



Decision DEC-III.4/126-VI/2026

Revising the Trade Standard Applying to Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils

The Council of Members of the International Olive Council

Having regard to the International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 2015, and in particular its Article I "Objectives of the Agreement" concerning the standardisation of national and international legislation relating to the physico-chemical and organoleptic characteristics of olive oils, olive pomace oils and table olives in order to avoid any barriers to trade, and Chapter VI "Standardisation provisions";

Having regard to the recommendation made by the Committee on Chemistry and Standardisation at its 18th meeting, within the framework of the 123rd session of the Council of Members;

Considering the work carried out by chemists concerning the application of methods and the studies carried out on olive oils presenting non-standard parameters;

Considering the unanimous position agreed by the chemists at their meeting on 24 and 25 March 2026 regarding:

- The inclusion, on an exceptional basis of a footnote on the total sterol limit for certain varieties. The parameters to be studied include the acidity/total DAG ratio, the free/esterified sterol ratio and the total phenol content. The possible inclusion of the latter will be assessed within a decision-tree framework. These parameters will initially be studied for the varieties specified in the footnote (*Koroneiki*, *Nocellara del Belice* and *Coratina*). Their potential future application to other varieties as authenticity parameters will be contemplated. A working group has been established to validate the relevant methods and to assess the value of these parameters for the aforementioned varieties.
- The inclusion of the new method of analysis for the determination of the peroxide value (COI/T.20/Doc. No. 38).
- The inclusion of the method of analysis for the determination of volatile compounds in virgin olive oils by SPME-GC/MS (COI/T.20/Doc. No. 37).



Decides

1. To adopt the Trade Standard Applying to Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils (COI/T.15/NC No. 3/Rev. 22), attached to this decision, which replaces and repeals the previous version (COI/T.15/NC No. 3/Rev. 21) of June 2025.
2. Members shall, in accordance with their respective legislations, take all appropriate measures to apply the adopted standard and shall communicate these measures to the Executive Secretariat as soon as they have been implemented.
3. Non-member countries engaged in international trade in olive oils and olive pomace oils are invited to take the adopted standard into consideration and to align their regulations with its provisions.



Lisbon, 30 June 2026

Tawfik EL ACHCHABI

Chair of the International Olive Council