

Necessity, Constraints, Contents and Enactment Procedure of Basic Standard for Organic Rice Cultivation

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유기벼 재배 기본규약의 필요성, 내용 및 제정과정

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국문요약

현행 유기식품생산에 관한 국제규격인 IFOAM Basic Standard와 Codex guidelines이 지나치게 유럽과 미주의 발농사 위주에 적합하도록 규정되어져 있어, 논농사 위주의 아시아 유기농업

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에 얼마나 불공정한 국제규약인가를 지적하고 있으며, 가까운 장래에 이러한 불공정 유기농업 국제규격이 대폭 수정 개정되어야 함을 주장하고 있다. 또한 세계3대 식량 작물의 하나인 벼에 대한 유기식품생산규격이 없는 까닭에 소농규모 및 논농사 중심의 아시아 유기농업이 어떠한 어려움에 봉착하고 있는지를 보고하고 있으며, 향후 벼 재배의 중심지인 아시아 유기벼 생산기술과 현실을 반영하는 국제 유기벼 재배 기본규약이 제정되어야 하는 당위성을 설명하고 있다. 이를 위해 IFOAM기본규약을 개정하기 위한 절차와 그 방법과 Codex유기식품규격을 개정하기 위한 절차와 방법 등에 대해 논하고 있다. 또한 이러한 국제유기식품규격의 수정을 위한 국제공조 과정에서 ARNOA (아시아유기농업연구기구)와 각국 정부 및 유기농업 학자들이 과연 어떻게 역할을 분담하고 협력하여야 할 것인가에 대해서도 논의하고 있다.

1. Necessity of the basic standards for organic rice cultivation

In 2001 the Codex Alimentarius guidelines for organically produced food was finalized after 9 years of discussion. Meanwhile, most governments have amended their regulation or legislation on organic farming. The Korean government released the Law on Environmentally Sound Agriculture in July 2001 after Codex guidelines as other countries did. This law will come into effect January 2005. Actually, current organic practices will be only acceptable until the end of 2004, afterwards organic farmers should follow what the Codex guidelines describe in the text. The reason is that Korean government just introduced similar principles on organic plant production and organic animal production in the Law of Environmentally Sound Agriculture which was amended recently.

But as we know, there is no concrete guideline for organic rice cultivation in the Codex Alimentarius. As far as I know we should adopt the content of Codex in the paddy fields. But if you review it you should know that in the Codex Alimentarius there are only guidelines for upland crop cultivation and not for paddy fields. It is unfair if we have to adopt these guidelines which were finalized and are not specific to paddy field conditions.

We want to develop our own Guidelines or Basic Standards for Organic Rice Cultivation, since we want to practice organic rice cultivation techniques that we all agree on perfect guidelines for organically grown rice.

In the past, we (Asians) practiced according to farming systems that are still accepted by regional scientists as environmentally sound. In China, Korea and Japan, western scientists discovered one of the oldest farming systems that used an excellent closed recycling system. And we even practice organic farming in paddy field conditions using internal resources and materials. In most cases the crops produced are not recognized as organic products since our farmers were not following the Codex guidelines exactly.

The world consists of Western countries and Eastern countries and it is important to note that climatic conditions in the east are quite different from the European and North American continents. Most Asian countries where rice was grown are in monsoon areas. There is more than a 3 thousand years old history of rice cultivation in the monsoon areas without any crop rotation program. Many Asian countries have wonderful agricultural books, like in ancient Korea (Fig. 1). For more than 3 thousand years they practiced old models of organic farming there before the North invented it. However, scientists did not find any soil fertility decrease in the paddy field.

It will be very difficult for the organic farmer to implement soil fertility management if the paddy field conditions are simply described as the same to those in upland crop cultivated areas.

