Brussels, XXX [...](2024) XXX draft

# COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../...

#### of XXX

 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning general provisions, registration and protection of geographical indications, including specific rules for agricultural products, as well as traditional specialities guaranteed and optional quality terms, amending Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/34 laying down rules on for the application of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 as regards geographical indications and traditional terms in the wine sector and repealing Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 668/2014 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No1151/2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs as well as Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1236 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2019/787 concerning geographical indication in the spirit drinks sector.

This draft has not been adopted or endorsed by the European Commission. Any views expressed are the preliminary views of the Commission services and may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the Commission. The information transmitted is intended only for the Member State or entity to which it is addressed for discussions and may contain confidential and/or privileged material.

#### COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../...

#### of XXX

laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning general provisions, registration and protection of geographical indications, including specific rules for agricultural products, as well as traditional specialities guaranteed and optional quality terms, amending Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/34 laying down rules on for the application of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 as regards geographical indications and traditional terms in the wine sector and repealing Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 668/2014 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No1151/2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs as well as Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1236 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2019/787 concerning geographical indication in the spirit drinks sector.

#### THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to  $[...]^1$ , and in particular Article [...] thereof,

After consulting the [...] Committee, [for acts adopted after consultation of a committee under the advisory procedure]

#### Whereas:

- (1) [Initial capital...].
- (2) [Initial capital ...].
- (3) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the [...] Committee, [for acts adopted after consultation of a committee under the examination procedure]

# HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

#### Article 1

#### Subject matter

This Regulation lays down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX as regards:

- a) procedures for application for registration, for approval of Union amendments, for communication of standard amendments, for cancellation of registrations, for the management of the register and the establishment of a system of attestation of compliance for geographical indications;
- b) procedures for application for registration, for approval of amendments, for cancellation of registrations, for the management of the register and the establishment of a system of attestation of compliance for traditional specialities guaranteed, and

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c) labelling and communications for geographical indications and traditional specialies guaranteed.

# **CHAPTER I** Geographical Indications

# Article 3

#### Formal check of the application to the Commission

1. The Commission shall check, in accordance with Article 15 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, if an application for registration is complete and if it has been submitted in accordance with Articles 10(6), 13(4) and 14 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX and with Article 34 of this Regulation.

An application for registration of a geographical indication concerning a product originating in the Union shall be considered complete if it includes all the elements required for an application in accordance with Article 13(1)(a)(b)(c)(e) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX and complies with Article 4(5) of this Regulation.

An application for registration of a geographical indication concerning product originating in a third country shall be considered complete if it includes all the elements required for an application in accordance with Article 13(2) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX and complies with Article 4(6) of this Regulation.

A joint application shall, in addition, contain the elements referred to in Article 13(3) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX.

The single document shall be considered complete when it includes all the information required in Article 50(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, or Article 95 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 or Article 23 of Regulation (EU) 2019/787 for agricultural products, wine and spirit drinks respectively.

2. An application successfully submitted via the digital system referred to in Article 34 of this Regulation shall be deemed to fulfil the requirements of the formal check referred to in paragraph 1.

3. An application submitted via electronic mail failing to comply with the requirements referred to in paragraph 1 shall be considered as not submitted. The Commission shall inform the applicant accordingly.

4. Member States may provide a copy of the product specification in addition to the electronic reference to its publication.

Article 4

# Presentation of the single document

1. Where the single document referred to in the fifth subparagraph of Article 3(1) includes specific requirements on packaging and labelling or other applicable requirements, any restriction shall be accompanied by a summary of the product specific justification contained in the correspondent product specification.

2. Member States and applicant groups shall be responsible for ensuring that the single document is a faithful summary of the product specification and for any material divergence between them.

3. Names of natural or legal persons or officials of Member State or third countries included in the single document shall be published.

4. The single document of geographical indications for agricultural products and spirit drinks shall be concise and not exceed 2 500 words, except in duly justified cases. For geographical indications for wine it shall not exceed 5 000 words. It shall indicate the classification of the product in accordance with the Combined Nomenclature as referred to in Article 6(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX.

5. The single document shall be drawn up in accordance with the form made available in the digital system referred to in Article 14(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX for each specific sector.

6. Where the application is submitted to the Commission by a third country or an applicant established in a third country, the single document shall be drawn up in accordance with the form set out in Annex I for each specific sector, agricultural products, wines or spirit drinks. The information so supplied may be entered by the Commission into its digital system.

An application for registration of a geographical indication concerning a product originating in a third country shall include a copy of the single document in a format allowing word processing.

# Article 5

# Publication of a single document for information

In respect of the geographical indications for which a single document has never been published in the Official Journal of the European Union, the Commission shall, at the request of a Member State, publish a single document submitted by that Member State in the *Official Journal of the European Union* for information. That publication shall be accompanied by the reference to the publication of the product specification. Article 4 shall apply.

# Article 6

# Definition of the geographical area

The geographical area referred to in Articles 49(1)(c) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, 94(1)(f) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 and 22(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) 2019/787 shall be defined

in a precise way that presents no ambiguities, referring as far as possible to physical or administrative boundaries. Maps may be added.

#### Article 7

#### **Description of several distinct products**

Where the application for registration of a name or approval of an amendment describes two or more distinct products which are entitled to use that name, compliance with the requirements for registration shall be shown separately for each such product.

For the purposes of this Article, 'distinct products' mean products that, although using the same registered name, are differentiated when placed on the market or considered as different products by consumers. It may also refer to agricultural products covered by different headings under Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 or to wines and spirit drinks covered by different categories listed in Part II of Annex VII of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 or Annex I of Regulation (EU) 2019/787 respectively.

#### Article 8

#### Additional national opposition procedure

If, following the exchanges referred to in Article 15(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX between the Commission and the Member State concerned, changes are made to the product specification, the Member State shall ensure that the electronic reference to the publication of the product specification leads to its updated version.

If the Member State considers that the changes to the product specification are substantial, thus affecting interests that had not been considered in the national opposition procedure carried out in accordance with Article 10(4) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, those changes shall be adequately published in the Member State concerned to enable any natural or legal person having a legitimate interest and established or resident in the territory of the Member State in question to submit an opposition before the new version of the single document is sent to the Commission.

Where an additional national opposition procedure is to be carried out the Commission may, upon request of the Member State concerned, set the deadline for the submission of the additional information or modification to the application referred to in Article 15(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX up to 12 months.

