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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
No. prev. doc.:	5760/1/24 REV 1, 5166/1/24 REV 1
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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 Polish delegation

Delegations will find attached the Polish delegation's comments on the proposals contained in doc. 5760/1/24 REV 1 and doc. 5166/1/24 REV 1.

Poland's position**on the proposals contained in doc. 5760/1/24 REV 1 and doc. 5166/1/24 REV 1**

Poland withdraws scrutiny reservation. We would like to ask the following to be taken into account.

Poland does not raise any comments to **point 1** regarding the proposal to empower the Commission in terms of:

- characteristics of honey;
- adulteration of honey;
- traceability of honey.

Poland does not raise any comments to **point 2** regarding the establishment of a European reference laboratory.

Regarding **point 3**, Poland maintains its view on introducing the labeling of countries of origin in descending order, along with exact percentages, allowing 5% tolerance.

In Poland's opinion, the questionable is the proposal to introduce the usage of ranges instead of exact percentages. From the consumer's point of view, the percentage content defined as a range seems to be imprecise information. Moreover, the interpretation and direct applicability of this proposal may be difficult for producers and complicated to verify by the control authorities.

Regarding **point 4**:

Poland does not support possible compromise as too simplified information for the consumers, which does not fulfill the aim indicated in the preamble. The compromise achieved by the Council in December 2023 was accepted by Poland and Poland consequently supports it.

Regarding **point 5**:

We support possible compromise, however we raise the need to including "concentrated reduced-sugars fruit juice" as well, perhaps this probably will clarify the EP's doubts about the definition of this product and allow for simplification on the same way definitions of all products in the new category juices of "reduced- sugars".

General comment to proposal related to text of directive 112/2001:

In various versions of the voluntary statement related to juices, it's always used the term "*sugars*". This is correct and should be standardized throughout the document especially in the names of juices from the new category. Not "sugar" but "sugars" - we propose this correction.

Regarding **point 6**:

Poland does not support possible compromise. We think that no category of fruit juices should be restricted from using claims allowed by horizontal EU regulations, i.e. Regulation (EU) No. 1924/2006.

Regarding **point 7**

PL supports possible compromise.

Poland agrees to revise the Council's mandate in accordance with the Presidency's proposals discussed at the SCA on 29.01.2024.
