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| Logo of the European Commission, 12 yellow stars on a blue background arranged in a circle and framed by two light grey graphic elements representing the Berlaymont building, which is the headquarter of the European Commission. | EUROPEAN COMMISSION |

VACANCY NOTICE FOR A POST OF SECONDED NATIONAL EXPERT

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| DG – Directorate – Unit | DG AGRI, Dir. Sustainability, Unit: Organics |
| Post number in sysper: | [**354842**](javascript:showJobDetails_231001_19()) |
| Contact person:  Provisional starting date:  Initial duration:  Place of secondment: | Elena PANICHI  1 quarter 2024  2 years  Brussels  Luxemburg  Other: Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Type of secondment |  |
| This vacancy notice is open to:    as well as  The following EFTA countries:  Iceland  Liechtenstein  Norway  Switzerland  The following third countries: ….  The following intergovernmental organisations: … | |
| Deadline for applications |  |

**Entity Presentation (We are)**

Unit AGRI-B-4 is in charge of Organic production at the European Commission.  
The unit is responsible for the European Union's legal framework for organic production, including EU-wide harmonized standards on organic farming and food production, as well as rules on labeling, controls and trade. The unit is responsible for the recognition and supervision of control bodies in third countries and for the recognition and supervision of equivalent third countries and to manage bilateral arrangements in organics and in particular to monitor and supervise non conformity of products imported from third countries.  
  
The unit manages a specialized regulatory committee, the Organic Production Committee (OPC).  
  
In exercising its tasks, the unit exchanges information and consults with stakeholders, including market operators, Member State authorities, researchers, control bodies, NGOs, international organisations and Third countries.

**Job Presentation (We propose)**

We are looking for a dynamic candidate with a strong motivation to work as an external auditor in the sector of organic. Interactions with national and/or local authorities and EU representations abroad are likely. The post will offer the opportunity to the candidate to learn experience on organic agricultural practices and industrial processes all over the world, and to have a lot of social interaction with farmers, inspectors, processors in third countries.

The main tasks will cover the preparation, conduct and follow-up of audits, including drafting of audit reports, to be conducted at Control authorities/Control Bodies operating in third Countries (mainly Asia, Middle East, and South America).

The objectives of these audits aim at (i) verifying that the production rules implemented by the Control authorities/Control bodies (CBs) are those for which they have been recognised by the Commission as competent to carry out controls and issue organic certificates and (ii) verifying the quality and effectiveness of their controls.

The job foresees regular missions in third countries, often in countryside areas. This job implies flexibility, physical resistance and unusual working hours (including week-ends).

The post also includes other tasks in the unit upon request, in particular assessing Control Bodies technical dossiers for the purpose of compliance regime, drafting letters to CBs, accreditation bodies and competent authorities.

**Jobholder Profile (We look for)**

A dynamic and well organised and experienced auditor/inspector, with a scientific background, ideally in the agricultural sector.

He/she should have the capacity to organise and conduct an audit as a lead auditor and be able to follow-up the post audit activities (drafting of audit report, setting up recommendations, evaluation of action plan and corrective actions).

He/she should be able to work independently as well as in a team as the function requires a strong team spirit, flexibility, reliability, and responsibility. Strong diplomatic and analytical skills are required, as well as respect of tight deadlines.

The candidate should have very good communications skills both oral and written in English. The knowledge of French and Spanish would be an advantage.

Moreover, previous experience as inspector / auditor in the field of audits conducted at control bodies recognised in third countries to certify organic operators and/or an experience as inspector in the field of official controls in EU Member states is highly desired

The candidate should be prepared to undertake 3-4 missions per year each (10 days each, including with departures on Sundays). Knowledge of the organic legislation would be an asset.

**Eligibility criteria**

The secondment will be governed by the **Commission Decision C(2008) 6866** of 12/11/2008 laying down rules on the secondment to the Commission of national experts and national experts in professional training (SNE Decision).

Under the terms of the SNE Decision, you need to comply with the following eligibility criteria at **the starting date** of the secondment:

* Professional experience: at least three years of professional experience in administrative, legal, scientific, technical, advisory or supervisory functions which are equivalent to those of function group AD.
* Seniority: having worked for at least one full year (12 months) with your current employer on a permanent or contract basis.
* Employer: must be a national, regional or local administration or an intergovernmental public organisation (IGO); exceptionally and following a specific derogation, the Commission may accept applications where your employer is a public sector body (e.g., an agency or regulatory institute), university or independent research institute.
* Linguistic skills: thorough knowledge of one of the EU languages and a satisfactory knowledge of another EU language to the extent necessary for the performance of the duties. If you come from a third country, you must produce evidence of a thorough knowledge of the EU language necessary for the performance of his duties.

**Conditions of secondment**

During the full duration of your secondment, you must remain employed and remunerated by your employer and covered by your (national) social security system.

You shall exercise your duties within the Commission under the conditions as set out by aforementioned SNE Decision and be subject to the rules on confidentiality, loyalty and absence of conflict of interest as defined therein.

In case the position is published with allowances, these can only be granted when you fulfil the conditions provided for in Article 17 of the SNE decision.

Staff posted in a European Union Delegation are required to have a security clearance (up to SECRET UE/EU SECRET level according to [Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32015D0444). It is up to you to launch the vetting procedure before getting the secondment confirmation.

**Submission of applications and selection procedure**

If you are interested, please follow the instructions given by your employer on how to apply.

The European Commission **only accepts applications which have been submitted through the Permanent Representation / Diplomatic Mission to the EU of your country, the EFTA Secretariat or through the channel(s) it has specifically agreed to**. Applications received directly from you or your employer will not be taken into consideration.

You should draft you CV in English, French or German using the **Europass CV format** ([[Create your Europass CV | Europass](https://europa.eu/europass/en/create-europass-cv)](http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents/curriculum-vitae)). It must mention your nationality.

Please do not add any other documents(such as copy of passport, copy of degrees or certificate of professional experience, etc.). If necessary, these will be requested at a later stage.

**Processing of personal data**

The Commission will ensure that candidates’ personal data are processed as required by Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council ([[1]](#footnote-1)). This applies in particular to the confidentiality and security of such data. Before applying, please read the attached privacy statement.

1. () Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)