# Article 9

# Procedural rules for opposition

1. An opposition as referred to in Article 17 of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall contain:

(a) the name published in the Official Journal of the European Union, C series, in accordance with Article 15(4) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX to which the opposition relates, with the indication of the type of geographical indication and the sector;

- (b) the reference to the Official Journal of the European Union, C series, in which the name to which the opposition relates was published;
- (c) a statement formally signifying the opposition to the registration of that name;
- (d) the name and contact details of the Member State authority or of the third country authority or of the natural or legal person submitting the reasoned statement of opposition;
- (e) a description of the legitimate interest of the natural or legal person that submitted the notice of opposition; this requirement shall not apply to national authorities;
- (f) an indication of the grounds for opposition, as referred to in Article 19(1) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX;
- (g) details of the facts, evidence and comments in support of the opposition;
- (h) authorisation to the Commission to transmit the opposition to the applicant, including any personal data that may be contained there.

The opposition may be accompanied by supporting documents, where relevant.

An opposition shall be drawn up in accordance with the form set out in Annex II.

2. When the Commission receives an opposition pursuant to Article 17(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX (EU), it shall inform the applicant about the opposition without delay.

3. The period of three months referred to in the first part of the first subparagraph of Article 17(4) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall start on the date on which the invitation to the interested parties to engage in appropriate consultations is delivered by electronic means.

4. For the purposes of Article 17(4) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, the name and contact details of the authority or person that submitted the opposition shall be communicated to the authority, body or person that submitted the application for registration or for approval of a Union amendment or the request of cancellation.

5. The notification of the results of the consultations referred to in Article 17(6) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall contain:

- (a) the name published in the Official Journal of the European Union, C series, to which the opposition relates;
- (b) the reference to the Official Journal of the European Union, C series in which the name to which the opposition relates was published;
- (c) the name of the opponent or opponents;
- (d) the result of consultations;
- (e) indication whether the single document or product specification has been amended and a description of such amendments;

If the product specification has been amended, the electronic reference to the publication of the product specification published in accordance with Article 15(4) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall lead to the updated product specification. If the reference published in accordance with Article 15(4) was not electronic one, the amended product specification shall be enclosed.

If the single document has been amended, the amended single document shall be joined to the notification.

The notification of end of consultations following the opposition procedure shall be drawn up in accordance with the form set out in Annex III to this Regulation.

# Article 10

# Formal check of applications for approval of Union amendments

1. The Commission shall check, in accordance with Article 15 of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, if an application for approval of a Union amendment is complete and if it has been submitted in accordance with Articles 10(6), 13(4) and 14, of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX and with Article 34 of this Regulation.

An application for approval of a Union amendment to a product specification shall be considered complete if it includes all the elements referred to in Article 11(1) and complies with Article 11(4) and (5).

2. An application successfully submitted via the digital system referred to in Article 34 of this Regulation shall be deemed to fulfil the requirements of the formal check referred to in paragraph 1.

3. An application submitted via electronic mail failing to comply with the requirements referred to in paragraph 1 shall be considered as not submitted. The Commission shall inform the applicant accordingly.

# Article 11

# Applications for approval of Union amendments to a product specification

1. An application for approval of a Union amendment to a product specification referred to in Article 24(2) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, shall contain:

- (a) the protected name to which the amendment relates, with the indication of the type of geographical indication and the sector;
- (b) Member State or third country to which the geographical area belongs;
- (c) the headings in the product specification and in the single document relating to the matters affected by the amendment;
- (d) an explanation that the amendment falls under the definition of a Union amendment as provided for in Article 24(3) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX;
- (e) a description of and the reasons for each of the amendments proposed;
- (f) indication of any standard amendments inextricably linked to the Union amendments, in accordance with Article 3 of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX;
- (g) indication whether it is an application following the failure to submit a joint standard amendment, in accordance with the second subparagraph of Article 4(15) of the Commission Delegated Regulation 2024/XXXX.

Where the application is made by a Member State, it shall be accompanied by the following:

- a) the published consolidated version of the single document;
- b) the declaration referred to in point (c) of Article 13(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX; and

c) the electronic reference to the publication of the consolidated product specification as amended; Member States may provide a copy of the product specification in addition to the electronic reference to its publication.

Where the application is made by a third country it shall be accompanied by the following:

- a) the published consolidated version of the single document;
- b) proof that the requested amendment complies with the laws on protection of geographical indications in force in that third country; and
- c) the reference to the publication of the consolidated version of the product specification and a copy of that document.

2. The Commission shall receive separately and shall not publish as part of the application:

- a) the name and contact details of the Member State or third country authorities or producer groups applicant in the Union stage of the procedure for approval of a Union amendment of the product specification;
- b) the name and contact details of the producer group initiating the national stage of the procedure for approval of a Union amendment of the product specification, indicating whether it is a producer group in accordance with Article 32 of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX or a recognised producer group in accordance with Article 33 of that Regulation.

Member States may provide a copy of the product specification in addition to the electronic reference to its publication.

Member States and applicant groups shall be responsible for ensuring consistency between the application for approval of a Union amendment and the consolidated product specification. The amendments listed in the application for approval of a Union amendment shall correspond to the amendments effectively made to the product specification.

3. An application for approval of a Union amendment shall be concise. The application, including the single document, shall not exceed 5 000 words for geographical indications for agricultural products and spirit drinks and 7 500 words for geographical indications for wine, except in duly justified cases.

4. An application for approval of a Union amendment to the product specification from a Member State shall be drawn up in accordance with the form made available in the digital system referred to in Article 14 of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX.

Applicants from third countries shall use the form set out in Annex IV to this Regulation. The information supplied may be entered by the Commission into its digital system.

5. For the purposes of Article 24(6) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, in conjunction with Article 15(4) of that Regulation, in addition to the documents and information referred thereto, as amended, the Commission shall publish in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, the application for approval of a Union amendment to the product specification.

Article 12

# Communication of approval of a standard amendment

1. The communication of an approved standard amendment to the product specification in accordance with Article 4(6), (8), (14) and (15) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No XXXX shall contain:

- a) the protected name to which the standard amendment relates, with the indication of the type of geographical indication and sector;
- b) Member State or third country to which the geographical area belongs;
- c) the name of the Member State or third country authorities or natural or legal person established or resident in a third country communicating the standard amendment to the Commission;
- d) an explanation that the amendment falls under the definition of a standard amendment as provided for in Article 24(4) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX;
- e) description of the approved amendment, indicating whether the amendment leads to an amendment to the single document.

