

# MEMBERSHIP TERMS & CONDITIONS

## Requirements for Membership

- Our Affiliates should endorse the mission & goals of IFOAM - Organics International and the Principles of Organic Agriculture;
- Affiliates can be individuals (Supporters), organizations or departments of an institution/ subsidiary (Members and Associates);
- Only organizations or departments of institutions/ subsidiaries can become Members or Associates;
- In the case of organizations, at least three people must be employed or active in the organization applying for membership;
- To become a Member (with voting rights in the General Assembly), the applicant organization must be predominantly organic, i.e. dedicate over 50% of its budget/ activities to organic. Organizations not fulfilling this criterion may become Associates (no voting rights);
- The completed application form must be submitted;
- First-time applicants must pay a one-off registration fee;
- Membership fee payments are due annually and are approved by the General Assembly.

## Application

**Submission:** Membership applications may be submitted at any time, all year round. Applications are only complete when:

- The application form is filled out and signed by the legal representative (Organizations) or Sup- porter;
- The membership fee and one-off registration fee (except Supporters) are paid.

## Membership Fees

**Fee Schedule:** The Membership year is from January to December of each year. Individuals or organizations joining in the course of the year pay the full membership fee; those joining after July only pay half the fee. Membership in IFOAM - Organics International is active as soon as the first membership and one-off registration fee of 80 Euros (except Supporters) are paid. Membership is renewed automatically on January of each year. Invoices are sent out every year in November.

**Calculation of Membership Fee:** The yearly membership fee is determined by the General Assembly and, in the case of applicant organizations, is calculated according to the organization's turnover/ budget related to organic activities:

### Member / Associate

- < 50.000 Euros 100 Euros
- < 200.000 Euros 300 Euros
- < 800.000 Euros 1000 Euros
- < 2.000.000 Euros 2000 Euros
- < 5.000.000 Euros 3000 Euros
- > 5.000.000 Euros 4000 Euros

### Supporter

- Regular income 100 Euros
- Irregular income 50 Euros
- Students 20 Euros

**Early Fee Payment:** Fee payments received by February 20th of the year to which the invoicing refers, benefit from a reduction, as detailed on the invoice.

## Admission

**Approval:** IFOAM - Organics International approves new Affiliates (organizations) and their level of affiliation. After approval, new Affiliates are sent a membership package with a range of information material.

**Rejection:** IFOAM - Organics International may reject applications if it deems the activities of the applicant counter our mission or goals, e.g.:

- Advocating or supporting the use of GMOs or intentionally using GMOs in organic production systems;
- The use of chemicals that threaten the integrity of organic production and processing, including the production of agrochemicals for such use;
- Cruelty to animals;
- Violation of human and laborers' rights.

In the rare case of an application not being approved by the World Board (see reasons for rejection above) the membership fee will be fully refunded.

The Registration fee is non-refundable.

## Termination of Membership

**By the Affiliate:** Membership is renewed automatically every year. Affiliates may terminate their affiliation at any time by sending a written notice of termination to [membership@ifoam.bio](mailto:membership@ifoam.bio). Paid affiliation fees are non-refundable upon membership termination.

**By IFOAM - Organics International:** Affiliates' Membership can be terminated by us in case of:

- Non-compliance with the affiliation requirements;
- Engagement in activities, that are counter to our mission, goals and objectives;
- Misuse of our name, logo or seal;
- Damage to the image of IFOAM - Organics International, its Affiliates or Organic Agriculture in general;
- Non-payment of the membership fee;
- Other serious reasons, as determined by the World Board or the General Assembly.

## Group Membership

Group membership is available to organizations with branch and satellite offices. The mother organization/company pays the normal fee according to the membership fee scheme, while the branches pay a flat fee of just 100€ p.a., regardless of their budget/ turnover. Branches do not have to pay the registration fee.

## Confidentiality

In compliance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), IFOAM - Organics International guarantees the confidentiality of all the data provided in the application form. Your data is collected and filed solely for us to communicate with you, and is not shared with any third party. By joining IFOAM - Organics International, you consent to receive electronic messages from us such as membership related communications (e.g. invoices, consultations and invitations for voting), our newsletters, special announcements, event invitations and similar communications. You also agree that your name of organization & contact person, profile, phone number and website is published in our [online membership directory](#). You may withdraw your consent at any time sending an email to [membership@ifoam.bio](mailto:membership@ifoam.bio)

## Miscellaneous

**Membership-related questions:** Please address your questions to [membership@ifoam.bio](mailto:membership@ifoam.bio)

**IFOAM - Organics International Office Hours:** Head- office is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Germany time.

**Contact:** IFOAM - Organics International  
Charles-de-Gaulle-Strasse 5  
53113 Bonn, Germany  
Tel: +49 228 9265010  
Fax: +49 228 9265099

## Definition and Principles of Organic Agriculture

### Definition of Organic Agriculture:

Organic Agriculture is a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions, rather than the use of inputs with adverse effects. Organic Agriculture combines tradition, innovation and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and a good quality of life for all involved.

### Principles of Organic Agriculture:

- **Health:** Organic Agriculture sustains and enhances the health of soil, plant, animal, human and planet as one and indivisible.
- **Ecology:** Organic Agriculture is based on living ecological systems and cycles, work with them, emulate them and help sustain them.
- **Fairness:** Organic Agriculture builds on relationships that ensure fairness with regard to the common environment and life opportunities.
- **Care:** Organic Agriculture is managed in a pre-

cautionary and responsible manner to protect the health and well-being of current and future generations and the environment.

## Mission and Goals of IFOAM - Organics International

Our mission is leading, uniting and assisting the organic movement in its full diversity. Our goal is the worldwide adoption of ecologically, socially and economically sound systems that are based on the principles of Organic Agriculture.

## Name, Logo, Membership Emblem and Seal of IFOAM - Organics International

### Name & Logo

The name "International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements" as well as the acronym "IFOAM" are registered trademarks.

The IFOAM - Organics International Logo is defined as follows:



Our name and logo cannot be used as a product mark and may be used by our Affiliates (Members, Associates, and Supporters) at conferences, events, publications, web pages and other activities only under a contract to be signed with IFOAM - Organics International in accordance with the requirements of relevant policies. Our logo may not be used in any communication materials unless specifically authorized by IFOAM - Organics International. The name may be translated from English to the language of the Affiliate, the acronym "IFOAM" may not be translated.

### Membership Emblem

Our Emblem is defined as follows:



The IFOAM - Organics International Membership Emblem cannot be used as a product mark and may be used by our Affiliates (Members, Associates, and Supporters) only. The Membership Emblem identifies our Affiliates (Members, Associates, and Supporters) who are committed to our Mission, Goals as well as to the Definition and Principle of Organic Agriculture (Health, Fairness, Ecology and Care). The Emblem can be used in the Affiliate's communication materials, as follows:

- Stationery (letterheads, envelopes, business cards);
- Promotional materials (brochures, leaflets, books, posters) which do not refer to any kind of products;
- Web Pages;
- Electronic Communications (email signatures, etc.).

### Seal

The IFOAM - Organics International Seal is defined as follows:



Our Seal can be used as a product mark (labeling of products) only as authorized under our Accreditation Program. Our Affiliates are not automatically granted the use of the IFOAM - Organics International Seal.

For more information, contact the International Organic Accreditation Service (IOAS), [www.ioas.org](http://www.ioas.org).