From: (AGRI)
Sent: 09 February 2018 16:30

To: MOEGELE Rudolf (AGRI); (AGRI); (AGRI);

SCHAPS Jens (AGRI); (AGRI); (AGRI);

(AGRI); (SANTE); (AGRI)

Cc: (AGRI)

Subject: Minutes of DG AGRI and DG SANTE meeting with wine operators

Participants:

Wine sector: CEEV, EFOW, CEVI, COPA-COGECA

DG AGRI: DG SANTE:

AGRI.G.2 and SANTE.E.1 met this morning operators of different wine organisations to discuss about the forthcoming submission to the Commission of a Report set up by the alcoholic beverages sectors (wine, spirits, beer and cider), in reply to the Report of the Commission published in March 2017.

Wine representatives described their Report, which will consist of:

- a general section agreed by all sectors of alcoholic beverages outlining the general principles
 of self-regulatory measures on the labelling of calories and ingredients
- an annex for each product (wine, spirits, beer and cider), describing the peculiarities of each sectors and the necessary sectorial labelling specificities.

Through this Report, alcoholic beverages operators are requesting some labelling flexibility, in particular:

- the possibility to convey off-label information to consumers (online). It seems that all the sectors agree on this request;
- the possibility for the wine sector to set out some general standards to communicate on ingredients. For example: a) by not listing added sugar and acids already naturally present in the wine but added to correct it, b) by referring to all the ingredients that a certain wine producer is likely to use, based on historical practices, c) by listing all authorised additives regardless of whether they have been used or not, or d) by a yearly adaptation of the information according to the list ingredients actually used, for those who can afford such adaptation costs. It seems that the beer sector is not inclined to accept this element of flexibility;
- the possibility for the wine sector to set out standards for the calories content according to the type of wine (red wine, white wine, sparkling wine, liqueur wine, etc ...) or type of aromatised wine and to use the symbol 'E' for 'energy' followed by kcal + the quantity of calories corresponding to the type of wine (for example, for any red wine: E: kcal/100 ml = 80) so to avoid translations and yearly adaptation of the information.

Wine representatives stressed again their will to have sectoral rules in Regulation 607/2009 on wine labelling, taking the opportunity of its current alignment in order to avoid national measures and a fragmentation of the EU market.

AGRI informed that the draft of the recast of Regulation 607/2009 has been finalised and that the procedures preceding the adoption have been launched. In case the regulatory route is chosen, the Commission will propose, in the context of CAP reform, the relevant legal basis.

DG SANTE stressed that it is necessary to wait for the outcome of the Report and that no legislative initiative should be taken in the meanwhile. DG SANTE also pointed out that the main objective of this exercise should be to convey clear and easily accessible information to consumers.



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