



Council of the
European Union

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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Delegations

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Subject: Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Council Directives 2001/110/EC relating to honey, 2001/112/EC relating to fruit juices and certain similar products intended for human consumption, 2001/113/EC relating to fruit jams, jellies and marmalades and sweetened chestnut purée intended for human consumption, and 2001/114/EC relating to certain partly or wholly dehydrated preserved milk for human consumption
- Comments from the Lithuanian delegation

Delegations will find attached the written comments from the Lithuanian delegation on the issues raised by the Spanish Presidency in document WK 9110/2023.

Comments from the Lithuanian delegation

I. Directive 2001/110/EC regarding honey

1. In case small packages, we would support the proposal that the countries of origin should be designated by means of a two-letter code in accordance with the current version of the ISO 3166 Standard on Codes.
2. The methods of analysis to be used for the parameters set out in the Directive should coincide with the time of entry into force of the Directive. But we would agree accept the longer deadline in which the Commission has to develop an implementing act regarding the methods of analysis, cited in Article 4.1 of the Honey Directive.
3. LT considers that all countries of origin and the percentages of all countries of origin must be indicated. It is very important to create transparency in the honey market. The consumer must have a clear and unambiguous picture of the honey he is buying and from which countries.
4. Concerning the labelling tolerance for honey blends, the proposal is to maintain a 3% tolerance in the indication of the percentages.

II. Directive 2001/112/EC regarding Fruit juices

1. LT support to include the new category of “concentrated fruit juice with reduced sugar”
2. LT agreed with the statement “fruit juices contain only sugars naturally present in fruit”.

III. Directive 2001/113/EC regarding fruit jams, jellies and marmalades

As regards the fruit content in both jam categories, our position has not changed. We support the Commission's proposal that the minimum fruit content in jams should be 450 g/1000 g and 550 g/1000 g for extra jams.

IV. TRANSITIONAL PERIOD

In our view, 24 months is sufficient time to adapt to the new requirements imposed, but we can be flexible.