



Quality Food Products Linked to Geographical Origin and Traditions in the Republic of Croatia

**Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development
Autochthonous Agricultural and Food Products Department**

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Content of presentation

1. Development of legislation in RH.
2. The Act on designations of origin, geographical indications and the traditional speciality logo for agricultural products and foodstuffs (2008).
3. Procedures for registration of indications in RH.
4. Official controls and verification of compliance with product specification.



Development of legislation in RH

From 1991. to 2003.

State Intellectual Property Office of The Republic of Croatia

1. Slavonski domaći kulen/kulin – meat product
2. Paški sir - sheep cheese
3. Istarski pršut – dry ham
4. Cetinski sir – sheep cheese
5. Paški baškotin - biscuite
6. Drniški pršut - dry ham
7. Torkul – olive oil



Development of legislation in RH

From July 2003.

- ✓ Authority is Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development (MAFRD)- for food,
- ✓ The Food Act (OG No. 117/03, 130/03, 48/04, 85/06),
- ✓ Ordinance on designations of origin and geographical indication (OG No. 80/05, 11/07),
- ✓ Ordinance on the recognition of specific characteristic of foodstuffs and designation of the marking “traditional reputation” (OG No. 127/05),
- ✓ The Act on designations of origin, geographical indications and services (OG No 173/03, 186/03, 76/07) – not for food.





Development of legislation in RH

From 2008.

- The Act on designations of origin, geographical indications and the traditional speciality logo for agricultural products and foodstuffs - Harmonized with EU Regulations 510/2006 and 509/2006.
- In progress two new Ordinances harmonizing with EU Regulations 1898/2006 and 1216/2007.





The Act on designations of origin, geographical indications and the traditional speciality logo for agricultural products and foodstuffs

Object of the Act:

- ✓ The procedure for the protection of designations of origin and geographical indications of agricultural products and foodstuffs at the national level,
- ✓ The procedure for the protection of the traditional speciality logo at the national level,
- ✓ Official controls and verification of compliance with the product specification,
- ✓ The protection of designations of origin and geographical indications of agricultural products and foodstuffs and the traditional speciality logo at the EU level.





The Act on designations of origin, geographical indications and the traditional speciality logo for agricultural products and foodstuffs

Application for geographical indications

- ✓ **Only a group shall be entitled to apply for registration, one producer – under special conditions.**
- ✓ **Only one product/indication shall be entitled to apply for registration,**
- ✓ **Content of application.**



The Act on designations of origin, geographical indications and the traditional speciality logo for agricultural products and foodstuffs

Content of application :

1. The name and address of the applicant group,
2. Product specification,
3. A single document setting out the following:
 - the main points of the specification: the name, a description of the product, including, where appropriate, specific rules concerning packaging and labelling, and a concise definition of the geographical area,
 - a description of the link between the product and the geographical environment or geographical origin, as the case may be, including, where appropriate, the specific elements of the product description or production method justifying the link.





The Act on designations of origin, geographical indications and the traditional speciality logo for agricultural products and foodstuffs

The specification shall include at least:

- a) the name of the agricultural product or foodstuff comprising the designation of origin or the geographical indication,**
- b) a description of the agricultural product or foodstuff, including the raw materials, if appropriate, and principal physical, chemical, microbiological or organoleptic characteristics of the agricultural product or the foodstuff,**
- c) the definition of the geographical area and, where appropriate, details indicating compliance with the requirements of Article 4, paragraph 3 of this Act,**
- d) evidence that the agricultural product or the foodstuff originates in the defined geographical area referred to in Article 4, paragraph 1, item a) or b), as the case may be,**
- e) a description of the method of obtaining the agricultural product or foodstuff and, if appropriate, the authentic and unvarying local methods as well as information concerning packaging, if the applicant group within the meaning of Article 7, paragraph 1 of this Act so determines and gives reasons why the packaging must take place in the defined geographical area to safeguard quality or ensure the origin or ensure control,**





The Act on designations of origin, geographical indications and the traditional speciality logo for agricultural products and foodstuffs

f) details bearing out the following:

- the link between the quality or characteristics of the agricultural product or foodstuff and the geographical environment referred to in Article 4, paragraph 1, item a) of this Act or, as the case may be,
- the link between a specific quality, the reputation or other characteristic of the agricultural product or foodstuff and the geographical origin referred to in Article 4, paragraph 1, item b) of this Act,
- g) the name and address of the authorities or bodies verifying compliance with the provisions of the specification and their specific tasks,
- h) any specific labelling rule for the agricultural product or foodstuff in question,
- i) any requirements laid down by special regulations.





