



GLOBAL ORGANIC TEXTILE STANDARD
ECOLOGY & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

MORATORIUM ON NEW CERTIFICATION BODIES

GOTS is administered through a certification system operationalised by GOTS Approved Certification Bodies.

At this time, there are 22 Approved CBs, 4 Applicant CBs who are undergoing accreditation through their chosen ABs and 7 new applications that are currently under consideration with GOTS.

This rapid expansion of CBs has led to a number of administrative challenges, and it is expected that the GOTS Staff will have to deal with onboarding the new CBs over the next months. While the large number shows the popularity of GOTS as a Standard System, it creates a serious administrative and quality assurance burden for GOTS.

It is also observed that certain regions have a very large number of certification bodies operating which may lead to unintended consequences related to the quality of services being offered by CBs due to the highly competitive environment.

The GOTS Management has therefore decided to have a moratorium on all applications from prospective CBs where an accreditation process has not yet started, effective immediately.

GOTS may still consider applications from CBs who are willing to offer services in underrepresented regions (such as Africa) and where customer demand is still very high (such as Europe). While this moratorium is in place, prospective CBs are encouraged to confirm the acceptability of their applications before formally applying for approval with GOTS.

For more information or questions on the above, contact Prachi Gupta (prachi@global-standard.org).

GOTS Management

25 May 2022
