



**INTERNATIONAL  
OLIVE  
COUNCIL**

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**DRAFT DECISION No DEC-9/S. ex. 24-V/2015**

**CONCERNING THE TRADE STANDARD APPLYING TO  
OLIVE OILS AND OLIVE POMACE OILS**

THE COUNCIL OF MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLIVE COUNCIL,

**Having regard** to the Technical Committee recommendation to adopt the duly justified method for the *Determination of the content of waxes, fatty acid methyl esters and fatty acid ethyl esters by capillary gas chromatography* referenced COI/T.20/Doc. No 28,

**Having regard** to Council Decision No DEC-16/97-V/2009 of 20 November 2009 adopting the trade standard applying to olive oils and olive pomace oils referenced COI/T.15/NC No 3/Rev. 4 whereby this method and the limits for alkyl esters were adopted as a quality criterion for extra virgin olive oils in accordance with the International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 2005, in particular articles 21 and 25,

**Having regard** to Decision No DEC-20/100-V/2013 of 27 May 2013 whereby the Council adopted the replacement of alkyl esters by ethyl esters as a quality parameter for extra virgin olive oils in the trade standard applying to olive oils and olive pomace oils referenced COI/T.15/Nc No 3/Rev. 7 and the inclusion of a review clause in the light of future research on this subject,

**Whereas** the chemists proposed gradually lowering ethyl ester content and deleting the methyl ester limit and ratio;

**Whereas** ongoing research in certain countries has revealed new data demonstrating changes in ethyl ester content, which is a quality criterion for extra virgin olive oils,

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**DECIDES**

The ethyl ester limit of 35 mg/kg shall be maintained for the 2015/16 crop year by derogation from the Decision adopted in 2013.

The situation shall be reassessed in June 2016 in the light of the recommendations made by the chemistry experts who shall be invited to examine ongoing research and to report to the Technical Committee in June 2016.

The trade standard applying to olive oils and olive pomace oils referenced COI/T.15/NC No 3/Rev. 9 shall replace and rescind the trade standard applying to olive oils and olive pomace oils referenced COI/T.15/NC No 3/Rev. 8 of November 2015.

Members shall take whatever measures are appropriate, in the manner required by their legislation, to apply the standard adopted and shall notify the Executive Secretariat of any such measures as soon as they are taken.

Non-Member States involved in international trade in olive oils and olive pomace oils shall be invited to take into consideration the standard adopted and to adapt their regulations to its provisions.

Madrid (Spain), 19 June 2015.