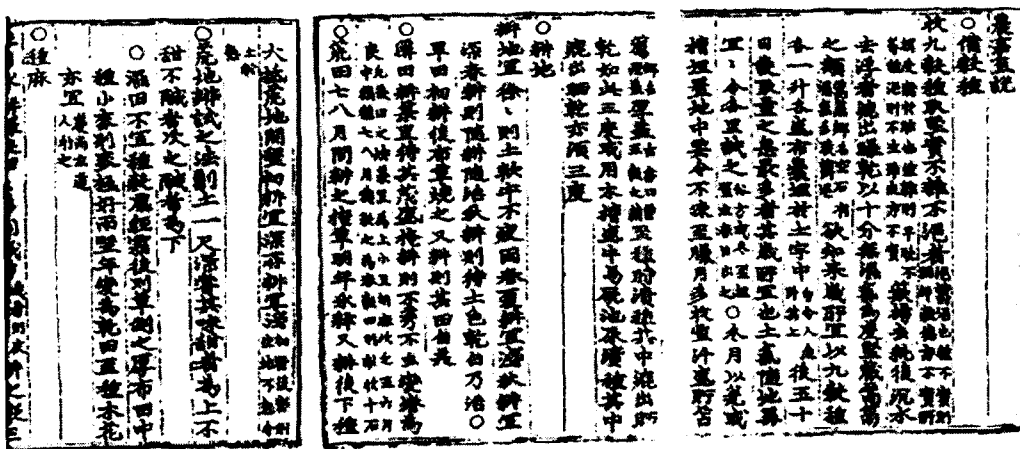


Fig. 1. Agricultural Extension Booklet(Nongsajikseol, 農事直說) written on 1428 by order of Great King Sejong. It was one of the oldest agricultural books for Korean farmers. It describes how to plow green manure in the field to make it more fertile. The function of legumes(to improve soil fertility and to control weed & soil borne disease) were also described in the booklet.

What we are faced with in Asian organic agriculture right now after finalizing of Codex guidelines are not only one but several problems, i.e. since we cultivate crops under very different conditions from the West a) in very small farm units, b) in paddy field conditions(for rice cultivation) and c) under different socio-economic conditions. The Development of Basic Standards for organic rice cultivation would be just one of the hurdles.

The problem faced by Southern countries is how to build up an interdisciplinary approach in assessing natural resources and environments. It is the responsibility of the Asian organic sector to solve the problem for the time being. The western organic sector would not revise any international basic standards or guidelines for Asia. Therefore, we have to do it ourselves.

The reason why we feel so unhappy about the international basic standards and guidelines is because they were initiated by western people and only reflect the western agricultural systems such as upland conditions, large farms, western socio-economic conditions and agro-chemical oriented modern farming systems.

We know the South should take some responsibility since during the process of developing the international regulation on organic farming(i.e. 9 years for the Codex guidelines), the Asian government did not pay attention, except for Korea and Japan. The Korean government sent delegates to the Codex meeting the last 2 years. Because the third world, like Asia and Africa, was not so active in the discussion for IFOAM Basic Standards and Codex guidelines, we could not put our farming conditions into those regulations. Of course it was partially our responsibility in the past for not paying any attention to international regulation. However, from now on we have to recover and make sure we have our say to ensure that we create a fair organic world.

Maybe many western organic groups think that adaptation and variation of the international regulations is enough. However, we think it is not enough or a correct solution for Asia, African and Latin American. It leads to more confusion in practice and makes it difficult to unify our organic farmers, because there would be many different explanations by different interest groups and parties.

For the development of organic agriculture in third world, we need more precise Basic standards and Guidelines to practice that will reflect locally adapted organic farming skills and systems.

“Imposition” of western modalities in certification for organic food has been cited as a problem, and it is more appropriate that we take its leadership to alternative systems or local adaptations(Wai, 2002). That's why we are participating in this ARNOA conference and we need to ensure cooperation through research and networking in the future.

