Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/2147 of 7 December 2016 authorising an increase of the limits for the enrichment of wine produced using the grapes harvested in 2016 in certain wine-growing regions of Germany and in all wine-growing regions of Hungary

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2016/2147

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007[(1)], and in particular Article 91 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Point A.3 of Part I of Annex VIII to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 provides that Member States may request that the limits for increasing the alcoholic strength (enrichment) of wine by volume be raised by up to 0,5 % in years in which climatic conditions have been exceptionally unfavourable.

(2) Germany and Hungary have requested such increases of the limits for enrichment of the wine produced using the grapes harvested in the year 2016, as climatic conditions during the growing season have been exceptionally unfavourable. Such request has been made by Hungary for all its wine-growing regions. Germany requested the increase of enrichment only for wine made from red wine grape varieties for the regions of Baden Ahr, Mittelrhein, Mosel, Nahe, Pfalz, Rheinhessen and Württemberg.

(3) Due to the exceptionally adverse weather conditions during 2016, the limits on increases in the natural alcoholic strength provided for in point A.2 of Part I of Annex VIII to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 do not enable the production of wine with an appropriate total alcoholic strength from all or certain grape varieties in certain wine-growing regions for which there would normally be market demand.

(4) It is therefore appropriate to authorise an increase of the limits for the enrichment of wine produced using all or certain varieties of wine grapes harvested in 2016 in wine growing regions in Hungary and Germany.

(5) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for the Common Organisation of Agricultural Markets,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/2147. (See end of Document for details)*

Article 1

By way of derogation from point A.3 of Part I of Annex VIII to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, in the wine-growing regions or a part thereof listed in the Annex to this Regulation and for all or certain wine grape varieties as specified in that Annex, the increase in natural alcoholic strength by volume of fresh grapes harvested in the year 2016, grape must, grape must in fermentation, new wine still in fermentation and wine produced using the grapes harvested in the year 2016, shall not exceed the following limits:

(a) 3,5 % vol. in wine-growing zone A referred to in appendix I to Annex VII to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013;

(b) 2,5 % vol. in wine-growing zone B referred to in appendix I to Annex VII to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013;

(c) 2,0 % vol. in wine-growing zone C referred to in appendix I to Annex VII to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 7 December 2016.

For the Commission

The President

Jean-Claude JUNCKER