The contact details of the Member State or third country authorities or natural or legal person referred to in point (c) shall be separately communicated. They shall not be published as part of the communication.

2. Where the communication is made by a Member State, it shall be accompanied by the following:

- a) the national decision approving the standard amendment as published, as referred to in Article 4(4) Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX;
- b) the declaration referred to in point c) of Article 13(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX;
- c) where relevant, the published consolidated single document as amended;
- d) the electronic reference to the publication of the consolidated product specification at national level, as amended; Member States may provide a copy of the product specification in addition to the electronic reference to its publication.

3. For applications concerning products originating in third countries, the communication shall be accompanied by the following:

- a) the national decision approving the standard amendment as published, as referred to in Article 4(4) Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX;
- b) proof that the amendment is applicable in the third country;
- c) where relevant, the published consolidated single document as amended;
- d) the consolidated version of the product specification as published at national level, as amended.

4. A communication of an approved standard amendment by a Member State shall be drawn up in accordance with the form made available in the digital system referred to in Article 14 of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX. For communications from third countries the form set out in Annex V shall be used. The information supplied may be entered by the Commission into its digital system.

5. The name of the natural or legal person submitting a communication of an approved standard amendment to the product specification of a geographical indication shall be published as part of the communication.

# Article 13

# Communication of approval of a temporary amendment

1. The communication of an approved temporary amendment to the product specification in accordance with Article 6(1) to (6) of Delegated Regulation (EU) XXXX/2024 shall contain:

- a) the protected name to which the temporary amendment relates, with the indication of the type of geographical indication and sector;
- b) Member State or third country to which the geographical area belongs;
- c) the name of the Member State or third country authorities or natural or legal person established or resident in a third country communicating the temporary amendment to the Commission;
- d) a description of the approved temporary amendment together with the reasons supporting it, as referred to in Article 6(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX;

The contact details of the Member State or third country authorities or natural or legal person referred to in point (c) shall be communicated separately. They shall not be published as part of the communication.

2. Where the communication is made by a Member State, it shall include:

- a) the declaration referred to in point c) of Article 13(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX;
- b) the national decision approving the temporary amendment as published at the national level;
- c) the decision of the competent authorities imposing obligatory sanitary and phytosanitary measures or formally recognising a natural disaster or adverse weather conditions or significant market disturbances due to exceptional circumstances, including geopolitical events affecting the supply of raw materials or the respective electronic reference to the publication at national level.

3. For applications concerning products originating in third countries, the communication shall include

- a) proof that the amendment is applicable in the third country;
- b) the national decision approving the temporary amendment as published at national level;
- c) the decision of the competent authorities imposing obligatory sanitary and phytosanitary measures or formally recognising a natural disaster or adverse weather conditions or significant market disturbances due to exceptional circumstances, including geopolitical events affecting the supply of raw materials, as published at national level.

4. A communication of an approved temporary amendment by a Member State shall be drawn up in accordance with the form made available in the digital system referred to in Article 14 of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX. For communications from third countries the form set out in Annex VI shall be used. The information supplied may be entered by the Commission into its digital system.

5. The name of the natural or legal person submitting a communication of an approved temporary amendment to the product specification of a geographical indication shall be published as part of the communication.

# Article 14

# Formal check of requests of cancellation

1. The Commission shall check, in accordance with Article 15 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX if a request of cancellation of the registration of a geographical indication is complete and if it has been submitted in accordance with Articles 10(6) and 13(4) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX and with Article 34 of this Regulation (Article on general Communications).

A request for cancellation of the registration a geographical indication shall be considered complete when it includes all the elements referred to in Article 15 of this Regulation (*Article on the content of cancellation*).

2. A request for cancellation of the registration of a geographical indication failing to comply with the requirements referred to in paragraph 1 shall be considered as not submitted. The Commission shall inform the authorities of the Member State or the third country concerned or the applicant established in a third country accordingly, as the case may be.

# Article 15

# Cancellation

1. A request for cancellation of the registration of a geographical indication pursuant to Article 25(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall contain:

- (a) the registered name proposed for cancellation with the indication of the type of geographical indication and sector;
- (b) the name of the Member State or third country from which the geographical indication concerned by the cancellation originates;
- (c) the name of the Member State, third country or natural or legal person established or resident in the third country submitting the request for cancellation to the Commission;
- (d) the name of the natural or legal person requesting the cancellation at the national stage of the procedure, if any;
- (e) for requests from third countries, the name of the authorities, or bodies, verifying compliance with the requirements of the product specification;
- (f) a statement explaining the legitimate interest of the natural or legal person referred to in points (c) and (d);
- (g) the classification of the product (Combined Nomenclature Heading and Code, as referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX )
- (h) indication that the cancellation is requested in accordance with Article 25(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX
- (i) explanations and reasons for cancellation.
- (j) for a request for cancellation submitted by a Member State, the declaration referred to in point (c) of Article 13(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX.

The contact details of the natural or legal person, or of the authority or bodies of the Member State or of the third country referred to in point (c), (d) and (e) shall be separately communicated. They shall not be published as part of the request for cancellation. A request for cancellation of a geographical indication pursuant to Article 25(1) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall be drawn up in accordance with the form set out in Annex VII to this Regulation. The information supplied may be entered by the Commission into its digital systems.

2. A request for cancellation pursuant to Article 25(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall contain:

- (a) the registered name proposed for cancellation;
- (b) the name of the Member State or third country from which the geographical indication concerned by the cancellation originates;
- (c) the name of the Member State, third country or of the natural or legal person established or resident in the third country submitting the request for cancellation to the Commission;
- (d) the name of the natural or legal person or recognised producer group making the request for cancellation at the national stage of the procedure;
- (e) the classification of the product (Combined Nomenclature Heading and Code, as referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX);
- (f) indication that the cancellation is requested in accordance with Article 25(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX;
- (g) for a request for cancellation submitted by a Member State, the declaration referred to in point (c) of Article 13(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX.

The contact details of the producer group or recognised producer group or of the authority of the Member State or third country referred to in points (c) and (d) shall be separately communicated. They shall not be published as part of the request for cancellation.

A request for cancellation of the registration of a geographical indication pursuant to Article 25(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall be drawn up in accordance with the form set out in Annex VIII to this Regulation. The information supplied may be entered by the Commission into its digital systems.