Alapar(2002) thought that there are countries that have reached a different level of experience, whether it is on the Third World or First World it doesn't matter as long as it has been a part of our quest for organic farming. While Western countries have developed their own standard of certification for organic food, in our own countries we can also start to develop the same based in our concrete conditions and level of experience. Now, if there are western countries who would like to impose their so called western modalities, despite of our being developing countries, we can always say no to this, in the same way we resist the forces of globalization.

As we all know despite the great achievements of Organic Agriculture the development is unbalanced and there is room for re-orientation. As we all know, Organic Agriculture in the South is dominated by interests, values and norms of the North.²⁾ Therefore there are many complaints even in the organic world. Many things are unfair and there is need for change in the near future.

Because it is a problem not only for Asian organic farming but also for African organic farming(Mukhwana's comment) and many other developing countries in the world as well. I think we have to start to discuss the draft for Basic Standard for Organic Rice Cultivation and try to reflect the specific situations of Asian organic farming for a fair organic world.

2) Prof. Dr. Sang Mok Sohn stressed it in his opening address in AGRECOL workshop which was held in Bonn / Germany in October 2002.

Opening address, Prof. Dr. Sang Mok Sohn
International Workshop Alter Organic organized by AGRECOL, 21-24 October
2002, Bonn-Koenigswinter / Germany ;

Despite the great achievements of Organic Agriculture the development is unbalanced and there is room for re-orientation. As we all know, Organic Agriculture in the South is dominated by interests, values and norms of the North. Therefore there are many complaints even in the organic world. Many aspects are unfair and there is need for change in the near future.

After a long discussion at AGRECOL 2002 International Workshop, the participants declared the belief that the world wide movement of organic agriculture is dominated by the values, norms and interests of the North, and agreed to put efforts into developing national and regional organic standards in Southern countries. Based on this they called for a restructuring of the International Basic Standards and Codex Alimentarius for organically produced food to create a fair organic world in the Bonner Declaration. They also called upon Southern governments to strongly consider, in the process of establishing or improving their regulations for organic agriculture, the opinions of local organic agriculture organizations and to incorporate them into the decision-making process at a national level and called upon IFOAM to be open to the adaptation of its International Basic Standards based on the variety of agro-ecological and socio-economic specifications of different regions of the world. Also, through positive discrimination, to proactively assist the process required for this adaptation as far as possible, given the inequalities in capacity, resources and know-how of Southern members.³⁾

It is a time to change in order to ensure that we have fair organic regulations and a fair organic world. We all need your cooperation for the draft development of IFOAM Basic Standards and Codex guidelines.

3) "BONN-KONIGSWINTER DECLARATION" of AGRECOL International Workshop on Local Agendas on Organic Agriculture for Rural Development in the South which held on October 2002 in Bonn / Germany.

In the meantime, we have to work together to make this conference a success and do away with any doubts and suspicions about the outcome.

Letter of Eusebius J. Mukhwana

SACRED AFRICA, PO Box 2275, Bungoma, Kenya

For Africa, organic farming is undergoing rapid transition. It is trying to respond to demands and standards mostly from Europe, but at the end of the day there are more questions than answers. To start with the continent has lost a substantial market of its traditional export crops such as coffee, tea etc and organic farming as advocated in the rest of world has no relevance for our situation. It is a monoculture of ideas and standards without due regard to our unique and often precarious situation in many world issues. Most of our farmers are small holders often operating without much Government policy support for organic farming. As we all know the organic conversion process as advocated currently is a very expensive exercise. Who pays for the time and process of conversion worse still what do people eat while undergoing the conversion growing soil improving legumes etc when they only have 2 acres for a family of 8 people?!

Certification for us is a very predatory activity. Who pays for inspectors and experts to fly from Europe stay in expensive hotels etc just to see the poor farmer's activities. The scenario currently is such that if you want to export to Britain you use British certifiers and if you want to export to Sweden you use Swedish certifiers even if the two exporting farms are adjacent to each other. Generally speaking, because of these and many other related and pertinent issues, organic farming is not benefiting the majority of small holder farmers in Africa. The situation is made worse by the fact that our local markets do not appreciate nor pay premiums for organic produce. Hence while organic farming in Africa makes a lot of ecological and social sense, it lacks support both from local and international markets ad policy making. I would be glad to hear other people's views on this.

