SNRMS
Shivalik Natural Resources Management Society
(A Certification Enterprise)

Recognition of Certification Programs, Transference and shifting of Operators
Reciprocity:

- ➢ SNRMS grants transference to products covered by a certification or programme accredited according to equivalent criteria and procedures as decided by the National Program for Organic production.
- ➢ Products certified by any accredited certifying agency as per NPOP will be accepted as organic by SNRMS after evaluation & inspection of all reports and followed procedures.
- ➢ SNRMS shall ensure that organic products certified under the exporting countries organic standards are required to be recertified as per NPOP for the purpose of re- export. SNRMS shall apply to APEDA for re-certification of imported organic products for countries with whom there is an equivalence agreement, the re-export of value-added organic products with imported ingredients will be as per the scope of such equivalence agreement.
- ➢ Under the scope of mutual recognition, SNRMS shall ensure that;
  - ▪ Each other shall be informed of changes in major programme or standards.
  - ▪ Each other shall be informed of the certified production (lists of certified operators).
  - ▪ Indemnification.
  - ▪ Each other shall be informed in case of loss of accreditation, regulatory approval and similar circumstances.
  - ▪ Each other shall welcome the right to review the other party's performance.
  - ▪ Each other shall welcome the right to have access to relevant information.
  - ▪ Each other shall have the regulation of confidentiality.
  - ▪ Each other shall have dispute settlement provisions.

Shifting of Operators (From SNRMS to Other CB):

- ➢ The scope certificate issued by SNRMS is valid till the expiry date mentioned in the scope certificate.
- ➢ If an operator chooses to shift from SNRMS to another agency, the operator has to apply for NOC in favor of another agency in the Trace net.
- ➢ All the information and documents as required by the new CB shall be shared along with any issues of concern for the operator.
- ➢ A letter of NOC approval will also be issued in hard copy/email to the operator for submission to the new CB.
- ➢ After the NOC is approved in the Trace net by SNRMS, the operator can register the project before the expiry of the scope certificate with the alternate agency.

Shifting of Operators (From Other CB to SNRMS):

All the following documents for past 12 months shall be verified by SNRMS before registering the project:

- Application form
- Organic Management Plan (OMP)
- Inspection report
- Evaluation report
- Action Taken from operator
- Certification decision
- Scope certificate
- Details of Transaction certificates (if issued)
- Any Issues of concern like complaints, Rapid alert etc.

SNRMS will check all the documents thoroughly and then make a decision for registration. After receiving approved NOC number, Tracenet Executive/Concerned person shall register project in the Tracenet. If any NC available on the Tracenet then Certifier has to verify prior to the inspection of the operator and request the operator for supporting evidence against openNC's. Once relevant ATR has been sent to SNRMS, the NOC shall be accepted. Regular inspection shall be carried out for the project during the scope cycle. Mandatory physical inspections shall be carried out by SNRMS before issuance of any transaction certificate (TC) to the operators. The relevant information shall be shared with APEDA regarding the certification of the operator transferred from other CB to SNRMS.

Transfer of operators on the direction of Accreditation Body:

If any accredited certification body is de accredited under some circumstances, and operators from that certification body wants to get the certification from SNRMS, under the direction of APEDA, NOC shall be accepted as per the below procedure:

All the following documents for past 12 months shall be verified by SNRMS before registering the project:

- Application form
- Organic Management Plan (OMP)
- Inspection report
- Evaluation report
- Action Taken from operator
- Certification decision
- Scope certificate
- Details of Transaction certificates (if issued)
- Any Issues of concern like complaints, Rapid alert etc.

SNRMS will take minimum charges by the operator if they have already paid the renewal charges to the previous CB but their renewal process could not be completed due to imposition of sanction on their CB or TCs pending for issuance.

After receiving the NOC and application for registration SNRMS will do the verification audit within 40 days before registration. In case due to pre-schedule work if SNRMS is not able to do the verification audit within 40 days, SNRMS will do the registration and from the date of registration within 60-70 days, SNRMS will do the verification audit. On the basis of non-conformities found during verification audit SNRMS can decide to continue/suspend or terminate the operator. All the documents shall be verified during physical verification along with latest open NCs. Once verified that all NCs have been closed, SNRMS shall register the project in Tracenet. Even if the renewal process of operator has been done by the previous CB, TC will not be issued without verification audit.

Process of transfer of Grower group:
- SNRMS will physically verify the location of ICS and the existence of farmers practicing organic farming.
- SNRMS will take photographs of the ICS and farmers audited and also will record geo location as evidence.
- SNRMS inspector will verify the stock physically and take details along with photographs and will also take sample for testing in case of high-risk crops.

Process of transfer of Processor:
- SNRMS inspector will verify all the detail of the unit and will take photographs during the verification audit.
- SNRMS will verify the stock ready for processing unit/storage before issuance of any certificate on Tracenet.

Process of transfer of Trader:
- After acceptance of NOC, SNRMS will do the physical verification of the stock before issuance of any certificate.

The relevant information shall be shared with APEDA regarding the certification of the operator transferred under the direction of APEDA due to de-accreditation.

Transfer of Farmers from One Group to Another:
- The farmers in the certified group can shift to another grower group under the same or another certification body if they do not want to continue with the existing grower group. If the service provider / mandator/ trader discontinues his operations, but the farmers under his operations continue organic farming, then the farmers can shift to another group for certification.
- In the above instances, the farmers who want to shift, will place a request to their mandator for applying for No Objection Certificate (NOC) on Trace net on their behalf, in case of mandator managed ICS.

- In case of self-managed ICS, the ICS Manager will submit the NOC application on Trace net to SNRMS. After receiving the NOC application from the ICS, SNRMS after verifying the requirements, will issue the NOC.
- If the mandator does not forward the NOC request of the farmers on Trace net, the farmers can submit a collective request directly to SNRMS. In such case, SNRMS will give necessary directions to the mandator for issuance of NOC after verifying the authenticity of the request.
- If the mandator still does not forward the NOC request, SNRMS can take appropriate action as per its sanction catalogue. Further, SNRMS will facilitate the farmers to apply for NOC on Trace net and also issue the NOC.
- The provision to change the mandator will be available under the login of SNRMS only. ICS has to request SNRMS to change the Managed by Self/ Mandator with necessary documents, which needs to be uploaded in the system.
- To provide login id and password to the New ICS Manager, SNRMS shall have the facility to change the email id and mobile number under the registration menu any time to reset the password.
- The details are given in user manual under CB login.
- They may also contact Trace net helpdesk team in case of technical difficulty.