3. The information to be published pursuant to Article 15(4) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall contain the duly completed request for a cancellation as referred to in paragraph 1 or 2 of this Article.

4. The name of the natural or legal persons making or submitting to the Commission the request for cancellation shall be published as part of the request.

# Article 16

# Union register of geographical indications

1. The Union register of geographical indications referred to in Article 22 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall be established in electronic form. The Commission shall be the owner of the Register. It shall be based on digital system hosted and managed by the European Union Intellectual Property Office ('EUIPO'). The Commission shall make available the relevant data to EUIPO.

2. Upon the entry into force of a legal instrument registering a protected designation of origin or a protected geographical indication designating a wine product, or a protected designation of

origin or a protected geographical indication designating an agricultural product or a geographical indication designating a spirit drink the following data shall be recorded in the register:

- (a) the registered name (or names) of the product, including their transcriptions or transliterations in Latin characters, where applicable; multiple names, transcriptions and transliterations shall be recorded as alternative names, separated by a space, an oblique and a second space;
- (b) the type of product (wine, spirit drink or agricultural product);
- (c) the classification of the product in accordance with the Combined Nomenclature as referred to in Article 6(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX and, in addition for spirit drinks, the category as referred to in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2019/787;
- (d) the date of the submission of the application to the Commission;
- (e) the date of publication in the Official Journal of the European Union;
- (f) the date of registration;
- (g) electronic reference to the instrument registering the name;
- (h) electronic reference to the publication of the application in the Official Journal of the European Union;
- (i) information that the name is protected as a geographical indication or as a designation of origin (for wines and agricultural product) or as geographical indication (for spirit drinks);
- (j) indication of the country or countries of origin;
- (k) the file number;
- (l) indication of the recognised producer group if it exists.
- 3. With reference to paragraph 2, point (h), the following data shall be recorded:

in case of agricultural products and wine, the electronic references to the single document, the summary sheet or equivalent document, or the product specification or the technical file, where available, as follows:

- (i) the electronic reference to the single document and the electronic reference to the publication of the product specification. Where the defined geographical area falls within the territory of a third country, the electronic reference to the publication of the single document and an electronic reference to the product specification;
- (ii) for geographical indications for which a single document has never been published, the reference to the summary sheet, single document or equivalent document, and to the product specification or the technical file, or the reference to the product specification or the technical file as appropriate.

in case of spirit drinks, the electronic references to the single document, the main specifications of the technical file, the product specification or the technical file, where available, as follows:

(i) the electronic reference to publication of the single document and the electronic reference to the publication of the product specification. Where the geographical area falls within the territory of a third country, the electronic reference to the publication of the single document and an electronic reference to the product specification;

(ii) for geographical indications for which a single document has never been published, the reference to the main specifications of the technical file and to the technical file or the reference to the technical file, as appropriate;

4. Where the Commission approves a Union amendment to a product specification or receives a communication of an approved standard amendment to a product specification that entails a change to the information recorded in the register, the new data shall be recorded with effect from the date on which the amendment is applicable in the Union. Data listed in paragraphs 2 and 3 shall be updated as appropriate. Electronic references to the publication of regulations approving a Union amendment and to communications of standard amendments published in the European Union Official Journal shall be recorded. Electronic reference making public the communications of a standard amendments not amending the single document and the communications of temporary amendment shall also be recorded.

5. The extract from the Union register of geographical indications shall include data referred to in points (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (i), (j), (k), (l) and the reference to the instrument registering the name.

6. Where the registration of a geographical indication has been cancelled, the name shall be deleted from the register from the date on which the relevant implementing act takes effect and shall maintain a record of the cancellation.

7. The Union register of geographical indications shall also list the names applied for registration. Where the Commission receives an application for registration or for approval of a Union amendment, the name, file number, classification of the product, country of origin application type, date of application and status of the received application shall be recorded. The date of publication and the electronic reference to that publication shall be also recorded once the application is published in the Official Journal of the European Union. The register shall keep record of the decision of rejection of applications, including the electronic reference to the implementing decision of rejection.

8. The data referred to in paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 shall remain in the register. Member States shall be responsible to keep the electronic reference to the product specification referred to in Article 13(1)(e) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX active and properly fonctioning as long as the geographical indication remains protected. The electronic reference shall lead directly to the single product specification, last updated version, and not to intermediate pages including further hyperlinks.

9. EUIPO shall retain, in digital or paper form, documentation related to the registration of a geographical indication. In the event of cancellation of the registration, EUIPO shall retain the documentation for 10 years thereafter.

# Article 17

# Attestation of compliance

1. The attestation certifying compliance with the product specification referred to in Article 45(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX may be in electronic form and may be made available by display on a web page to which the operator has access and from which the operator may

download theattestation. The attestation shall state its date of issue and shall be in Latin characters or accompanied by a transcription or transliteration in Latin characters.

The extract of the list ('listing') referred to in Article 45(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall be in electronic form and shall be made available by display on a web page to which the operator has access and from which the operator may download an official extract of the corresponding listing. The listing shall state the date on which it was drawn up. The listing shall be in Latin characters or accompanied by a transcription or transliteration in Latin characters.

2. The attestation and the listing shall contain at least the following data:

- (a) the name of the geographical indication;
- (b) an identification number of the operator ;
- (c) the business name and contact details of the operator;
- (d) the business name or official name and contact details of the delegated body or the authority responsible for the listing;
- (e) the business of the operator to which the certification or listing applies, being 'production', 'processing', 'bottling (packaging)', and/or 'other' (to be specified);
- (f) the date of issue of the attestation or the date on which the listing was drawn up;
- (g) the signature, seal or mark of the delegated body or the authority responsible for the listing, which may be electronic;
- (h) in case of spirit drink geographical indication: category.

3. The attestation or listing shall have an expiration date, which may be different depending on the kind of product concerned, based on the risk assessment.

4. For the purposes of facilitating free circulation within the Union, authorities and bodies issuing the attestation and the listing referred to in paragraph 1 may use the form set out in Annex IX.

5. For products produced in third countries, an operator, whose product designated by the registered geographical indication is imported into the Union, shall make available, on request, to the importer of the product in the Union a proof of certification as an operator of a product designated by that geographical indication, as provided by the national control authority or the certification body of that third country.

