



Council of the
European Union

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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

No. Cion doc.: 11659/16 DENLEG 69 AGRI 445 SAN 306 + ADD 1

Subject: COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) .../... of XXX amending Annex to Regulation (EU) No 231/2012 laying down specifications for food additives listed in Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards specifications for Steviol glycosides (E 960)

– *Decision not to oppose adoption*

1. Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008¹ lays down a Union list of food additives approved for use in foods. The Annex to Commission Regulation (EU) No 231/2012 lays down specifications for those additives. Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 states that the specifications may be updated in accordance with the common procedure referred to in Article 3(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008².

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on food additives (OJ L 354, 31.12.2008, p. 16).

² Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 establishing a common authorisation procedure for food additives, food enzymes and food flavourings (OJ L 354, 31.12.2008, p. 1).

In accordance with Article 7(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008, decisions updating the specifications can be adopted on the grounds of efficiency by the regulatory procedure with scrutiny with curtailed time-limits (2 months) for the European Parliament and the Council to oppose such measures.

2. In accordance with the second subparagraph of Article 12 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011³, the effects of Article 5a of Council Decision 1999/468/EC⁴ are maintained for the purposes of existing basic acts making reference thereto.
3. Before adopting the draft Regulation referred to in subject and in accordance with Article 5a(2) of Council Decision 1999/468/EC, the Commission consulted the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed on 21 June 2016, which voted by unanimity⁵ in favour of the draft Regulation.
4. Consequently, the Commission submitted the draft Regulation to the Council on 3 August 2016, in accordance with Article 5a(3)(a) of Council Decision 1999/468/EC.
5. Under the regulatory procedure with scrutiny, the Council, acting by qualified majority, may oppose the adoption of the draft Regulation on the grounds that the draft measures presented by the Commission:
 - exceed the implementing powers provided for in the basic instrument, or
 - are not compatible with the aim or the content of the basic instrument, or
 - do not respect the principles of subsidiarity or proportionality.

³ Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13).

⁴ Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission (OJ L 184, 17.7.1999, p. 23).

⁵ 28 MS, representing a population of 100%, voted in favour.

6. The delegations were asked on 8 August 2016 to indicate until 8 September 2016 their possible opposition to the draft Regulation. The delegations did not raise any of the above-mentioned grounds for opposition.

7. **The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to recommend to the Council to confirm, as an "A" item of its agenda, that it is not opposed to the draft Regulation referred to in document 11659/16 + ADD 1.** Unless the European Parliament opposes the Regulation within 2 months from its submission, the Commission may adopt it in accordance with the procedure under Article 5a(3)(d) of Council Decision 1999/468/EC.
