



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 16 September 2019
(OR. en)

12140/19

Interinstitutional File:
2018/0217(COD)

AGRI 438
AGRIFIN 52
FIN 572

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	European Court of Auditor's Special Report No 04/2019: "The control system for organic products has improved, but some challenges remain" - <i>Council conclusions (16 September 2019)</i>

Delegations will find in the annex the Council conclusions on:

Special Report No 04/2019: "The control system for organic products has improved, but some challenges remain"

adopted by the Council at its 3712th meeting held on 16 September 2019.

COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

on Special Report No 04/2019 from the European Court of Auditors entitled:

"The control system for organic products has improved, but some challenges remain"

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

1. WELCOMES the Court's Special Report No 04/2019 on "The control system for organic products has improved, but some challenges remain", which follows-up on the Court's Special Report No 9/2012 on "Audit of the control system governing the production, processing, distribution and imports of organic products";
2. NOTES the Court's overall finding that the control system for organic products in the EU has improved in recent years but that further action could be taken on remaining weaknesses;
3. TAKES NOTE of the Court's recommendations, all of which are addressed to the Commission, and also NOTES that the Commission accepts all of these recommendations in their entirety and has or will appropriately follow-up on these recommendations, as set out in the Commission replies included in the special report;
4. RECALLS that the new Organic Regulation, which enters into application in 2021, foresees the specification of uniform arrangements in relation to suspected or established non-compliances; INVITES the Commission to issue guidance on the drafting of national catalogues of measures in this regard rather than proposing full harmonization in this area;
5. BELIEVES that the Commission and the Member States could step up efforts to improve the control systems for imports of organic products, in particular as concerns the carrying out of checks by control bodies on importers.