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(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

**COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 3658/81**

of 15 December 1981

amending for the fourth time Regulation (EEC) No 351/79 concerning the addition of alcohol to products in the wine sector

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 337/79 of 5 February 1979 on the common organization of the market in wine<sup>(1)</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3577/81<sup>(2)</sup>, and in particular Article 42 (2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas, pending the adoption of provisions supplementing or harmonizing the definitions of semi-sparkling wines and of products falling within heading No 22.06 of the Common Customs Tariff, provision should be made to extend by one year the provisions referred to in Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 351/79<sup>(3)</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3196/80<sup>(4)</sup>; whereas, moreover, experience has shown that no difficulty should arise following this extension;

Whereas the conditions that could justify the addition of alcohol to table wine and to quality wine *psr* dispatched to the non-European areas of Member States are no longer met; whereas the authorization to that effect given by Article 1 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 351/79 should be withdrawn, whilst laying down a brief transitional period allowing all the operators to adapt to the new provisions,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

Regulation (EEC) No 351/79 shall be amended as follows:

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No L 54, 5. 3. 1979, p. 1.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ No L 359, 15. 12. 1981, p. 1.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ No L 54, 5. 3. 1979, p. 90.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ No L 333, 11. 12. 1980, p. 6.

1. Article 1 (1) shall be replaced by the following:

'1. table wines and quality wines *psr*, where climatic conditions or consumer habits necessitate an addition of alcohol and where:

— they are exported to third countries, or

— they are dispatched to the non-European areas of Member States, on condition that they are not re-dispatched to the European areas of Member States;'

2. In the French and Greek versions, 'vol' shall be inserted after '95 %', '52 %' and '80 %' in Article 2 (1).

3. Article 4 shall be replaced by the following:

*Article 4*

1. The second indent of Article 1 (1) shall be applicable until 31 August 1982.

2. The following shall be applicable until 31 December 1982:

— Article 1 (2) (b) and (3),

— the second subparagraph of Article 2 (1), in so far as it refers to the products specified in Article 1 (2) (b),

— Article 2 (2), in so far as it refers to the products specified in Article 1 (3).'

*Article 2*

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

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

Done at Brussels, 15 December 1981.

*For the Council*

*The President*

P. WALKER

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