Commission Regulation (EU) No 98/2014 of 3 February 2014 amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and the protection of geographical indications of spirit drinks

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 98/2014

of 3 February 2014

amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and the protection of geographical indications of spirit drinks

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2008 on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and the protection of geographical indications of spirit drinks[(1)], and in particular Article 26 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 provides for the possibility to use the term ‘dry’ for the category of spirit drink ‘London gin’. That spirit drink is not allowed to contain added sweetening exceeding 0,1 gram of sugars per litre. For the categories of spirit drinks ‘gin’ and ‘distilled gin’ there is no established limit for the addition of sweetening. However, when ‘gin’ and ‘distilled gin’ are produced without sugar or with a sugar content not exceeding 0,1 gram per litre, the possibility to use the term ‘dry’ should be extended to those spirit drinks as defined in that Annex.

(2) Hungary has applied for the registration of ‘Újfehértói meggypálinka’ as a geographical indication in Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008, in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 17(1) of that Regulation. ‘Újfehértói meggypálinka’ is a fruit spirit traditionally produced in Hungary, exclusively from the sour cherry varieties ‘Újfehértói fürtös’ and ‘Debreceni bőtermő’. The main specifications of the technical file for ‘Újfehértói meggypálinka’ were published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*[(2)] for the purposes of the objection procedure, pursuant to Article 17(6) of Regulation (EC) No 110/2008. As the Commission did not receive any objections in accordance with Article 17(7) of Regulation (EC) No 110/2008, the name ‘Újfehértói meggypálinka’ should be registered as a geographical indication in Annex III to that Regulation.

(3) The geographical indications ‘Polska Wódka/Polish Vodka’ and ‘Originali lietuviška degtinė/Original Lithuanian vodka’ are registered for product category 15, ‘Vodka’, of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008. However, the technical specifications for those geographical indications also cover flavoured vodka. Therefore, those geographical indications should also be included in product category 31, ‘Flavoured vodka’, of that Annex. In order to inform the consumer of the true nature of the product,

Changes to legislation: *Commission Regulation (EU) No 98/2014 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 31 January 2022. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

the label of that type of vodka should bear the sales denomination ‘flavoured vodka’ or ‘vodka’ with the predominant flavour.

(4) Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 should therefore be amended accordingly.

(5) To facilitate the transition from the rules provided for in Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 to those set out in this Regulation, the marketing of existing stocks should be foreseen until they run out and the use of labels printed before the date of entry into force of this Regulation should be allowed until 31 December 2015.

(6) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for Spirit Drinks,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 are amended as follows:

(1) Annex II is amended as follows:

(a) in point 20 ‘Gin’, the following point (d) is added:

(d) The term “gin” may be supplemented by the term “dry” if it does not contain added sweetening exceeding 0,1 gram of sugars per litre of the final product.;

(b) in point 21 ‘Distilled gin’, the following point (d) is added:

(d) The term “distilled gin” may be supplemented by the term “dry” if it does not contain added sweetening exceeding 0,1 gram of sugars per litre of the final product.;

(2) Annex III is amended as follows:

(a) in product category 9 ‘Fruit spirit’, the following entry is added:

	Újfehértói meggypálinka	Hungary

(b) in product category 31 ‘Flavoured vodka’, the following entries are added:

	‘Polska Wódka/Polish Vodka[a] Originali lietuviška degtinė/Original Lithuanian vodka[a]	Poland Lithuania

a This product must bear on the label the sales denomination “flavoured vodka”. The term “flavoured” may be replaced by the name of the predominant flavour.’.

Article 2

Spirit drinks not meeting the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 as amended by Article 1 of this Regulation may continue to be placed on the market until stocks run out.