



## GLOBAL ORGANIC TEXTILE STANDARD ECOLOGY & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# NEW PROVISION AND GUIDANCE

## ISSUANCE OF GOTS TRANSACTION CERTIFICATES FOR RETAIL GOODS

Supply chain laws have been enacted or are currently in the process of being passed in many countries. Being a voluntary sustainability standard empowering sustainable value chains for over 20 years, GOTS has always served in helping companies demonstrate legal compliance - a role it will continue to fulfil in the future. In a proactive effort to assist GOTS-certified companies in their readiness for these impending regulations, GOTS has taken the following measures:

1. The most recent version of the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS), Version 7.0, includes extended requirements for due diligence, aligning with the core tenets of these laws.
2. As from 4th September 2023, GOTS has introduced a provision that allows brands and retailers to obtain Transaction Certificates (TCs) for all finished GOTS Goods, even if the products themselves do not bear GOTS labelling. This provision dictates that Certification Bodies are exclusively authorised to issue TCs for finished GOTS Goods that will be sold in retail.

### INTERPRETATION

According to the Section 2.7.8 in GOTS 7.0 "*Labelling of GOTS Goods sold in retail is mandatory.*" This rule remains effective for any retail product that makes claims, is advertised or sold as GOTS. In the absence of GOTS signs on retail products, there shall be no claims to GOTS.

As communicated herein by way of a provision, GOTS TCs may be issued for those retail goods which do not bear GOTS Signs. Provided that no claims or advertisements are made to GOTS in relation to their sale.

### FURTHER GUIDANCE

#### **What has changed after the adoption of this provision?**

It is possible for retailers to obtain GOTS TCs for finished retail goods that were produced in accordance with GOTS ecological and social criteria but have not been labelled.

#### **What remains the same after the adoption of this provision?**

In accordance with Section 2.7.8 of GOTS 7.0, GOTS Goods sold in retail shall be labelled if they are to be advertised and sold as GOTS.

3. TCs may also be granted for products that have been dispatched and received up to 3 months preceding the announcement of this concession.

**Date of effect:** 04.09.2023

GOTS  
Global Organic Textile Standard  
[www.global-standard.org](http://www.global-standard.org)