Bangalore January 11, 2024



## **CIRCULAR**

## <u>Subject: Important Updates: Organic Certification Procedures and Payment process to lab services</u>

Ref. No.: ADITI/HO/2024/CIRCULAR/002

Dear Aditi Clients,

Wishing you a prosperous 2024 in the organic industry! To uphold our commitment to integrity, we're refining our organic certification processes.

## For Grower Groups:

- ICS must have a registered **legal identity**, with a dedicated legally **registered village-level office**, backed by an organizational chart. (E.g.: Registration under Societies Act, Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) Act, Cooperative Society Act, Self-Helf Group (SHG).
- Keep all ICS-related documents at the **legally registered village-level office**.
- Maintain an up-to-date farm diary for key farming activities at the farmer level and ensure that the Organic Management Plan (OMP) of the group is updated annually.
- Ensure the mandator is not part of the designated ICS-certified products Purchasing Committee to prevent a Conflict of Interest.
- Internal standards in **the local language**, with illustrations for a better understanding of the organic certification requirements to the registered farmers.
- Procurement audits for high-risk crops based on certification committee risk categorization and document verification by the TC department of Aditi.
- Cotton remains a high-risk product: Aditi coordinates sampling/testing for domestic transactions.

## Payment Procedure to Laboratories Update (Effective January 22, 2024):

We're updating the sampling form, requiring operators to include billing details.

NABL-accredited and APEDA-recognized labs will invoice for services using these details. Kindly coordinate with the lab for payment following their terms. Aditi will receive the test report directly and share the findings with the operator after the assessment of the test report.

Please review these updates and don't hesitate to seek clarification before January 22, 2024. We value our partnership and eagerly anticipate advancing the organic sector together.

With Kind regards,

FOR ADITI ORGANIC CERTIFICATIONS PVT. L

Narayana Upadhyaya Managing Director Managing Director

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Page 1 of 1