The proof of certification may consist in an attestation or in a listing of authorised operators and may be provided directly by that national control authority or certification body. The proof of certification may be in paper or electronic form. It shall be in, or accompanied by a translation into, an official language of the Union and in characters that may be easily understood in the Member State or Member States where the product is marketed. It shall not have expired, in accordance with the third country national law, on the date on which it is made available to the importer.

6. The proof of certification referred to in paragraph 5 shall be made available by the importer on request to customs authorities or other authorities in the EU engaged in verifying the use of geographical indications on goods declared for free circulation or placed on the Union market. The importer may make the proof of certification available to the public or to any person who requests proof of certification in the course of business.

# CHAPTER II Specific rules for agricultural products

# Article 18

# Specific rules for the description of the product

The single document for an application for registration of a protected designation of origin or a protected geographical indication referred to in Article 50 of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall identify the product by using definitions and standards commonly used for that product.

The description shall focus on qualities and specific characteristics of the product bearing the name to be registered, using measurement units and common or technical terms of comparison, without including technical characteristics inherent to all products of that type and related mandatory legal requirements applicable to all products of that type.

#### Article 19

# Specific rules on feed

The product specification of a product of animal origin the name of which is registered as a protected designation of origin shall contain detailed rules on the origin and the quality of feed.

# Article 20

# Proof of origin

The product specification for a protected designation of origin or a protected geographical indication shall identify the procedures which operators must have in place as regards the proof of origin concerning the product, raw materials, feed and other items that, according to the product specification, are required to come from the defined geographical area.

Operators shall be able to identify:

- (a) the supplier, quantity and origin of all batches of raw material and/or products received;
- (b) the recipient, quantity and destination of products supplied;
- (c) the correlation between each batch of inputs referred to in point (a) and each batch of outputs referred to in point (b).

# **CHAPTER III Traditional Specialities guaranteed**

# Article 21

# Formal check of the application to the Commission

1. The Commission shall check, in accordance with Article 59 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX if an application for registration is complete and if has been submitted in accordance with Articles 56(3), 57(2) and 58 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX and with Article 34 of this Regulation.

An application for registration of a traditional speciality guaranteed submitted by a Member State shall be considered complete if it includes all the elements required for an application in accordance with Article 57(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX and complies with Article 22(3) of this Regulation.

An application for registration of a traditional speciality guaranteed submitted by a third country shall be considered complete when it includes all the elements required for an application in accordance with Article 57(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX and complies with Article 8 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX and Article 22(4) of this Regulation and it contains the names and the addresses of the competent authorities and product certification bodies designated by the third country.

A joint application shall in addition contain the elements referred to in Article 57(3) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX.

The product specification shall be considered complete when it includes all the information required in Article 54 of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX.

2. An application successfully submitted via the digital system referred to in Article 34 of this Regulation shall be deemed to fulfil the requirements of the formal check referred to in paragraph 1.

3. An application submitted via electronic mail failing to comply with the requirements referred to in paragraph 1 shall be considered as not submitted. The Commission shall inform the applicant accordingly.

# Article 22

# Presentation of the product specification

1. Where the name of a traditional speciality guaranteed is accompanied by the claim referred to in Article 53(3) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX that claim shall be included in the product specification.

2. Names of natural or legal persons or officials of Member State or third countries included in the product specification shall be published.

3. The product specification shall be drawn up in accordance with the form made available in the digital system referred to in Article 58(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX.

4. When the application is submitted to the Commission by a third country authority or an applicant established in a third country, the product specification shall be drawn up in

accordance with the form set out in Annex X to this Regulation. The information supplied may be entered by the Commission into its digital system.

An application for registration of a traditional speciality guaranteed submitted by a third country shall include a copy of the product specification in a format allowing word processing.

# Article 23

# Specific rules for the description of the product and the production method

The description of the product for a traditional speciality guaranteed referred to in point (b) of Article 54(1) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall only mention the characteristics necessary to identify the product and its specific characteristics. It shall not repeat general obligations and, in particular, technical characteristics inherent to all products of that type and related mandatory legal requirements.

The description of the production method referred to in point (c) of Article 54(1) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall only include the production method in force. Historical practices are only to be included if they are still followed. Only the method necessary for obtaining the specific product shall be described and in a way that enables reproduction of the product anywhere.

The key elements proving the product's traditional character shall include the main elements that have remained unchanged, with precise and well established references

# Article 24

# **Description of several distinct products**

Where the application for registration of a name or approval of an amendment describes two or more distinct products which are entitled to use that name, compliance with the requirements for registration shall be shown separately for each such product.

For the purposes of this Article, 'distinct products' mean products that, although using the same registered name, are differentiated when placed on the market or considered as different products by consumers.

# Article 25

# Additional national opposition procedure

If, following the exchanges referred to in Article 59(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX between the Commission and the Member State concerned, that Member State considers that substantial changes are made to the product specification, thus affecting interests that had not been considered in the national opposition procedure carried out in accordance with Article 56(3) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, those changes shall be adequately published in the Member State concerned to enable any natural or legal person having a legitimate interest and

established or resident in the territory of the Member State in question to submit an opposition before the new version of the single document is sent to the Commission.

If an additional national opposition procedure is to be carried out the Commission may, upon request of the Member State concerned, set the deadline for the submission of the supplementary information or modification referred to in Article 59(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX up to 12 months.

# Article 26

# Procedural rules for opposition

- 1. An opposition as referred to in Article 61 of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall contain:
  - a) the name published in the Official Journal of the European Union, C series, in accordance with Article 59(4) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX to which the opposition relates;
  - b) the reference to the Official Journal of the European Union, C series, in which the name to which the opposition relates was published;
  - c) a statement formally signifying the opposition to the registration of that name;
  - d) the name and contact details of the Member State authority or of the third country authority or of the natural or legal person submitting the reasoned statement of opposition;
  - e) a description of the legitimate interest of the natural or legal person that submitted the notice of opposition; this requirement shall not apply to national authorities;
  - f) an indication of the grounds for opposition, as referred to in Article 62 of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX;
  - g) details of the facts, evidence and comments in support of the opposition;
  - h) authorisation to the Commission to transmit the opposition to the applicant, including any personal data that may be contained there.

The opposition may be accompanied by supporting documents, where relevant.

An opposition shall be drawn up in accordance with the form set out in Annex XI.

2. When the Commission receives an opposition pursuant to Article 61(1) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, it shall inform about the opposition the applicant without delay.