BONN-KOENIGSWINTER DECLARATION

Local Agendas on Organic Agriculture for Rural Development in the South

With the objectives of revitalising agriculture towards sustainable food security and contributing to endogenous development in rural areas, we, the participants – comprising farmers and representatives of farmers groups, NGOs, universities and research centres, and organic certification, support and advisory groups, of 20 different and mainly Southern countries,⁴⁾ came together for the International Workshop Local Agendas in Organic Agriculture for Rural Development hosted by AGRECOL and held in Bonn Konigswinter, Germany, from 21-24 October 2002.

Sharing the belief that the organic approach is the most appropriate strategy to renew agriculture world wide, and that the world wide movement of organic agriculture is dominated by the values, norms and interests of the North,

We agree to :

- 1. Increase our own efforts and invite all potential stakeholders to acknowledge and embrace organic agriculture as the best contemporary model of sustainable agriculture which can contribute to sustainable rural development ;*
- 2. Take the responsibility for the continued development of strong, participatory, self-reliant and locally adapted organic agriculture movements from the grassroots levels in the South ;*
- 3. Establish and sustain a close South-to-South collaboration (between Asia, Africa and Latin America) with some support, facilitation and sharing with our Northern friends ;*
- 4. Put efforts into developing national and regional organic standards in Southern countries and, based on this, calling for a restructuring of the International Basic Standards and Codex Alimentarius for organically produced food to create a more fair organic world ;*

4) These countries comprising : Albania, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Cameroon, England, Germany, Ghana, India, Iran, Kenya, Rep. Korea, Lebanon, Nepal, Netherlands, Peru, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Uganda, Zimbabwe.

We call upon :

5. *Northern and Southern governments and international development stakeholders to acknowledge, through their acquaintance with the accumulated empirical evidence existing within the organic sector, the real impact and potential of the organic approach in enabling long term food and nutritional security and sustained and resilient agricultural production in the South, including and especially the poorest and most marginal regions ;*
6. *Northern governments and other donors to support the development of both market and non-market oriented organic agriculture in the South, not only as a means to produce premium commodities for export and niche markets, but also for the wider direct benefits as described above, and for Northern and Southern governments and international institutions to implement policies and regulations which prioritize the development of local and regional markets and which ensure that private national and multinational commercial interest groups operate within and engage with such a development framework ;*
7. *Southern governments to acknowledge and support the NGOs and farmers involved in organic agriculture as pioneers of disseminating sustainable development concepts and practices, and also to themselves be involved in taking responsibility for the promotion of the principles and practices of organic agriculture through public extension networks, research institutes, universities and formal education institutes, the media, and other channels ;*
8. *Southern governments to strongly consider, in the process of establishing or improving their regulations for organic agriculture, the opinion of local organic agriculture organizations and to incorporate them into the decision-making process at national level ;*
9. *The International Federation of Organic Agricultural Movements (IFOAM) to be open to the adaptation of its International Basic Standards based on the variety of agro-ecological and socio-economic specifications of different regions of the world, and through positive discrimination, to proactively assist the process required for this adaptation as far as possible, given the inequalities in capacity, resources and know-how of Southern members.*

24 October 2002, Bonn Konigswinter

2. Main constraints in Asian organic rice cultivation

Basically, rice is mainly cultivated in Asia and under paddy field conditions for several thousand years, especially in monsoon areas, because local farmers in monsoon areas have no other choice but to cultivate the rice. Besides, Asian farmers at present should farm the crop organically in very small farm units sometimes less than 1 ha. This make Asian farmer follow the Codex guidelines and it causes some constraints in Asian organic rice cultivation since Asia has quite different climatic and socio-economic conditions from Europe and America.

