality of aquaculture animals and when organically reared animals are not available, provided that the latter two-thirds of the duration of the production cycle are managed under organic management.

Please submit this application to Kiwa BCS **prior** to executing any of the activities described above. Otherwise, the derogation cannot be granted, and the operation will restart the conversion period if it applies.

This application is mandatory only for the EU standard. It is not mandatory for other standards.

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<sup>1</sup> Operators include group of operators and individual operators

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### 1. Operator. General information

<b>Operator (certificate holder)</b>			
Company Name:			
Client Number:			
Address:		Zip Code	
Town:		Province / State:	Country:
Number of the valid certificate:		Valid until date:	

<b>Activity or activities selected in the valid certificate mentioned above</b>					
Production	<input type="checkbox"/>	Preparation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Distribution	<input type="checkbox"/>
Storing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Import	<input type="checkbox"/>	Export	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Category or categories of products selected in the valid certificate mentioned above</b>					
a. Unprocessed plants and plant products, including seeds and other plant reproductive material	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. Livestock and unprocessed livestock products	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. Algae and unprocessed aquaculture products	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Processed agricultural products, including aquaculture products, for use as food	<input type="checkbox"/>	e. Feed	<input type="checkbox"/>	g. Other products listed in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 or not covered by the previous categories	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Contact data of the responsible person for questions</b>	
Name:	
Phone/Mobile phone:	
E-mail:	

### 2. Catastrophic circumstances - Recognition

#### 2.1 Type of catastrophic circumstances

From the following options, please select the most appropriate and describe in detail how that event affects the organic operation that you are responsible for:

Types:	Describe the situation:
<input type="checkbox"/> adverse climatic situation	Examples: frost, storms and hail, ice, heavy rain or severe drought
<input type="checkbox"/> animal diseases	Examples: BSE (bovine spongiform encephalopathy), etc
<input type="checkbox"/> environmental incident	Examples: chemical contamination, air pollution - black smoke - chemical spill - oil spill, etc
<input type="checkbox"/> natural disaster	Examples: flood, cyclone, tsunami, hurricane, earthquake, volcanic eruption, etc
<input type="checkbox"/> catastrophic event	Examples: war, pandemic, etc
<b>Others</b>	Examples: political instability, cope, riots, strikes, etc

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**2.2 Official statement**

Is there available a statement issued by the relevant authorities of the country in which the situation occurs?

YES ☐ ; NO ☐ If; it is yes, please attach it (Annex )

If, it is not, is there any statement issued by official organization that justify the catastrophic circumstances?

YES ☐ ; NO ☐ If it is yes, please attach it (Annex )

**2.3 Derogations**

Due to the catastrophic circumstances, which of the following derogations do you want to apply for? (it is possible to select more than one exemption if it applies)

1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	The use of non-organic animals to renew (or reconstitute) the herd or flock in the case of high mortality of animals and when organically reared animals are not available, provided that the respective conversion periods specified in point 1.2.2 of Part II of that Annex II (Reg (EU) 2018/848) are complied with. It also applies to the production of bees and other insects.
2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	The use of non-organic feed instead of organic or in-conversion feed in livestock production when feed production is lost or restrictions are imposed.
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	The adaptation to grazing on organic land, the stocking density in buildings and minimum surfaces for indoor and outdoor areas when the production unit of livestock is affected.
4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	The reduction of the percentage of the dry matter consisting of roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage in daily rations provided that the animal's nutritional requirements at the various stages of its development are met when feed production is lost or when restrictions are imposed.
5.	<input type="checkbox"/>	For feeding bee colonies with organic honey, organic pollen, organic sugar syrups, or organic sugar when the survival of the colony is endangered for other reasons than climatic conditions.
6.	<input type="checkbox"/>	For moving bee colonies in areas not respecting the provisions for the placing of the apiaries when the survival of the colony is endangered.
7.	<input type="checkbox"/>	The use of non-organic aquaculture animals to renew (or reconstitute) the aquaculture stock in case of high mortality of aquaculture animals and when organically reared animals are not available, provided that the latter two-thirds of the duration of the production cycle are managed under organic management

➤ If you have selected one of the following options: two, three, four, five, or six. Then provide all necessary documents that can justify the approval of the derogation. For instance: third-party statements of non-availability of organic or in conversion feed, enough space, etc.