The Act on designations of origin, geographical indications and the traditional speciality logo for agricultural products and foodstuffs

Application of Traditional speciality (TS)

- ✓ Only a group shall be entitled to apply for registration. One producer – under special conditions.
- ✓ Only one product/indication shall be entitled to apply for registration.

Application consist:

- ✓ The name and address of the applicant group ,
- ✓ Product specification,
- ✓ The name and address of the authorities or bodies verifying compliance with the provisions of the specification, and their specific tasks,
- ✓ The documents proving the product's specific and traditional character.





The Act on designations of origin, geographical indications and the traditional speciality logo for agricultural products and foodstuffs

Product specification in case Traditional specialty (TS) :

Product specification shall include:

- a) the name of product specification must be in the Croatian language and in another language if required, indicating whether the group applies for registration with or without reservation of the name,
- b) a description of the agricultural product or foodstuff including its main physical, chemical, microbiological or organoleptic characteristics,
- c) a description of the production method that the producers must follow, including where appropriate the nature and characteristics of the raw materials or ingredients used and the method of preparation of the agricultural product or foodstuff,



The Act on designations of origin, geographical indications and the traditional speciality logo for agricultural products and foodstuffs

Product specification in case Traditional specialty (TS) :

- d) the key elements that define the product's specific character and, where appropriate, the reference basis used,
- e) the key elements that prove the product's traditional character as laid down in Article 20, paragraph 1 of this Act,
- f) the minimum requirements and procedures to check the specific character.





