## To All Certification Bodies

It is known to us that lockdown and restrictions have been imposed in many states this year also due to Covid 19 pandemic outbreak. In order to facilitate the certification and trade activities of organic products under NPOP, provision has been made in TraceNet as done in previous year. The provision is being given for the scope certificates falling due till 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2021.

As mentioned in the Advisory dated 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020, the Certification Bodies are required to continue with the risk assessment activities. The Certification Bodies shall take undue diligence in undertaking additional surveillance measures for high risk operators in order to maintain the certification status. It is also required that Certification Bodies shall ensure compliance with respect to requirements of standard, production and handling activities, yield and stock verification and traceability of the lot while issuing domestic as well as export Transaction Certificates.

While taking all precautionary measures to ensure the health and safety of operating officials, Certification Bodies shall operate the certification programme under NPOP with utmost seriousness to keep up the credibility and integrity of organic products.

Signed/-(U.K Vats) General Manager