COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

of 8 December 1986

amending Directive 65/66/EEC laying down specific criteria of purity for the preservatives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption

(86/604/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 64/54/EEC of 5 November 1963 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning the preservatives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption [1], as last amended by Directive 85/585/EEC [2], and in particular Article 8 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas Council Directive 65/66/EEC [3], as last amended by Directive 76/463/EEC [4], laid down specific criteria of purity for the preservatives listed in the Annex to Directive 64/54/EEC; whereas that Annex was supplemented by Directive 85/585/EEC, which added potassium acid sulphite (potassium bisulphite) to the list of authorized preservatives;

Whereas it is necessary to lay down specific criteria of purity for this preservative,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

The following specifications are hereby inserted between Nos E 227 and E 230 of the Annex to Directive 65/66/EEC:

E 228 — **Potassium acid sulphite** (potassium bisulphite)

Appearance:	Clear colourless solution prepared by bubbling sulphur dioxide (SO_2) (E 220) in an aqueous solution of potassium hydroxide (KOH) as used in foodstuffs
Chemical formula:	$KHSO_3$ in aqueous solution [1]
Content:	Not less than 280 g $KHSO_3$ per litre (or 150 g SO_2 per litre)
Sodium:	Not more than 1 % of the SO_2 content
Selenium:	Not more than 10 mg/kg of the SO_2 content
Chloride:	Not more than 1 000 mg/kg expressed as Cl.

[1] Other potassium salts of sulphur dioxide may be present following deterioration due to storage in open containers.'

Article 2

Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive not later than 1 January 1988. They shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.

Article 3

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 8 December 1986.

For the Council

The President

M. JOPLING

[1] OJ No 12, 27. 1. 1964, p. 161/64.
[2] OJ No L 372, 31. 12. 1985, p. 43.
[3] OJ No 22, 9. 2. 1965, p. 373/65.
[4] OJ No L 126, 14. 5. 1976, p. 33.