➤ If you have selected option one (1) 'the use of non-organic animals' please provide the following information:

1. Scientific and common name (common and Latin name, i.e. species and genus)

2. Breeds and strains

3. Production purposes: meat, milk, eggs, dual purpose or breeding

4. Total number of animals

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5. Availability of the relevant organic livestock species

6. Documentation(s) or a statement(s) that indicate the following items (when applicable):

i. that organic animals are not available in sufficient quality or quantity in the territory of the country where the operator is located.

ii. In case of poultry production. The statement must mention that the pullets for the production of eggs and poultry for meat production are less than three days old.

iii. For breeding purposes, a confirmation that the following restrictions were applied on the date on which those animals enter the herd or flock:

- (a) bovine animals, equine animals and cervine animals shall be less than six months old;
- (b) ovine animals and caprine animals shall be less than 60 days old;
- (c) porcine animals shall weigh less than 35 kg;
- (d) rabbits shall be less than three months old.

iv. For breeding purposes, a confirmation that indicates that non-organic adult male and non-organic nulliparous female animals introduced for the renewal of a herd or flock will be reared subsequently in accordance with the organic production rules. In addition, the statement must show the number of female animals and the number of total adults at the moment when those were introduced for the renewal of a herd or flock.

Annex:

➤ If you have selected option seven (7) '*the use of non-organic aquaculture animals*' then please provide the following information:

1. Species and genus (common and Latin name, i.e. species and genus)

2. Breeds and strains (when applicable)

3. Life stage (such as eggs, fry, juveniles) as available for sale as organic

4. Quantity available as estimated by the operator

5. Total number of juveniles

6. Availability of the relevant organic aquaculture species

7. Documentation(s) or a statement(s) that indicate the following items (when applicable):

i. About the origin and treatment of the species used, as well as a statement that the selected species are robust and can be produced without causing significant damage to wild stocks.

ii. For breeding purposes, a justification of using wild-caught or non-organic aquaculture animals where no organic breed is available or where new genetic stock for breeding purposes is brought into the production unit after an authorization has been granted by the competent authority with a view to improving the suitability of genetic stock, and a confirmation that those animals were organic handled for at least three months before they may be used for breeding

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iii. In case of using wild-caught specimens listed on the IUCN Red List of endangered species, an authorization granted by the relevant public authority in charge of the conservation effort that allows the use of them in the context of conservation recognized programmes.

iv. For on-growing purposes, a confirmation that the collection of wild aquaculture juveniles has been restricted to the following cases:

- (a) natural influx of fish or crustacean larvae and juveniles when filling ponds, containment systems and enclosures;
- (b) restocking of wild fry or crustacean larvae of species that are not on the IUCN Red List of endangered species in extensive aquaculture farming inside wetlands, such as brackish water ponds, tidal areas and costal lagoons, provided that:
  - the restocking is in line with management measures approved by the relevant authorities to ensure the sustainable exploitation of the species concerned, and
  - the animals are fed exclusively with feed naturally available in the environment

Annex:

### Please remember:

- To keep all documentary evidence related to this request **for at least 3 years.**

		Operator's signature
Place and date		Role and Name in block letters

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**This part is for internal use of Kiwa BCS and will be filled in by the technical reviewer or certifier**

**Response by the technical reviewer/certifier:**

**A. Recognition of catastrophic circumstances**

After analysing the documentary evidence, the event can be considered as catastrophic:

☐ YES      ☐ NO      If, YES since when: dd/mm/yyyy

Select accordingly, it is suggested,

☐ Perform a remote assessment      ☐ Extend the certificate for enter the number of months

Please give a detailed information about your decision:

*If it is necessary to make different decisions for different scopes/categories, please comment accordingly.*

In case that the client applies for a specific derogation, fill in the following part, otherwise, go to the part C.

**B. Decision about derogation(s)**

After analysing the documentary evidence, it was determined to:

☐ grant      ☐ reject      the derogation: enter the number mentioned in point 2.3

Due to the following reasons: (give a detailed information of why the derogation was granted or rejected)

*If it is necessary to make different decisions for different derogations, please comment, indicating the derogation and its corresponding decision.*

The derogation is granted from dd.mm.yyyy to dd.mm.yyyy

If more than one derogation has been requested, please replicate this part as many times is needed.

**C. Signatures and remarks**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of responsible person at  
Kiwa BCS:

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of responsible person at  
Kiwa BCS

\_\_\_\_\_

Additional remarks:

**Dear operator, please bear in mind that you must keep all documentary evidence related to this request for at least 3 years.**