

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 (SO₂) (E 220) in an aqueous solution of potassium hydroxide (KOH) as used in foodstuffs

Chemical formula: KHSO₃ in aqueous solution ⁽¹⁾

Content: Not less than 280 g KHSO₃ per litre (or 150 g SO₂ per litre)

Sodium: Not more than 1 % of the SO₂ content

Selenium: Not more than 10 mg/kg of the SO₂ 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.