

## **11. Standards for certification**

- 1) The certifying authority shall before approving a basic seed, ensure that
  - a) The seed is produced by a seed producer under the direct supervision of
    - i) An agronomist, or
    - ii) A seed technologist,  
From an institution recognized by the certifying authority;
  - b) The seed has been handled in accordance with the standards specified in the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Schedule by the certifying authority for purposes of maintaining its genetic identity and purity; and
  - c) The seed enterprise has
    - i) Access to sufficient land;
    - ii) Access to appropriate facilities and equipment; and
    - iii) Qualified personnel with a minimum of five years experience.
- 2) The certifying authority shall before approving a certified seed, ensure that the seed is handled in accordance with the standards prescribed by the certifying authority for purposes of maintaining its genetic identity and purity.
- 3) The certifying authority shall develop a manual for seed certification and accreditation.
- 4) The contents of the manual include seed inspection, sampling, testing and labeling of seeds to ensure clarity in the seed certification and accreditation process.

## **12. Exemption of emergency relief seed**

- 1) The certifying authority shall not certify seed produced from a certified seed under these Regulations.
- 2) Despite subregulation (1), the certifying authority may approve a seed produced from a first generation of a certified seed if the genetic purity of the certified seed is not altered and it is necessary to maintain adequate seed supply.

*Field management and isolation, and cropping declaration*

## **13. Field management and isolation**

Except where field boundaries are clearly defined and properly isolated as prescribed in the specific crop standards, the production unit for the certification of seeds by the certifying authority consists of a field part of a field.

## **14. Cropping declaration**

- 1) A person whose field is to be inspected shall, before each certification season and before cultivation, send a cropping declaration to the certifying authority within four weeks before planting.
- 2) The certifying authority shall reject a cropping declaration, the cropping declaration is sent by the person within a time frame considered by the certifying authority to be unreasonable.
- 3) The person shall report a subsequent change in the cropping declaration to the certifying authority as soon as possible.

- 4) The certifying authority shall develop a template for coping declaration until a template is developed by the Economic Community of West African States for use by Member States.