



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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COVER NOTE

From:	European Commission
date of receipt:	7 January 2014
To:	General Secretariat of the Council
No. Cion doc.:	D029441/03
Subject:	COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No .../.. of XXX amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and the protection of geographical indications of spirit drinks

Delegations will find attached the Commission document D029441/03.

Encl.: D029441/03



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, **XXX**
D029441/03
[...] (2013) **XXX** draft

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No .../..

of **XXX**

amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and the protection of geographical indications of spirit drinks

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amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and the protection of geographical indications of spirit drinks

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2008 on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and the protection of geographical indications of spirit drinks¹, and in particular Article 26 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 provides that the spirit drinks of the category 16 ‘Spirit (preceded by the name of the fruit) obtained by maceration and distillation’ can be obtained from the maceration and distillation of fruits or berries listed therein. In some Member States, this type of spirit drink is traditionally produced also with other fruits, which are not included in that list. Therefore the list of fruits or berries used for the production of spirit drinks under that category should be extended.
- (2) Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 provides that the spirit drinks of the category 24 ‘*Akvavit* or *aquavit*’ are caraway and/or dillseed-flavoured spirit drinks flavoured with a distillate of plants or spices. Those spirit drinks are traditionally produced by using ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin. The current category of spirit drink ‘*Akvavit* or *aquavit*’ does not specify the obligation to use ethyl alcohol. However, using ethyl alcohol in the production of ‘*Akvavit* or *aquavit*’ is essential to ensure the quality of the product.
- (3) Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (4) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for Spirit Drinks,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 is amended in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation.

¹ OJ L 39, 13.2.2008, p. 16.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission
The President
José Manuel BARROSO