But the IFOAM Basic Standard and Codex Alimentarius guidelines describe only one principle regardless of what kind of climatic and cropping systems. They say Asian, although there is regional variation. As you know the principles of both regulations are drafted by western people, always focusing on western-style farming systems.

What we would like to see in both regulations is a new chapter in the IFOAM Basic Standard and Codex guidelines which focuses on Asian style farming system as a separate single chapter.

As stated previously, IFOAM Basic Standard and Codex guidelines were drafted by Western people and for the Western countries. Therefore, IFOAM Basic Standard and Codex guidelines do not consider fairly good farming styles and condition of both the west and Asia.

Western farming style can be characterized by large machinery and large farm units cultivated under upland conditions, while Asian farming style could be characterized by small hand-machines, small farms and paddy field conditions. These kinds of climatic and socio-economic differences make it difficult and even impossible for Asian organic farmers to follow the Codex guidelines.

Many Korean farmers have less than 1.3ha in total, cultivate their rice crop in less than a 0.7ha size paddy field. In most cases they do not have enough land area to practice the rotation in the rice paddy field, since climate conditions do not allow 2 crops growth in 1 year sequentially. Therefore, it is only possible to cultivate green

manure in most Korean fields with the exception of the southern coast of the Korean peninsula where hairy vetch, winter barley and winter wheat could be cultivated during winter.⁵⁾

But research topics on how to maintain the soil fertility in the paddy field for organic farming is still a great concern, There is no research institution which concentrates on a topic for Asian organic farmers. Nor are there any scientists who follow this research direction in Asia.

In western countries, they have a long history in organic research based on natural science. They also have many universities which offer bachelor, master and even Ph. D. degrees in organic agriculture in Europe. For example in Germany, the University of Kassel offers 2 different major courses for organic agriculture,(i.e., Department of Organic Crop Production and Department of Organic Animal Production). Also, the University of Bonn and University of Giessen established Departments of Organic Farming. Besides most German universities offer lectures on organic farming to students. Organic farming became one of the most attractive majors for young students in Germany, while another major in agriculture lost slowly the attraction from the young generation.

Several Universities in Europe came together to teach students efficiently. Student exchange program among participant universities, which have similar courses in organic agriculture, were also developed.

But in Asia there is only one university that offers organic farming courses. Dankook University in Korea established for the first time in Asia, a major in organic farming in a bachelor course. A few universities, such Seoul National University, Yeonam College, Korean Agricultural College, Jinju National College and Jeju National University, offer 1 or 2 lectures in organic agriculture in the curriculum of a bachelor course. Many scientists in the agricultural sector are still hesitating to join the research on organic farming, and they sometimes ignore the need of an academic approach since organic farming seems to be a topic for only organic farmers to them.

5) The rice yield increased by 6% if 20 ton ha⁻¹ in case hairy vetch was supplied before rice transplanting(Kim et al, 2002), since green manure could cover the need of crops in terms of nutrients by green manure cultivation and to recycle the nutrients very successfully in organic rice cultivation.

For the first time in the world, several research institutes in organic farming were established in European countries. FiBL(Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, Switzerland) was the first institute to follow the research direction on organic farming and is a private institute, while the Institute of Organic Agriculture (FAL/Germany) is the first research institute to follow organic farming but established by government.

Recently FiBL expanded their activities internationally and opened their offices in Berlin and Frankfurt, Germany. There are many scientists in the west, but only a few in Asia. Furthermore, most Asian scientists face language barriers when joining international conferences and activities to express their research results and ideas in international regulations. This is one of the major constraints for the Asian organic society.

There is a great need to establish such bachelor courses for organic farming in Asian Universities. Also, we have to establish a national research institute in each Asian county if possible, because there was no systematic approach for organic agriculture in the Asian continent.

