



## **Procedure of FLP Certification**

### **Preparation:**

If a grower shows interest in becoming a FLP-member we send him the FLP Guidelines together with other basic info (flyer, brochures, etc.). He receives furthermore the so called PIQ (Pre-Inspection-Questionnaire). This form gives the FLP Board data about the general situation and the conditions on the farm like the number of employees, the salaries, the production units, etc.

### **Audit:**

The farms are audited by independent<sup>1</sup> audit organisations. They check if the social and ecological standards as fixed in the FLP Guidelines are fulfilled. Representatives of NGOs and trade unions have the right to join the audit (independently of a membership in FLP association). The audit is always conducted by two experts, one woman and one man.

### **Certification:**

The audit report is represented to the FLP Certification Committee. The members of this committee are members of the NGOs and Trade Unions represented in FLP Association. The committee decides if the farm complies with the main points of the FLP standards and can be accepted as member or not. The grower receives a report in which compliances and

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<sup>1</sup> „Independent organisation means in this case that the organisation conducts the audit without any influence by FLP. FLP-employees do take part only in special cases as observer. Furthermore we cooperate – whenever possible – with local organisations that are accredited according ISO Guide 65.

non-compliances are listed. With regards to certain points he might get a time frame in which specific non-compliances have to be stopped.

If the decision is positive the grower receives a certificate that gives him the right to sell his products with the FLP-label. The certificate is valid for one year.

**Re-certification:**

FLP members have to undergo a regular and full re-inspection every year. In between FLP may do unannounced spot checks with regards to specific aspects. FLP-growers have to agree that FLP coordinators and representatives have free access to their farms without previous notice.