Procedures for registration of indications in RH

1. Step

Activities before registration

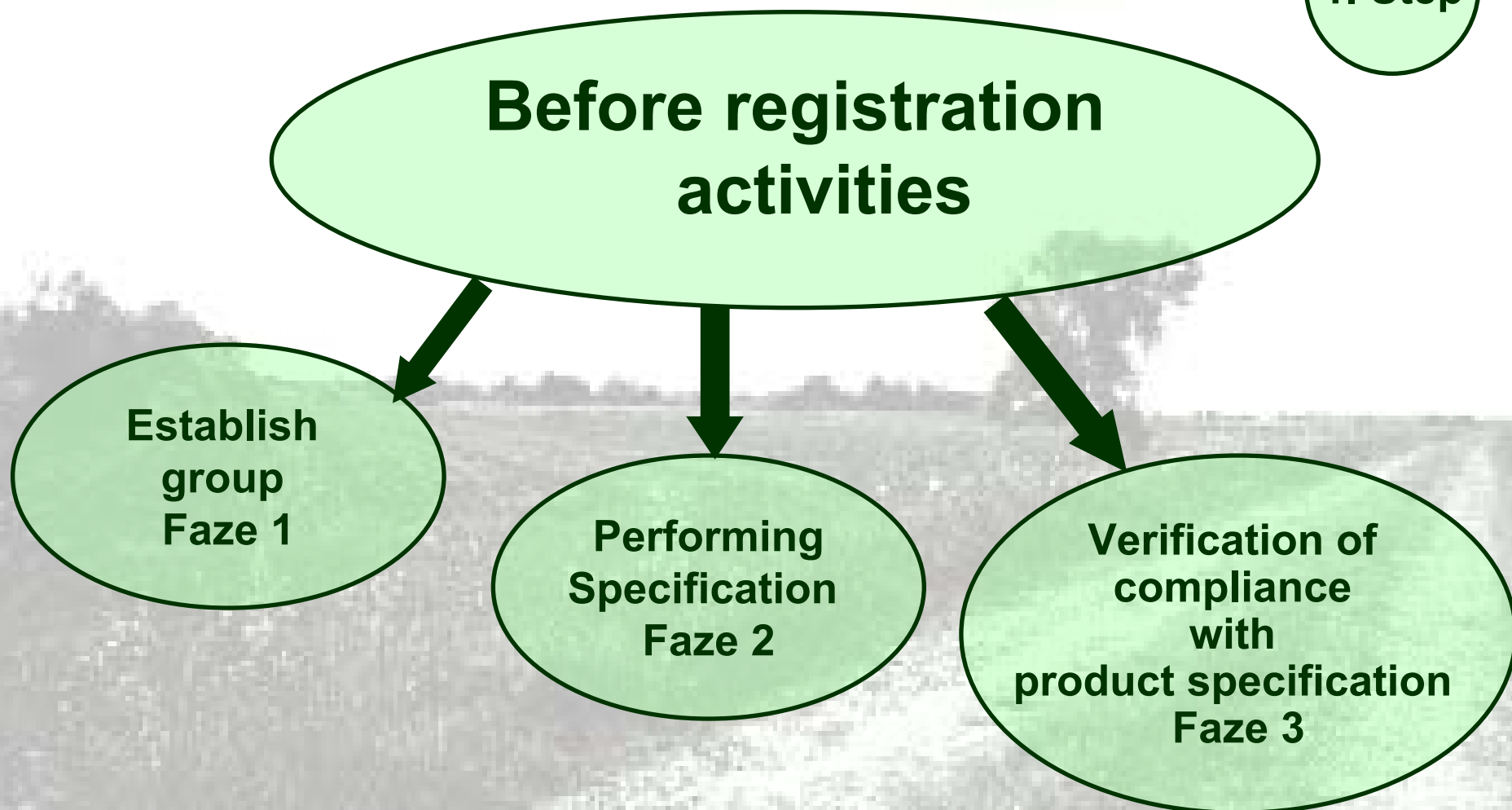
2. Step

**Official procedure
for registration
in MAFRD**



Procedures for registration of indications in RH

