



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate F – Outreach, Research & Geographical Indications
The Director

Brussels
AGRI.F.3/

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 29 April 2024 (our reference *Ares (2024)3084403*) regarding the implementation of provisions concerning Article 27 of *Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 on geographical indications for wine, spirit drinks and agricultural products, as well as traditional specialities guaranteed and optional quality terms for agricultural products* (the new GI Regulation).

You ask about the requirement for the processor to notify the recognised producer association about the use of a GI as ingredient, applicable as of 13 May 2024, and a possible transition period.

In order to avoid any confusion, it is important to recall that the notification requirement introduced in the new GI Regulation only impacts processed food that uses a GI in the name of the product or on the label or advertisement, but not in the case of a product merely containing the GI as an ingredient without any additional use of the GI on the label or advertisement. Also, the notification obligation concerns only processed food that is prepacked and presupposes that a recognised producer group exists, that the Member State has communicated its name and address to the Commission and that the Commission has published that information, as foreseen by Article 33, point 8 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143.

Given the nature of these new provisions, there will inevitably be a time lag between the entry into force of the new GI Regulation and the publication by the Commission of a list of recognised producer groups, and even the implementation of the new notification obligation between producers of pre-existent prepacked processed food and GI recognised producer groups. Notification would be expected without undue delay once all the foregoing aspects are operational.

In the meantime, for producers already using the name of a GI in their product name, label or advertisement, the new provisions do not imply that they should cease production until the publication of the name and address of a potential recognised producer group. They will however have to comply without undue delay with the three conditions listed in Article 27(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143, i.e. a) the processed product shall not contain any

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other product comparable to the ingredient designated by the geographical indication; b) the ingredient designated by the geographical indication shall be used in sufficient quantities to confer an essential characteristic on the processed product concerned; and c) the percentage of the ingredient designated by the geographical indication in the processed product shall be indicated in the label.

The present opinion is provided based on the facts as set out in your email and expresses the view of the Commission services and does not commit the European Commission. In the event of a dispute involving European Union law, it is for the Court of Justice of the European Union to provide a definitive interpretation of the applicable European Union law.

Yours faithfully,



Diego CANGA FANO

Director F - Outreach, research and geographical indications