



Ruimte en Milieu
*Ministerie van Volkshuisvesting,
Ruimtelijke Ordening en Milieubeheer*

Draft ideas for an ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT for VERA

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General requirements for the organisation of VERA

(international) recognition of verification procedure

- scientific basis
- quality of participating institutions, people, protocols & procedures
- communication

flexible with respect to national settings

- existing procedures, regulation & capacity
- politics
- timeschedules

efficient

- centralised (international) efforts where necessary
- decentralised professional activity where possible

open expansion model

- no need to cover the whole area at once: start small, expand where possible
- protocols, technologies & procedures
- participation & cooperation (institutions, countries, verification & certification systems)
- level of acceptance



Draft ideas for an organisational context (i)

Participants

actual verification proces

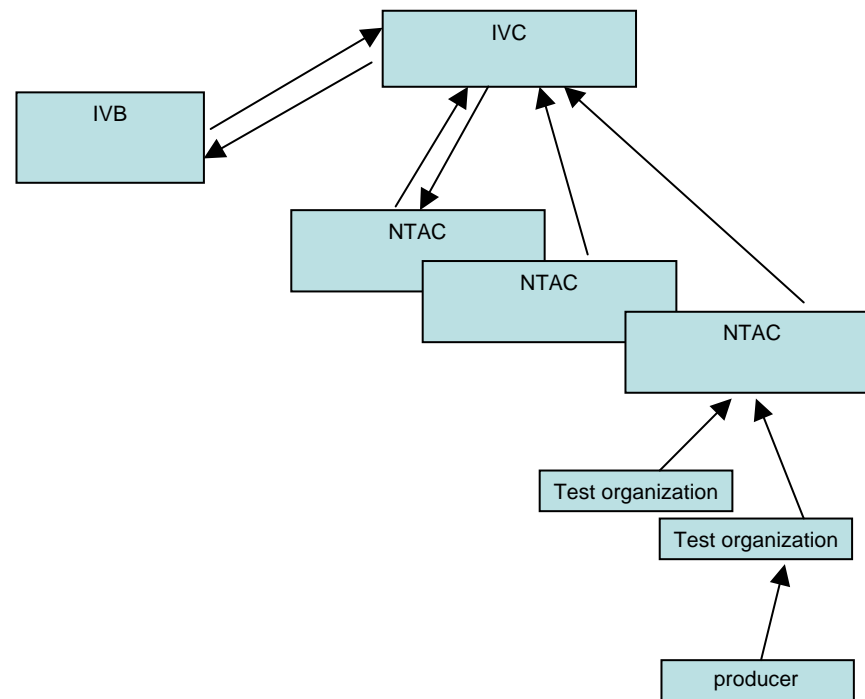
- farmers & producers
- test organisations
- national technical advisory committees
- international verification committee

'on the sideline'

- international VERA board
- (inter)national regulatory authorities



Draft ideas for an organisational context (ii)





Ideas for an organisational context (iii)

International VERA board (Ivb)

responsibilities

- overall responsibility to reach VERA goals
- lead and develop the organisation
- lay down rules, criteria, and scope of the activities of VERA
- initiate projects to improve
- licence National technical advisory committees and test organisations

members of the Ivb

- 1 representative of each involved national authority
- 1 Ivc member from each participating country
- national authorities can appoint another organisation as their representative in the board
- members paid by national authorities or their representatives

decision making

- unanimously
- one board meeting each year
- on specific issues additional meetings (preferably based on video conference techniques)



Ideas for an organisational context (iv) **International verification committee (Ivc)**

responsibilities

- international technical expert body of VERA
- issue verification statements
- supervise and evaluate unity and quality of verification applications and test reports
- recommend Ivb on improving and development of old and new protocols

members of the Ivc

- 1 technical expert cq vote per technology type per country
- proposed by national authorities or their representatives in the Ivb
- unanimously approved by Ivb
- experts can be appointed for more than one technology
- deputy experts appointed in case of absence or disqualification
- national authorities decide on how their own representatives are financed

decision making

- unanimously
- four committee meetings per year
- on specific issues additional meetings (preferably based on video conference techniques)
- minimum of three meetings in order to perform overall evaluation tasks properly



Ideas for an organisational context (v) **International VERA secretary**

- support for Ivb and Ivc
- website
 - protocols
 - verification statements
 - organisation
 - news
- located in one of the participating countries
- costs equally shared between participating countries



Ideas for an organisational context (vi)

National technical advisory committee (Ntac)

responsibilities

- advise Icv on test reports and verification applications
- advise test organisations
- link between Ivc and test organisations
- advise Ivc on possible improvements
- secretary to support experts
- financing Ntac is a national matter

members of the Ntac

- organisational form can differ from country to country
- organisation and members of an Ntac must be unanimously approved by the Ivb
- advises for Icv are signed by four experts: two independent experts on the specific technologytype, one expert on testing and one expert on agriculture
- members with a personal interest in an advise are excluded



Ideas for an organisational context (vii)

Test organisations

- central role in ensuring reliability and uniformity of VERA
- any organisation, as long as recognised by Ivb as a VERA test organisation
- test and report activities are in accordance to the VERA requirements and protocols



Thank you for your attention...