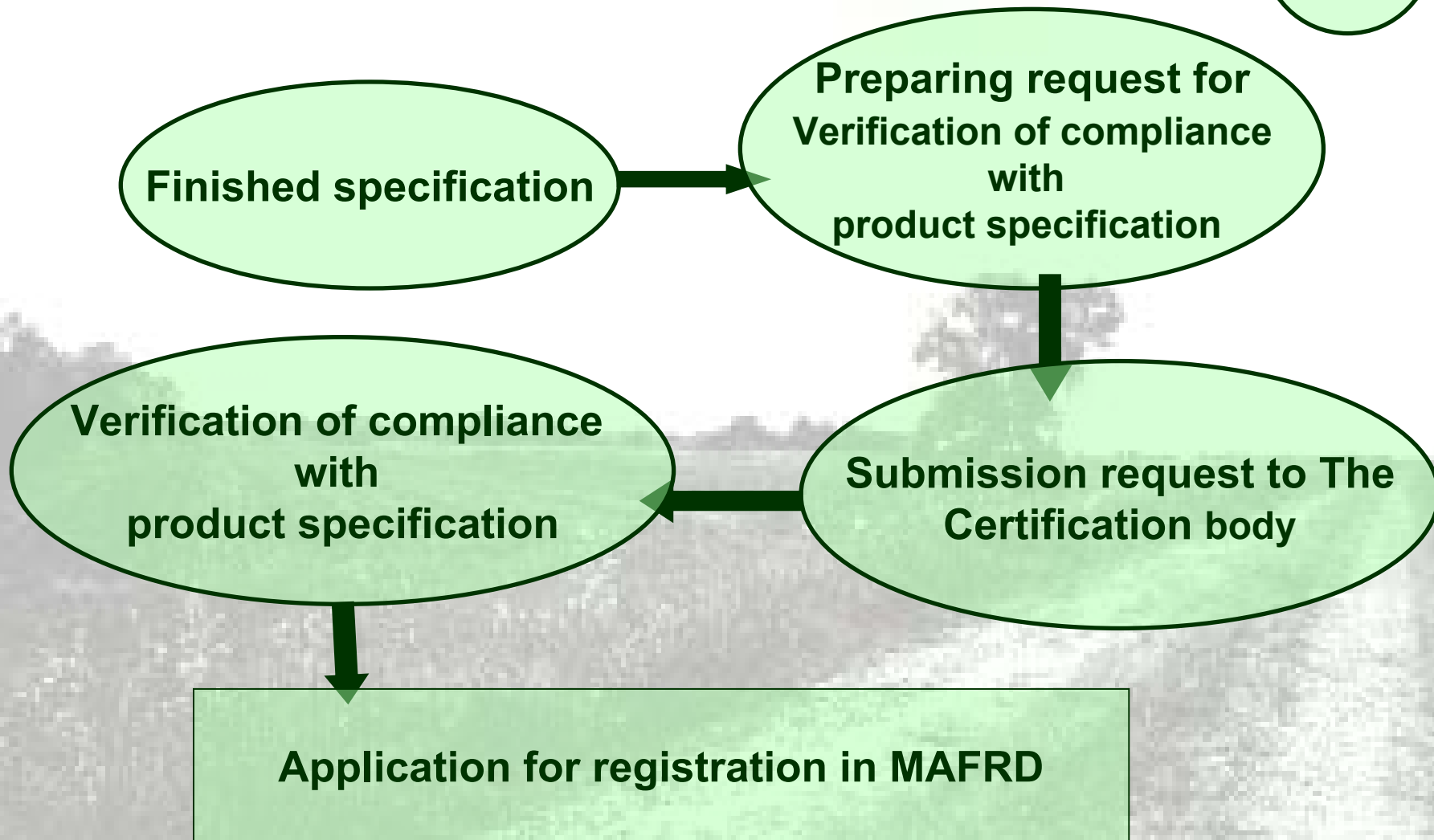
1. Step





Procedures for registration of indications in RH

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Procedures for registration of indications in RH

2. Step

