INTERNATIONAL
OLIVE OIL
COUNCIL

Príncipe de Vergara, 154 – 28002 Madrid – España Telef.: +34 915 903 638 Fax: +34 915 631 263 - e-mail: iooc@internationaloliveoil.org - http://www.internationaloliveoil.org/

Resolution no. RES-2/90-IV/04

IOOC RECOGNITION OF LABORATORIES UNDERTAKING THE SENSORY ANALYSIS OF VIRGIN OLIVE OILS

THE INTERNATIONAL OLIVE OIL COUNCIL,

Having regard to the International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 1986, as amended and extended, 1993, and last prolonged in June 2003, in particular article 1 thereof concerning its general objectives, article 26 concerning the designations and definitions of olive oils and olive-pomace oils, as last amended by Decision no. DEC-7/88-IV/03 of 25 June 2003, and article 36 concerning the standardisation of the market for olive oil and olive-pomace oil,

Having regard to Resolution no. RES-4/76-IV/97 of 5 June 1997 concerning the IOOC certificate for the recognition of olive oil tasting panels,

Whereas it is necessary to check that the capabilities and competence of laboratories where the sensory analysis of virgin olive oils is performed by a tasting panel are of recognised status in that such laboratories may be called upon to perform sensory assessments required in disputes over international transactions for which recourse is had to the conciliation and arbitration procedure of the IOOC;

Whereas it is necessary to update the rules for the award of IOOC recognition to virgin olive oil tasting panels in the light of the international recommendations on proficiency requirements for tests performed by sensory testing laboratories,

DECIDES

1. Recognition shall be granted or maintained for laboratories which are approved by the competent authority of their country as a laboratory responsible for the official control of virgin olive oils by sensory analysis, and which:

1.1. fulfil the following conditions:

1.1.1. An application for recognition, transmitted by the competent authority that approved the laboratory for the sensory testing of virgin olive oils, has to be submitted to the IOOC Executive Secretariat.

1.1.2. The application for recognition has to be accompanied by proof that the laboratory holds accreditation for the sensory analysis of virgin olive oils according to the method adopted by the Council.

1.1.3. The application also has to be accompanied by full details on the characteristics of the sensory testing laboratory: installations, equipment, activities, staff, position, experience and activity of the panel supervisor, membership of the panel of tasters, and average monthly number of tastings of virgin olive oils.

1.1.4. The laboratory has to obtain a satisfactory evaluation in the periodic tests organised by the IOOC to check the competence of panels undertaking the tasting of virgin olive oils.

1.2. fulfil the following obligations:

1.2.1. The laboratory has to notify the IOOC Executive Secretariat of any change in the accreditation it holds for the sensory analysis of virgin olive oils.

1.2.2. The laboratory has to notify the IOOC Executive Secretariat of any change in the staff assigned to the sensory analysis of virgin olive oils, including any modification of the membership of the tasting panel.

1.2.3. The laboratory has to perform the sensory analysis of virgin olive oils when requested to do so in cases of arbitration, certification, surveys or inspections.

1.2.4. The laboratory has to take part in the check tests required by the IOOC Executive Secretariat.

2. The Council shall be responsible for the following, after consulting a technical commission of seven experts designated by the Executive Secretariat:

   - Checking the competence of the panels undertaking the sensory analysis of virgin olive oils by organising two annual tests, each of which shall be performed on five samples.

   - Undertaking the statistical processing for application to the check test results.

   - Handling any appeals submitted by laboratories.

   - Evaluating the capabilities and competence of laboratories undertaking the sensory analysis of virgin olive oils, for the purpose of issuing IOOC recognition.

3. The Council may, after consulting the technical commission, check the technical conditions in which the tests are conducted by panels undertaking the sensory analysis of virgin olive oils.

4. The Council may grant recognition *on a provisional basis* to laboratories undertaking the sensory analysis of virgin olive oils that are in the process of earning accreditation and which provide a statement to the effect that they are taking steps to obtain such accreditation.

5. This Resolution replaces and rescinds the *IOOC certificate for the recognition of olive oil tasting panels* contained in Resolution no. RES-4/76-IV/97 of 5 June 1997.

Madrid (Spain), 18 June 2004