3. The period of three months referred to in the first part of the first subparagraph of Article 61(4) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall start on the date on which the invitation to the interested parties to engage in appropriate consultations is delivered by electronic means.

4. For the purposes of Article 61(4) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, the name and contact details of the authority or person that submitted the opposition shall be communicated to the authority, body or person that submitted the application for registration or for approval of an amendment or the request of cancellation.

5. The notification of the results of the consultations referred to in Article 61(6) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall contain:

a) the name published in the Official Journal of the European Union, C series, to which the opposition relates;

- b) the reference to the Official Journal of the European Union, C series in which the name to which the opposition relates was published;
- c) the name of the opponent or opponents;
- d) the result of consultations;
- e) an indication whether the product specification has been amended and a description of such amendments.

If the product specification has been amended, the amended single document shall be joined to the notification.

The notification of end of consultations following the opposition procedure shall be drawn up in accordance with the form set out in Annex XII to this Regulation.

# Article 27

# Formal check of applications for approval of amendments

1. The Commission shall check, in accordance with Article 59 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, if an application for approval of an amendment to a product specification is complete and if has been submitted in accordance with Articles 56(3), 57(2) and 58 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX and with Article 34 of this Regulation.

An application for approval of an amendment to a product specification shall be considered complete if it includes all the elements referred to in Article 28(1) and complies with Article 28(3) and (4).

2. An application successfully submitted via the digital system referred to in Article 34 of this Regulation shall be deemed to fulfil the requirements of the formal check referred to in paragraph 1.

3. An application submitted via electronic mail failing to comply with the requirements referred to in paragraph 1 shall be considered as not submitted. The Commission shall inform the applicant accordingly.

# Article 28

# Applications for amendments to a product specification

1. An application for approval of an amendment to a product specification, referred to in Article 66 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall contain:

- a) the protected name to which the amendment relates;
- b) the headings in the product specification relating to the matters affected by the amendment;
- c) a description of and the reasons for each of the amendments proposed;
- d) the consolidated product specification as amended;
- e) for an application submitted by a Member State, the declaration referred to in point (b) of Article 57(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX.

2. The Commission shall receive separately and shall not publish as part of the application:

- a) the name and contact details of the Member State or third country authority or producer group applicant in the Union stage of the procedure for approval of an amendment to the product specification;
- b) the name and contact details of the applicant producer group initiating the national stage of the procedure for approval of an amendment to the product specification;

Member States and applicant groups shall be responsible for ensuring consistency between the application for approval of amendment and the consolidated product specification. The amendments listed in the application for approval of amendment shall correspond to the amendments effectively made to the product specification

3. An application for approval of an amendment shall be concise and not exceed 5 000 words, product specification included, except in duly justified cases.

4. An application for approval of an amendment to the product specification shall be drawn up in accordance with the form made available in the digital system referred to in Article 58(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX.

Applicants from third countries shall use the form set out in Annex XIII to this Regulation. The information supplied may be entered by the Commission into its digital system.

5. The consolidated product specification shall be drawn up in accordance Article 22.

6. For the purposes of Article 66(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, in conjunction with Article 59(4) of that Regulation, in addition to the documents and information referred thereto, as amended, the Commission shall publish in the Official Journal of the European Union, the application for approval of an amendment to the product specification.

# Article 29

# Formal check of requests of cancellation

1. The Commission shall check, in accordance with Article 59 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, if a request of cancellation of the registration of a traditional speciality guaranteed is complete and if has been submitted in accordance with Articles 56(3) and 57(2) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX and with Article 34 of this Regulation.

A request for cancellation of the registration of a traditional speciality guaranteed shall be considered complete when it includes all the elements referred to in Article 30 of this Regulation.

2. A request for cancellation of the registration of a geographical indication failing to comply with the requirements referred to in paragraph 1 shall be considered as not submitted. The Commission shall inform the authorities of the Member State or the third country concerned or the applicant established in a third country accordingly, as the case may be.

# Article 30

# Cancellation

1. A request for cancellation of the registration of a traditional speciality guaranteed pursuant to Article 67(1) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall contain:

- (a) the registered name proposed for cancellation;
- (b) the name of the Member State, third country or natural or legal person established or resident in the third country submitting the request for cancellation to the Commission,
- (c) the name of the natural or legal person requesting the cancellation at the national stage of the procedure;
- (d) for requests from third countries, the name of the authorities, or bodies, verifying compliance with the requirements of the product specification;
- (e) a statement explaining the legitimate interest of the natural or legal person referred to in points (b) and (c);
- (f) the class of product as referred to in Annex XVIII to this Regulation;
- (g) indication that the cancellation is requested in accordance with Article 67(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX;
- (h) explanations and reasons for cancellation;
- (i) for a request for cancellation submitted by a Member State, the declaration referred to in point (b) of Article 57(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX.

The contact details of the natural or legal person, or of the authority or bodies of the Member State or of the third country referred to in points (b), (c) and (d) shall be separately communicated. They shall not be published as part of the request for cancellation.

A request for cancellation of a traditional speciality guaranteed shall be drawn up in accordance with the form set out in Annex XIV to this Regulation. The information so supplied may be entered by the Commission into its digital system.

2. A request for cancellation of the registration of a traditional speciality guaranteed pursuant to Article 67(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall contain:

- (a) the registered name proposed for cancellation;
- (b) the name of the Member State, third country or natural or legal person established or resident in the third country submitting the request of cancellation to the Commission;
- (c) the name of the natural or legal person making the request for cancellation at the national stage of the procedure;
- (d) the class of product as referred to in Annex XVIII to this Regulation;
- (e) indication that the cancellation is requested in accordance with Article 67(2) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX;
- (f) reasons for cancellation;
- (g) for a request for cancellation submitted by a Member State, the declaration referred to in point (a) of Article 57(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX.

The contact details of the producer group or of the authority of the Member State or third country referred to in points (b) and (c) shall be separately communicated. They shall not be published as part of the request for cancellation.

A request for cancellation of the registration of a traditional speciality guaranteed pursuant to Article 67(2) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall be drawn up in accordance with the form

set out in Annex XV to this Regulation. The information supplied may be entered by the Commission into its digital systems.

3. The information to be published pursuant to Article 59(4) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall contain the duly completed request for a cancellation as referred to in pargraph 1 or 2 of this Article.

4. The name of the natural or legal persons making or submitting to the Commission the request for cancellation shall be published as part of the request.