Competent authority for registration:

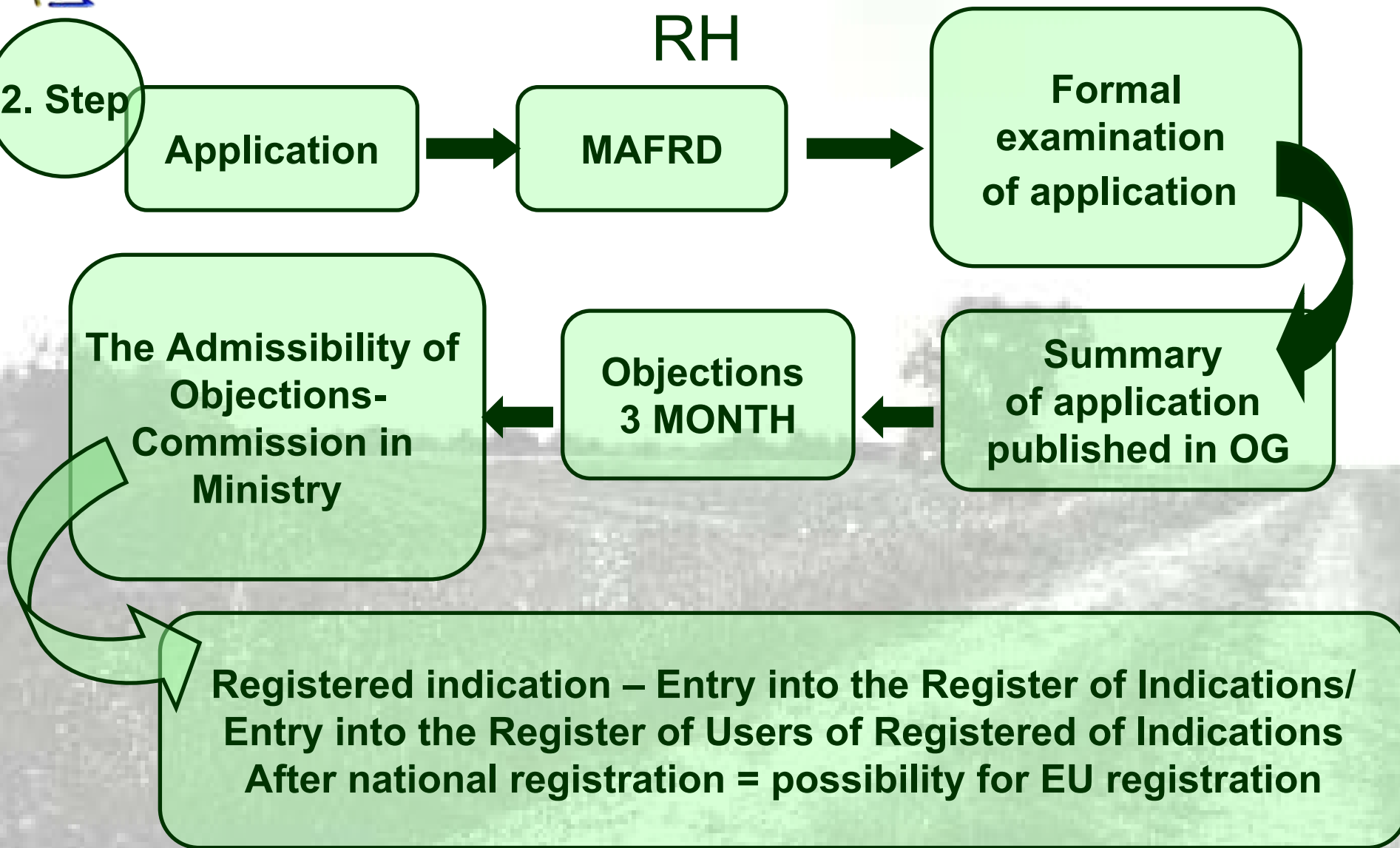
- ✓ Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development, Autochthonous Agricultural and Food Products Department,
- ✓ Committee in Ministry.





