[Elected as a First Woman Board of IFOAM ASIA]

Honored to be a BOARD for IFOAM ASIA as a First Woman and JAPAN's Representative for the Organic Movement. (<u>http://www.ifoam.bio</u>)

More than 2/3 of population of the world and poverty is found in Asia region therefore the importance of recognizing the topics and carrying them for better practices in both organic agriculture and programs prepared for all levels of stakeholders to maintain sustainable life is crucial.

What JAPAN can do to conserve biodiversity and sustainable Region today?

Board Member for the IFOAM ASIA for 2015-2017

Chairman of Board Dr. Zhou Zeijang (CHINA) Vice-president Mr. Manoj Menon (INDIA) Vice-president Mr. Ashish Gupta (INDIA) Board Mr. Patrick Belisario (Philippines) Board Ms. Rika Oishi Delicious (JAPAN)

[What's IFOAM?]

The International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) is the worldwide umbrella organization for the organic agriculture movement, which represents close to 800 affiliates in 117 countries.

IFOAM's declares its mission is to, "Lead, unite and assist the organic movement in its full diversity." and vision is "Worldwide adoption of ecologically, socially and economically sound systems, based on the Principles of Organic Agriculture."

Found in Versailles, France, on November 5, 1972, during an international congress on organic agriculture organized by the French farmer organization Nature et Progrès. The late Roland Chevriot, President of Nature et Progrès, took the initiative.

The founders hoped that the federation would meet what they saw as a major need: a unified, organized voice for organic food, and the diffusion and exchange of information on the principles and practices of organic agriculture across national and linguistic boundaries.

IFOAM with GMO issue!

On October 19, 1998, participants at IFOAM's 12th Scientific Conference issued the Mar del Plata Declaration,[17] where more than 600 delegates from over 60 countries voted unanimously to exclude the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in food production and agriculture. From that point GMOs have been categorically excluded from organic farming.

Text of the declaration:

We, the undersigned participants at the 12th Scientific Conference of the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) at Mar del Plata, Argentina, call on governments and regulatory agencies throughout the world to immediately ban the use of genetic engineering in agriculture and food production since it involves:

- Unacceptable threats to human health
- Negative and irreversible environmental impacts
- Release of organisms of an un-recallable nature
- Removal of the right of choice, both for farmers and consumers
- Violation of farmers' fundamental property rights and endangerment of their economic independence
- Practices, which are incompatible with the principles of sustainable agriculture as defined by IFOAM

Signed by: Dr. Vandana Shiva (India), Hervé La Prairie (Outgoing IFOAM president, France), Linda Bullard (Incoming IFOAM president, USA/Belgium), Gunnar Rundgren (Incoming IFOAM vice-president, Sweden), Gerald Hermann (IFOAM Treasurer, Germany), Pipo Lernoud (Conference Coordinator, Argentina), Guillermo Schnitman (MAPO President, Argentina)

IFOAM ASIA was established in 2013.

IFOAM Asia has entered into its third year of existence and 2015 is the year for its 2nd General Assembly. and I will share you more updates following this weeks' activities on my blog.

IFOAM JAPAN include following Companies and members,

IFOAM JAPAN / AFAS Certification Center / Japan Organic & Natural Foods Association / Daichi-Wo-Mamoru-Kai / Bio Club / Radishbo-ya / Shumei Natural Agriculture Network / Hyogo Prefectural Organic Agriculture Society / Japan Organic Inspectors Association / PAL System / FTPS / Alter Trade JAPAN / Yamaki Co.,Ltd / Ayumi-no-kai Agri Create / Ishii Co. Ltd / Shinfuji Co. Ltd / TAKAHASHI sauce Co. Ltd / Kanesue Co., Ltd / Okagesama-Noujyou / Maekawa Taste Co.,Ltd