# Article 31

# Union register of traditional specialities guaranteed

1. The Union register of traditional specialities guaranteed referred to in Article 65 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall be established in electronic form. The Commission shall be the owner of the Register. It shall be based on digital system hosted and managed by the Commission.

2. Upon the entry into force of a legal instrument registering a traditional speciality guaranteed the following data shall be recorded in the register:

- (a) the registered name (or names) of the product, including their transcriptions or transliterations in Latin characters, where applicable; multiple names, transcriptions and transliterations shall be recorded as alternative names, separated by a space, an oblique and a second space;
- (b) the classification of the product as laid down in Annex XVIII;
- (c) the date of the submission of the application to the Commission;
- (d) the date of publication in the Official Journal of the European Union;
- (e) the date of registration;
- (f) electronic reference to the instrument registering the name;
- (g) electronic reference to the publication of the application in the Official Journal of the European Union;
- (h) indication of the country or countries of origin of the application;
- (i) the file number.

3. Where the Commission approves an amendment to a product specification the new data shall be recorded with effect from the date on which the amendment is applicable in the Union. Data listed in paragraph 2 shall be updated as appropriate. Electronic reference to the publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union* of regulations approving an amendment shall be recorded.

4. Where the registration of a traditional specialities guaranteed has been cancelled, the name shall be deleted from the register from the date on which the relevant implementing act takes effect and shall maintain a record of the cancellation.

5. The Union register of traditional specialities guaranteed shall also list the names applied for registration. Where the Commission receives an application for registration or for approval of

an amendment, the name, file number, product category, country of origin application type, date of application and status of the received application shall be recorded. The date of publication and the electronic reference to that publication shall be also recorded once the application is published in the Official Journal of the European Union. The register shall keep record of the decision of rejection of applications, including the electronic reference to the implementing decision of rejection.

6. The data referred to in paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 shall remain in the register.

# Article 32

# Attestation of compliance

1. The attestation certifying compliance with the product specification referred to in Article 77(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX may be in electronic form. It may be made available by display on a web page to which the operator has access and from which the operator may download the attestation. The attestation shall state its date of issue and shall be in Latin characters or accompanied by a transcription or transliteration in Latin characters.

The extract of the list ('listing') referred to in Article 77(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall be in electronic form and may be made available by display on a web page to which the operator has access and from which the operator may download an official extract of the corresponding listing. The listing shall state the date on which it was drawn up. The listing shall be in Latin characters or accompanied by a transcription or transliteration in Latin characters.

2. The attestation and the listing shall contain at least the following data:

- (a) the name of the traditional speciality guaranteed;
- (b) an identification number of the operator ;
- (c) the business name and contact details of the operator;
- (d) the business name or official name and contact details of the delegated body or the authority responsible for the listing;
- (e) the business of the operator to which the certification or listing applies, being 'production', 'processing', 'bottling (packaging)', and/or 'other' (to be specified);
- (f) the date of issue of the attestation or the date on which the listing was drawn up;
- (g) the signature, seal or mark of the delegated body or the authority responsible for the listing, which may be electronic.

3. The attestation or listing shall have an expiration date, which may be different depending on the kind of product concerned, based on the risk assessment.

4. For the purposes of facilitating free circulation within the Union, authorities and bodies issuing the attestation and the listing referred to in paragraph 1 may use the form set out in Annex XVI.

5. For products produced in third countries, an operator whose product designated by the registered traditional speciality guaranteed is imported into the Union shall make available on request to the importer of the product in the Union a proof of certification as an operator of a product designated by that traditional speciality guaranteed as provided by the national control authority or the certification body of that third country.

The proof of certification may consist in an attestation or in a listing of authorised operators and may be provided directly by that national control authority or certification body. The proof of certification may be in paper or electronic form. It shall be in, or accompanied by a translation into, an official language of the Union and in characters that may be easily understood in the Member State or Member States where the product is marketed. It shall not have expired, in accordance with the third country national law, on the date on which it is made available to the importer.

6. The proof of certification referred to in paragraph 5 shall be made available by the importer on request to customs authorities or other authorities in the EU engaged in verifying the use of traditional speciality guaranteed on goods declared for free circulation or placed on the Union market. The importer may make the proof of certification available to the public or to any person who requests proof of certification in the course of business.

# CHAPTER IV Labelling

# Article 33

# The use of symbols and indications

1. The Union symbols referred to in Articles 37(2) and 70(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX shall be reproduced as laid down in Annex XVII to this Regulation.

2. The indications 'PROTECTED DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN', 'PROTECTED GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION' and 'TRADITIONAL SPECIALITY GUARANTEED' within the symbol may be used in any of the official languages of the Union as laid down in Annex XVII to this Regulation.

# **CHAPTER V Communications**

# Article 34

# Communications between the Commission, the Member States, third countries and other operators

1. The documents and information required for the implementation of Chapters I to III of Regulation 2024/XXXX shall be communicated to the Commission as follows:

(a) for the competent authorities of Member States, through the digital system referred to in Articles 14(1) and 58(1) of the Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX, subject to paragraph 2 of this Article;

(b) for the competent authorities and producers of third countries, as well as natural or legal persons via electronic mail using the forms set out in the Annexes to this Regulation.

Rules and requirements laid down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU)  $2017/1183 (\_]$  and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU)  $2017/1185 (\_]$  shall apply to the communications made under the first subparagraph, point (a).

2. By way of derogation from paragraph 1, first subparagraph, point (a), the following documents shall be submitted via electronic mail by the competent authorities of the Member States:

- (a) the opposition referred to in Articles 9(1) and 26(1);
- (b) the notification of the result of the consultations referred to in Articles 9(5) and 26(5);
- (c) the cancellation request referred to in Articles 15 and 30.

3. Information shall be communicated and made available by the Commission to the competent authorities of Member States through the digital system in accordance with paragraph 1, first subparagraph, point (a). Information in the context of the procedures referred to in paragraph 1, first subparagraph, point (b), and in paragraph 2 shall be communicated by the Commission to the Member States, the competent authorities and applicant producer groups of third countries, as well as natural or legal persons who have a legitimate interest under Regulation (EU) No 2024/XXXX (GI Regulation) via electronic mail.

4. For official technical communications, each Member State shall communicate to the Commission one contact point comprising a departmental and postal address, a functional electronic mail box address, and a departmental telephone number. The Member States shall keep these contact points up to date. This data shall only identify official functions, offices and departments. None of the data shall identify any natural persons nor personal details otherwise contained within addresses, contact numbers or other data items.

