



Council of the
European Union

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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations

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Subject: Special Report No 9/2014 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "Is the EU investment and promotion support to the wine sector well managed and are its results on the competitiveness of EU wines demonstrated?"
- *Council conclusions*

Delegations will find attached, in the Annex, the Council conclusions as adopted today by the Council (Agriculture and Fisheries).

Council conclusions
on Special Report No 9/2014 from the European Court of Auditors entitled
"Is the EU investment and promotion support to the wine sector well managed and are its
results on the competitiveness of EU wines demonstrated?"

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

- (1) WELCOMES Special Report No 9/2014 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "Is the EU investment and promotion support to the wine sector well managed and are its results on the competitiveness of EU wines demonstrated?";
- (2) ACKNOWLEDGES that the support for both investments and promotion provided for by the Single CMO Regulation¹ has often contributed to enhancing the competitiveness of the EU's wine sector;
- (3) AGREES that, although preference should be given to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), neither large firms nor brands should be excluded in so far as they help EU wine producers gain a foothold in third-country markets and their reputation in those markets often has a multiplier effect on SMEs;
- (4) INVITES the Commission to ensure that the combined effect of all common agricultural policy (CAP) instruments is measured and assessed in relation to the common objectives of the CAP, including by means of an evaluation of the coherence of the CAP instruments by 2018, and to improve the quality of checks, in particular through a possible adaptation of the guidelines and rules as soon as possible.

¹ Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 of 22 October 2007 establishing a common organisation of agricultural markets and on specific provisions for certain agricultural products (Single CMO Regulation) (OJ L 299, 16.11.2007, p. 1).