



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

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Rue de la Loi, 175
B - 1048 Brussels

Brussels, 10 December 2018

Ms Adina-Ioana VĂLEAN

Chair, European Parliament Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

BRUSSELS

Subject: Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the definition, description, presentation and labelling of spirit drinks, the use of the names of spirit drinks in the presentation and labelling of other foodstuffs, the protection of geographical indications for spirit drinks, the use of ethyl alcohol and distillates of agricultural origin in alcoholic beverages, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 110/2008

Dear **Ms VĂLEAN**,

Following the informal meeting between the representatives of the three institutions, a draft overall compromise package was agreed on 10 December 2018 by the Special Committee on Agriculture.

I am therefore now in a position to confirm that, should the European Parliament adopt its position at first reading, in accordance with Article 294, paragraph 3, of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, in the form set out in the compromise package contained in the Annex to this letter (subject to the outcome of the WTO notification procedure¹ and to revision by the legal linguists of both institutions), the Council would, in accordance with Article 294, paragraph 4, of that Treaty, approve the European Parliament's position and the act shall be adopted in the wording which corresponds to the European Parliament's position.

On behalf of the Council, I also wish to thank you for your close cooperation which should enable us to reach agreement on this file at first reading.

Yours sincerely,



Christa Bauer
Chair of the Special Committee on Agriculture

copy to: **Mr Phil Hogan**, Commissioner
Ms Pilar Ayuso, EP Rapporteur

¹ Under Article 2.9.2 of the Uruguay Round Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.