The Commission may keep, store, share, make public and periodically circulate the complete list of such contact points, including to its own services, other Union institutions and bodies, and to all contact points on the list. The Commission may require this data to be submitted through digital system made available by the Commission.

# Article 35

# Submission and receipt of communications

1. The communications and submissions referred to in Article 34 shall be deemed to have been made on the date on which they are received by the Commission.

2. The Commission shall confirm receipt of all communications received and all files submitted through the digital system referred to in Article 34(1), first subparagraph, point (a), to the competent authorities of the Member States through the digital system.

The Commission shall attribute a file number to each new application for registration, application for approval of a Union amendment to the product specification of a geographical indication, application for approval of an amendment to the product specification of a traditional speciality guaranteed, communication concerning approved standard amendments, communication concerning approved temporary amendments.

The confirmation of receipt shall include at least the following elements:

- (a) the file number;
- (b) the product name concerned;
- (c) the date of receipt.

The Commission shall notify and make available information and remarks regarding such communications and submissions through the digital system referred to in Article 34(1), first subparagraph, point (a).

3. For communications and submissions of files made via electronic mail, the Commission shall confirm receipt via electronic mail.

It shall attribute a file number to each new application for registration, application for approval of a Union amendment to the product specification of a geographical indication, application for approval of an amendment to the product specification of a traditional speciality guaranteed, communication concerning approved standard amendments, communication concerning approved temporary amendments and request for cancellation.

The confirmation of receipt shall include at least the following elements:

- (d) the file number;
- (e) the product name concerned;
- (f) the date of receipt.

The Commission shall notify and make available information and remarks regarding such communications and submission via electronic mail.

4. Article 4 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/1183 and Articles 1 to 5 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1185 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the notification and making available of information as referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article.

# Article 36

# Language

All documents and information sent to the Commission in respect of the procedures concerned by this Regulation shall be in one of the official languages of the Union.

# **CHAPTER VI**

# **Final provisions**

# Article 37

# Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2019/34

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/34 is amended as follows:

(1) The title is replaced by the following:

'Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/34 of 17 October 2018, laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards checks related to protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications and applications for protection, the objection procedure, the registration, modification and cancellation of traditional terms in the wine sector'

(2) Article 1 is replaced by the following:

# Article 1

# Subject matter

- 'This Regulation lays down rules for the application of Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, concerning protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications in the wine sector as regards checks and concerning traditional terms in the wine sector, as regards:
  - (a) applications for protection;
  - (b) the objection procedure;
  - (c) registration;
  - (d) enforcement of the protection;
  - e) modification;
  - (f) cancellation of the protection;
  - (h) communications.
- (3) Articles 2 to 14 are deleted.
- (4) Article 15 is amended as follows:

# 'Article 15

Authorities responsible for verifying compliance with the product specification

1. When performing the checks provided for in this Section, the responsible competent authorities and delegated bodies shall comply with the requirements laid down in Regulation (EU) 2017/625.

2. In respect of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications relating to a geographical area in a third country, annual verification of compliance with the product specification, during the production phase and during or after conditioning of the wine, shall be performed by:

(a) one or more public authorities designated by the third country; or

(b) one or more certification bodies.

3. The delegated bodies referred to in Article 116a(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 and the one or more certification bodies referred to in point (b) of paragraph 2 of this Article shall comply with, and be accredited in accordance with, either of the following standards as relevant for the delegated tasks:

- (a) Standard EN ISO/IEC 17065 'Conformity assessment Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services'; or
  - (b) Standard EN ISO/IEC 17020 'Conformity assessment Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection'.

4. Where the authority referred to in Article 116a(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 and the one or more authorities referred to in point (a) of paragraph 2 of this Article verify compliance with the product specification, they shall offer adequate guarantees

of objectivity and impartiality, and have at their disposal the qualified staff and resources needed to carry out their tasks.

5. Member States shall be authorised to impose a fee on operators subject to the controls in order to cover the costs incurred for the establishment and operation of the control system.'

- (5) Articles 16 is deleted.
- (6) Article 17 is replaced as follows:

#### 'Article 17

Communication between Member States and the Commission

Member States shall communicate the details of the competent authority referred to in Article 116a(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, including the authorities referred to in Article 16 of this Regulation and where applicable the delegated bodies referred to in Article 116a(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 to the Commission. The Commission shall make public the names and addresses of the competent authority or authorities or delegated bodies.'

- (7) Article 19 is amended as follows:
  - a) The first sentence of paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:

'The annual verification carried out by the competent authority or delegated bodies referred to in Article 116a(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 shall consist of:'

b) The second subparagraph of paragraph 7 is replaced by the following:

'Competent authorities or delegated bodies of different Member States responsible for carrying out checks on a protected designation of origin or protected geographical indication shall cooperate in particular to ensure that, as regards packaging obligations, the operators established in a Member State other than the Member State in which the production of the wine whose name is registered as a protected designation of origin or protected geographical indication takes place comply with the control obligations of the product specification in question.'

c) Paragraph 8 is replaced by the following:

'Paragraphs 1 to 5 shall apply to wines benefitting from transitional national protection under Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2024/XXXX.'

(8) Article 30 is amended as follows:

Paragraphs 1, 2 are deleted. Paragraph 4 is replaced by the following:

'Member States, the competent authorities and representative professional organisations of third countries, as well as natural or legal persons who have a legitimate interest under this Regulation may contact the Commission, via the electronic mail addresses indicated in Annex XII, in order to obtain information on the methods of communication and of how information required for the implementation of Chapters II and III is to be made available.'

(9) Article 31 is amended as follows:

Paragraph 2 is deleted. Paragraph 4 is replaced by the following:

4. Article 4 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/1183 and Articles 1 to 5 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1185 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the notification and making available of information, as referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

- (10) Article 32 is deleted.
- (11) Article 33 is amended as follows:

Paragraph 1 is deleted.

(12) Annexes I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII and XII part A are deleted.

# Article 38

# <u>Repeal</u>

Commission Implementing Regulations (EU) No 668/2014 and (EU) 2021/1236 are repealed.

# Article 39

# Entry into force and application

This Regulation shall enter into force on the [...] 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 the Member States in accordance with the Treaties.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

ThePresident
[...]