Procedures for registration of indications in RH

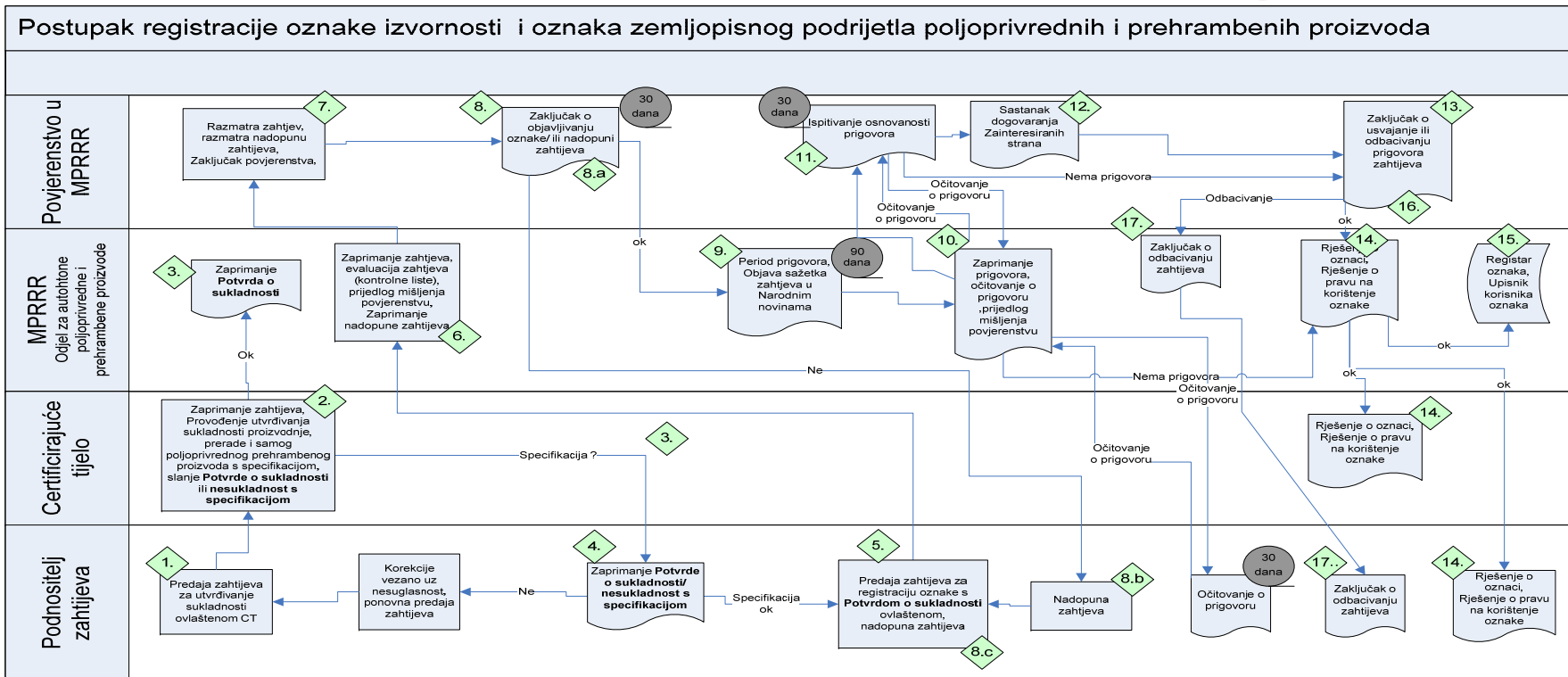
2. Step



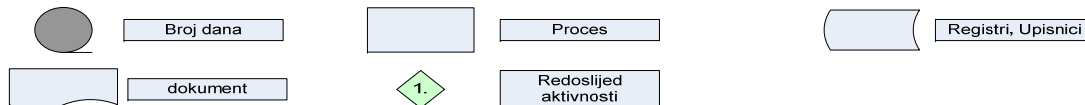


Procedure for registration of indications in RH

2. Step



Legenda:



FLOWCHARTS REGISTRACIJE OZNAKE SUKLADNO PRAVILNIKU O OZNAKAMA IZVORNOSTI I OZNAKAMA ZEMLJOPISNOG PODRIJETLA HRANE NN 80/05





OFFICIAL CONTROLS AND VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH PRODUCT SPECIFICATION

Official controls of safety and hygiene :

- ✓ Official controls of safety and hygiene of agricultural products and foodstuffs – according to The food act (OG No. 46/07) and others regulations.





OFFICIAL CONTROLS AND VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH PRODUCT SPECIFICATION

Administrative and inspectional supervision :

- ✓ Administrative supervision of the application – performs MAFRD,
- ✓ Inspectional supervision of the application – the inspection of the Ministry competent for the quality of agricultural products and foodstuffs,
- ✓ Inspectional supervision on the level of retail trade – economic inspectors of the State Inspectorate .



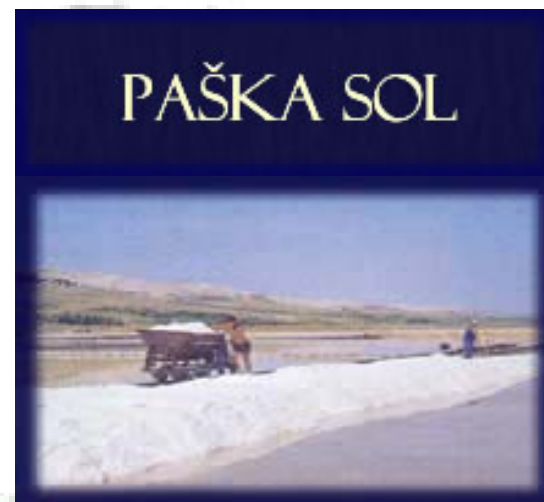
OFFICIAL CONTROLS AND VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH PRODUCT SPECIFICATION

VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH PRODUCT SPECIFICATION:

- ✓ Verification of compliance with the specification shall be carried out before lodging the application and after registration,
- ✓ Legal person authorized by the Minister (Certification bodies),
- ✓ Certification bodies must be accredited in compliance with the requirements of the relevant Croatian standard (Norm HRN EN 45011:1998),
- ✓ A list of authorized certification bodies shall be published in the Official Gazette,
- ✓ Administrative supervision of Certification bodies – performs MAFRD.



First registered indication according to new Act: “Paška morska sol”





Thank you for your attention!

Tomislav Tojčić, Head of Department

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