



**INTERNATIONAL
OLIVE
COUNCIL**

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RESOLUTION No. RES-2/78-IV/98

**IOOC CERTIFICATE FOR THE RECOGNITION
OF OLIVE OIL TESTING LABORATORIES**

THE INTERNATIONAL OLIVE OIL COUNCIL,

Having regard to the International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 1986, as amended and extended by the Protocol of March 1993, in particular article 1 thereof concerning its general objectives, article 26 concerning the designations and definitions for olive oils and olive-pomace oils which was last amended by Decision no. DEC.1/75-IV/96 of 20 November 1996, and article 36 concerning the standardisation of the market for olive oil and olive-pomace oil;

Whereas it is necessary to ensure that the ability and competence of olive oil testing laboratories are recognised, which laboratories may have to act in tests requested in the case of 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 olive oil testing laboratories on the basis of the recommendations issued by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) as regards the technical competence of testing laboratories, quality management and quality assurance;

DECIDES

1. Recognition shall be granted or maintained for olive oil testing laboratories fulfilling:
 - 1.1. the following conditions:
 - 1.1.1. The application for recognition is submitted to the IOOC Executive Secretariat; in the case of public laboratories, the application should be submitted through the supervisory governmental authorities;

1.1.2. The application for recognition is accompanied by full details on the characteristics of the laboratory, its installations, equipment, staff and activities, in addition to a description of any accreditations it has been awarded for olive oil testing, the name of the body issuing such accreditations and the date of issue thereof and, if applicable, whether the laboratory belongs to intercomparison olive oil test schemes;

1.1.3. The laboratory provides proof that it is competent in applying the physico-chemical methods of analysis recommended by the IOOC in its trade standard applying to olive oil and olive-pomace oil.

The competence of the laboratory shall be assessed yearly by the IOOC after hearing the opinion of a technical commission comprising five experts designated by the IOOC Executive Secretariat. This commission shall be responsible for:

1.1.3.1. laying down the conditions for the test, notably as regards the choice, number (not more than four) and volume of the samples, the analytical parameters for application in duplicate (not more than 25 of the determinations set in the IOOC trade standard applying to olive oil and olive-pomace oil shall be required), the date of dispatch of the samples (between March and May), the deadline for the delivery of results to the IOOC Executive Secretariat, and the presentation of the results;

1.1.3.2. issuing an opinion on the competence of the laboratory on the basis of the statistical analysis of the laboratory data after the elimination of any outliers. Competence shall be proven when the results lie within a tolerance interval not exceeding twice the standard deviation in relation to the median; however, these results shall not be required to be better than the reproducibility values of the method, when fixed. The overall appraisal shall be issued according to the number of wrong results given by each laboratory for all the determinations required, which must not be more than one and one half times the average number of wrong results.

- 1.2. the following obligations:
 - 1.2.1. The laboratory shall notify the IOOC Executive Secretariat of any change in its accreditation status for olive oils;
 - 1.2.2. It shall notify the Executive Secretariat of any change in its installations, equipment, staff or activities;
 - 1.2.3. It shall perform any tests of olive oils and olive-pomace oils it might be requested to carry out for arbitration, certifications, surveys or check tests;
 - 1.2.4. It shall participate in the check tests it is requested to carry out by the IOOC Executive Secretariat.
2. The IOOC shall be responsible for making use of the results and for dealing with any appeals made by laboratories after the technical commission has issued its opinion. It shall be further responsible, after consultation with the technical commission, for preparing the samples for competence check tests or laboratory training tests according to a protocol established in compliance with the relevant international standards.
3. The IOOC may grant "provisional" recognition to laboratories in the process of gaining accreditation if they provide a declaration stating that they have taken steps to obtain such accreditation and they also satisfy the other conditions and obligations laid down in this Resolution.
4. This IOOC certificate of recognition for olive oil testing laboratories shall apply from the date of adoption of this Resolution.

Budva (Yugoslavia, F.R.), 4 June 1998