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GLOBALG.A.P. Livestock Standard Announcement

We hereby inform you about the future of our Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA) livestock standard.

Since GLOBALG.A.P. published the first version of our livestock standard more than 15 years ago, we have expanded this scope and added new product categories, addressed the most relevant aspects of animal production, and responded to the interests of consumers.

GLOBALG.A.P. livestock certification has gained trust and recognition in national and international markets and has successfully contributed to the promotion of safe and responsible farming of animals on a global scale. Unfortunately, its market share never reached the mainstream level that is essential for achieving our main objective of harmonizing standards and driving down costs by eliminating duplication. On the contrary, it remained a niche standard for advanced farms and operations.

On 26 April 2022, we published a new version of our Integrated Farm Assurance standard (IFA v6) for the product categories of fruit and vegetables, flowers and ornamentals, hops, and aquaculture. We are also launching smart farm assurance services, which include smarter standards, a smarter approach to sustainability, smarter integration of data, and smarter systems and services.

Having analyzed the prospects of our IFA livestock standard and accepted that the projected outcome did not suggest an opportunity to become the global mainstream and reference standard in this sector, we have decided *not* to invest in an upgrade of our current IFA livestock standard from version 5 to version 6. This means that we will not continue to offer an IFA livestock certification under our ownership after the last certificate for IFA v5 has expired.

To support those currently certified to this standard, it will be possible to audit to IFA v5.2



for livestock until 31 December 2023. All certificates issued up to that point will be valid for the full 12-month cycle.

We understand the importance of assurance for the farms and operations which are currently certified and listen to the newly developing markets that seek this assurance for their livestock production. However, their requirements differ significantly from our mainstream approach to IFA in the other product categories.

One possible option for the continuation of the livestock standard is that other parties in the livestock sector, who are interested and able to offer a solution better suited to the needs of the industry, continue to do so under their ownership.

Should this be the case, FoodPLUS GmbH may still be able to support the industry by offering our farm assurance services (such as certification body administration or producer registration in the database) to those new owners, if requested.

To clarify the next steps, we are approaching our stakeholders through webinars and one-on-one conversations. Information will be published on our website when available.

We are committed to enabling a smooth exit from IFA livestock certification and, should the opportunity arise, facilitating the transition to new ownership.

Sincerely,

GLOBALG.A.P. c/o FoodPLUS GmbH

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