Without a scientific approach in research institutes and education for the young generation in university, Asia has no more opportunity to become a major partner in the organic world. If we, Asians, do not want to be ignored by the world organic society in terms of international regulations such as the IFOAM Basic Standards and Codex guidelines, we have to study, research and educate Asia about organic agriculture as a natural science. For example, we should find out what the best farming methods and skills for small holders, for paddy field conditions and for indigenous farming are. We should not totally depend on so-called western standards and modalities on organic farming. We should develop our own standards and modalities that are appropriate for our crop, soil, climatic and socio-economic conditions like the west has already developed for their own. We should try to present these ideas and skills for international regulation on organic agriculture.

In order to develop our own theory and collect scientific data, many research institutes should be established and many universities should try to establish a department of organic agriculture. Globalization and standardization in organic farming is not fair to

Asian organic agriculture. We have to resist it altogether and try to make Asian organic farming systems acknowledged as one of the possible organic farming systems in international organic regulation by the world organic society.

3. Major skills and contents for organic rice cultivation

3.1. Major skills

There are more than 5 different rice cultivation techniques in Korea which organic farmers practice to produce organic rice. Most of these were developed by organic farmers. Therefore, these rice cultivation techniques may need to be reviewed by scientists and should be tested to improve the detailed techniques and environmental impact and to produce better quality food.

- 1) Duck-Rice system(Ori nong, 오리 除草 水稻作)
- 2) Snail-Rice system(Wooryungeh nong, 우렁이 除草 水稻作)
- 3) Non-tillage direct seedling system(Taepyung nong, 太平農 水稻作)
- 4) Crab-Rice system(Cchanggae nong, 참게농 水稻作)
- 5) Chitinsan-Rice system(Chitosan nong, 키토산 水稻作)

Here we don't need to describe it here in detail because there will be the intensive activities of working group meeting to finalize the Basic Standard for Organic Rice Cultivation

Some people still raise questions regarding the environmental function of such cultivation techniques. But many believe such alternative cultivation systems for rice would be one of the best resolutions for the Asian organic farming system. Of course there are huge scientific research opportunities on the assessment of Asian organic rice cultivation in terms of soil and water environment function and product quality.

Some other questions were raised recently in regards to organic rice cultivation, and one of it was based on the large rate of the snail's reproduction and potential risk of the snail's winter survival rate especially in the southern coast area of the Korean peninsula. It means snail could be another potential pest to this area and may cause

sometimes unexpected damage to the natural ecosystem.

3.2. Main contents

The Basic Standard for Rice Cultivation should be focused to describe how to increase soil fertility, conserve soil, control weeds and control pests by using different methods considering the upland conditions.

In the paddy fields, there are different multi-functions from upland crop cultivation. Organic farmer does more to contribute to environmental conservation in terms of fresh water and air. How to reserve the water after a heavy rainfall, to give enough groundwater and how to deliver the biological nitrogen fixation are also very important issues in the paddy field. These are also very important topics which should be included in the Basic Standards for organic Rice cultivation.

As mentioned above, there are several newly developed rice cultivation systems for Asian organic rice growers, i.e. the Duck-Rice system, Snail-Rice system, Non-tillage direct seedling system, Crab-Rice system and Chitosan-Rice system. These should be included in the Basic Standards on how to : grow healthy rice, provide the nutrients needed by the rice and protect the rice from pests and weeds in the paddy field.

In case it is needed and apparently different from upland crops, we can also put some regulations on transportation, storage and processing. But it is advised to develop a chapter titled Organic Rice Cultivation which is proper to put in the IFOAM Basic Standards and Codex guidelines as a chapter as well.

4. Enactment Procedure of international regulations and how to put it into international regulations

4.1. How to develop the draft for organic rice guidelines

In order to develop the draft for organic rice guidelines, all people of Asia should come together to put their ideas and finalize one single draft in an efficient manner. We need to work in a harmonized way in cooperation to reach our goal in the very near future.

