



GLOBAL ORGANIC TEXTILE STANDARD
ECOLOGY & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

CHANGE LOG

APPROVAL PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION BODIES

Version 4.0
September 2025

THIS CHANGELOG LISTS THE MAJOR CHANGES MADE FROM
VERSION 3.0 TO VERSION 4.0

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SECTIONAL CORRELATION

The text in the document including some section titles have been reworded / moved so as to align with ISO 17065. The table below gives a sectional correlation between the last version of the document (3.0) against this new version (4.0).

Version 3.0	Version 4.0
1. Objective of this document	Introduction
2. Principles	Section 1 – Scope
3. Scope	Section 1 – Scope
4. Approval and Monitoring Procedure	Section 9 – Approval and Monitoring Procedure
4.1 Prerequisite for certification bodies	Section 9.1 – General requirements
4.2 Application procedure	Section 9.2 – Application Procedure
4.3 Requirements for accreditation bodies	Shall be moved to a separate document
4.4 Approval decisions	Shall be moved to a separate document
4.5 Publication of approved certification bodies and their conditions	Section 9.3 - Publication of approved certification bodies and their conditions
5. Requirements for certification bodies	Section 4 – General Requirements Section 7 - Process Requirements Section 10 - Further specific conditions for approved certification bodies.
5.1 General requirements	Section 4 - General Requirements
5.2 Process requirements for conducting GOTS certification.	Section 7 – Process Requirements (included in this section)
5.2.1 Application procedure	Section 7.2 – Application Section 7.3 - Application Review
5.2.2 Evaluation	Section 7.4 – Evaluation Section 7.5 - Review
5.2.3 Decision on certification	Section 7.6 – Certification Decision
5.2.4 Extension and renewal of certification	Section 7.9 – Surveillance and Recertification
5.3 Process requirements for conducting GOTS approval of textile auxiliary agents (Chemical Inputs).	Section 7 - Process Requirements (Included in this Section)
5.3.1 Application procedure	Section 7.2 – Application Section 7.3 - Application Review
5.3.2 Evaluation	Section 7.4 – Evaluation Section 7.5 - Review
5.2.4 Decision on approval	Section 7.6 – Certification Decision
5.4 Process requirements for the issuance of scope certificates	Section 7.7 – Certification Documentation
5.5 Process requirements for the issuance of transaction certificates	Section 7.7 – Certification Documentation
5.6 Further specific conditions for GOTS approved certification bodies.	Section 10 – Further specific conditions for approved certification bodies.

SUMMARY OF THE CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS VERSION

Revision version 4.0 of this document was necessary primarily to align with the structure and content of ISO 17065. The table below gives a brief of the major changes from version 3.0 while the text has been reviewed after which it has been adjusted for consistency and clarity in additional places.

Section	Changes
1 Scope	Objective and Principles have been reworded for clarity.
2 Normative references	Section has been added for clarity
3 Terms and definitions	Section has been added for clarity and better understanding.
4 General Requirements	Sections 4.2 through 4.6 have been added for alignment with ISO 17065. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 4.2 Management of Impartiality • Section 4.3 Liability and Financing • Section 4.4 Non - Discriminatory Conditions • Section 4.5 Confidentiality • Section 4.6 Publicly Available Information
5 Structural Requirements	Newly added so as to align with ISO 17065.
6 Resource Requirements	Section has been added for Certification Bodies to identify personnel resources required.
7 Process requirements	Section 7.1 has been added for clarity and understanding.
	Sections 7.8 through 7.13 added with detailed requirements for implementation and alignment in accordance with ISO/IEC 17065. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7.8 Directory of Certified Products • Section 7.10 Changes Affecting Certification • Section 7.11 Termination, Reduction, Suspension or Withdrawal of Certification • Section 7.12 Records • Section 7.13 Complaints and Appeals
8 Management system requirements	Section has been added for alignment with ISO 17065.
9 Approval and Monitoring Procedure	Section 9.4 ' <i>Actions During Suspension or Withdrawal of Accreditation</i> ' has been added.
10 Further Specific Conditions for Approved Certification Bodies	The section has been edited for consistency and clarity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An introductory statement has been added giving direction to Accreditation Bodies direction for reviewing requirements in Sections 10.1.6.1, 10.1.6.2, 10.1.7.1 and 10.1.7.3 • Section 10.1.12 added for clarity.
11 Risk Assessment	Section 11 newly added
12 Additional List of Definitions	Section added
Annex 1	Newly added for specific guidance to Certification Bodies
Annex 2	Newly added for specific guidance to Certification Bodies

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