

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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Brussels, 14 February 1983

Recommendation for a

COUNCIL DECISION

authorizing the Commission to negotiate an agreement with Mexico on  
the mutual recognition of appellations of origin for spirituous beverages

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(submitted to the Council by the Commission)



COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Subject: CEE/Mexico, mutual recognition of appellations of origin for spirituous beverages

The EEC and Mexico concluded an Agreement in 1975 designed inter alia "to establish and encourage commercial and economic cooperation ... so as to contribute .... to the balance of their reciprocal trade at the highest level ...". Since that time, of the issues raised within the framework of this Agreement the only major outstanding one is the request of Mexico for recognition of the Mexican appellation of origin "Tequila".

The matter was examined in the 113 Committee and they noted that Mexico's request had been discussed with government experts on alcohol who had no objections if a reciprocal agreement could be reached. The 113 Committee concluded that there is an agreement on the principle of mutual recognition of the appellations of origin in question (Tequila and certain spirituous beverages of Member States); and the delegations of Member States undertook to transmit directly to the Services of the Commission, before the end of October, the list of spirituous beverages which could be included in the agreement foreseen with Mexico.

In view of the Community's commitment to cooperation with Mexico on trade matters and the advantage to be gained in having the Community list of appellations of origin recognised by Mexico in exchange for our recognition of Tequila, the Commission recommends that the directives for negotiations should include the concept of the basis of reciprocity, and the possibility to revert to the aspects of control at a later date.

As the Community regulation on spirituous beverages has not yet been adopted, the aspect of control and protection should provisionally be assumed by the individual governments concerned,

in line with their national legislation, until such time as a Community policy has been established and the matter may be raised again with Mexico. The agreement with Mexico on mutual recognition of appellations of origin for spirituous beverages should not prejudice any eventual Community regulation or directive on the matter.

The Commission submits for this purpose a recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the Commission to negotiate an agreement with Mexico (see Annex I).

RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

authorizing the Commission to negotiate an agreement with Mexico on the mutual recognition of appellations of origin for spirituous beverages

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 113 thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation from the Commission,

Whereas Mexico has requested the opening of negotiations with the European Economic Community on recognition of the designation of origin "Tequila",

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

The Commission is hereby authorized to negotiate an Agreement between the European Economic Community and Mexico on recognition and possible control of the designation of origin "Tequila".

The Commission shall conduct the negotiations in consultation with the Special Committee provided for in Article 113 of the Treaty in order to secure the recognition and possible control by Mexico for its part of designations of origin for the spirituous beverages of the Member States of the European Community listed in the Annex.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President

List of spirituous beverages submitted by the Member States with a view to negotiations with Mexico on the mutual recognition of designations of origin

Federal Republic of Germany

a) Gin

- Steinhaeger

b) Fruit spirits:

- Schwarzwaelder Himbeergeist
- Schwarzwaelder Kirsch

c) Liqueurs and specialities

- Bayerischer Gebirgsenzian
- Benediktbeurer Klostergold
- Chiemseer Klosterlikoer
- Ettaler Klosterlikoer
- Koenigsberger Baerenfang
- Ostpreussischer Baerenfang
- Stonsdorfer
- Berliner Kümmel
- Hamburger Kümmel
- Münchener Kümmel

d) Rum:

- Flensburger Rum

Denmark

Dansk akvavit

United Kingdom

Scotch whisky

Irish whiskey

Greece

Ouzo

Greek specialty brandy

Greek Brandwein Spezialtet

Ireland

Irish whiskey

Irish Potstill whiskey

Uisce Beatha Eireanach

Irish cream Liqueurs

Irish mist

Cork Dry Gin