



7th General Assembly of oriGIn

Tuesday, November 10

Fortaleza, Brazil

Proposal for the establishment of an oriGIn EU Lab

Background:

In the framework of the activities for the protection and promotion of GIs, oriGIn has always been following the development of policies touching upon GIs at the EU level, which are of interest also for non-EU members (such as the bilateral free trade agreements). As oriGIn has grown in size and impact, it is necessary - with the involvement of European GIs - to reflect on how to structure even more incisively our activities at EU level, as well as to support the oriGIn Secretariat in the adoption of its positions vis-à-vis crucial items discussed in Brussels.

Mandate:

In light of the above, it is proposed to the General Assembly the establishment an oriGIn EU Lab, which will operate according to the following mandate:

- To follow the developments of EU policies on GIs and support the Secretariat in coming-up with common positions to be adopted by oriGIn;
- To facilitate the regular exchange among oriGIn members of UE on any issue that GIs at the EU level;
- To allow the EU members to decide how an appropriate presence at the EU level can be achieved and how the investments of each members can be capitalized, including exploring the possibility to set-up an oriGIn EU office in Brussels. Any proposal in this respect will have to be validated by the oriGIn Executive Committee and the funds for such office will have to be taken out of the EU contribution (either EU membership fees or EU funds).

Participation:

The oriGIn EU Lab is open to all EU members. To be part of the Lab, it is necessary to be a full member of oriGIn. The participation in the Group will require some physical meetings per year (3 or 4) and regular exchange by e-mail.