One purpose of ARNOA is set down the draft for organic rice cultivation and put it into IFOAM Basic Standards and Codex guidelines as an organic rice chapter. If there are enough funds available, ARNOA will publish leaflets with scientific data to present the organic world specifying why Asia needs an international regulation for organic rice cultivation.

Also, we need to publish our scientific data in the journal of Ecology and Farming which is the official Journal of IFOAM, and maybe ISOFA (International Society of Organic Farming and Agriculture) journal or a relevant scientific journal.

ARNOA may play a major role with African organic networking groups and Latin American groups to develop a new draft which contains an Organic Rice Cultivation chapter.

4.2. How to put organic rice guidelines into IFOAM Basic Standard

We have to explain our situation why we need specific regulation for organic rice cultivation, why actual Basic Standards and Guidelines are not acceptable for Asian organic farming which practice according to monoculture cropping systems, paddy field and smallholder conditions.

In the draft process, every 3 years, we have to deliver our new draft which contains an extra chapter for Organic Rice Cultivation. Of course we need to cooperate in order to develop the draft with other networking groups (maybe African) where also cultivates rice.

Asian organic groups also need new members on the IFOAM Basic Standard Committee who represent Asian organic agriculture and defend the new draft for Organic Rice Cultivation. For this purpose, some Asian Scientists should be candidates for the IFOAM Basic Standard Committee and IBS member from Asia should raise issues regarding the new draft of Basic Standard for organic rice cultivation at the IBS meeting.

Also, IFOAM World Board members from Asia should raise this issue at the World Board meeting in order to create a fair organic world.

4.3. How to put organic rice guidelines into Codex Alimentarius

In addition to the above suggestions, we need to try to participate in the Codex expert group meeting and discuss this matter with other people from the west.

Maybe ARNOA and IFOAM-Asia need to send delegates to the Codex expert group meeting if they have enough scientific data to defend and find a qualified scientist to argue with rest of world. Each government in Asia also needs to send delegates to the Codex meeting and take part in voting for a new draft for organic rice cultivation.

5. Conclusion

1) What to do

In the Bonn's International Workshop 2002(Bonn-Konigswiter Declaration) it was found that many people believed current international standards for organic farming were not applicable in many situations. Development of our own standards allows for the inclusion of local and traditional farming and it is very much needed to try to re-structure it.

Regional Networks such as ARNOA should be activated in order to bring more powerful international solidarity for the Asian organic community. As much as possible, all Asians from the research and farming sector should put their ideas together to develop the Basic Standard for organic rice cultivation resulting in the best content for our needs.

Also, we have to work closely together in various activities of IFOAM-Asia, more than before. IFOAM-Asia members should be eager to tie the Asian organic sector together more than ever before, not only among NGO groups but also among the officers from government, Scientists from research institutes and universities. We should strengthen the cooperation between NGO's, Scientists and government officers to achieve our common goal.

Furthermore, many representatives from Asian NGO's and Science societies should

participate more actively with the IFOAM world society such as in the activity to World Board, ISOFA(International Society of Organic Farming and Agriculture) and INOA(International Network of Organic Agriculture) more than ever before.

2) How to do it

Asian organic researchers and farmers should try to discuss with the organic world the reasons why we need Basic Standards for organic rice cultivation, what the difference is between western farming systems and Asian farming systems and why Asian smallholder farmers face difficulties with western farming system oriented IFOAM Basic Standard and Codex guidelines.

We should work together to achieve a fair organic world. For that, we shall act and cooperate together, otherwise we will never recover the neglected Asian farming from the world organic regulation and certification system.

Through the ARNOA homepage, ARNOA will try to create a Cyber Library on Asian organic farming not only to inform the world about Asian organic farming, but also to exchange the techniques and skills of Asian organic farming if they receive any funding. The Cyber Library will also be a service to inform the west about the need of Basic Standards for organic rice cultivation. These actions will help to teach the public why organic rice regulation is needed and provide an opportunity for the world to accept the draft of Basic Standards for organic rice cultivation

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