Courtesy translation

CROATIAN PARLIAMENT
Agriculture Committee

Zagreb, 29 April 2015

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Opinion of the Agriculture Committee on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on organic production and labelling of organic products, amending Regulation (EU) No XXX/XXX of the European Parliament and of the Council [Official Controls Regulation] and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007

Introduction

By virtue of the powers defined in the Act on the Co-operation of the Croatian Parliament and the Government of the Republic of Croatia in European Affairs and the Standing Orders of the Croatian Parliament, the European Affairs Committee and the Agriculture Committee of the Croatian Parliament held on 16 April 2015 a joint meeting at which the Ministry of Agriculture presented the report on the Agriculture and Fisheries Council meeting held on 16 March 2015.

One of the items on the Council Agenda was an orientation debate on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on organic production and labelling of organic products, amending Regulation (EU) No XXX/XXX of the European Parliament and of the Council [Official Controls Regulation] and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007. The Agriculture Committee, in co-operation with the European Affairs Committee, conducted a discussion on the presented opinion of the Republic of Croatia on the said Regulation proposal.

After the discussion, the members of the Agriculture Committee and the European Affairs Committee unanimously supported the opinion of the Republic of Croatia, which is generally in support of the said Regulation proposal, however with certain remarks, especially with respect to the deletion of sea salt from Annex I to the Regulation proposal.

Opinion of the Agriculture Committee

Taking into consideration that sea salt has been deleted from Annex I to the Regulation proposal, the Agriculture Committee of the Croatian Parliament shares the opinion of the Republic of Croatia and supports the proposal of the Republic of Croatia to re-include sea salt in the list in Annex I to the Regulation proposal.

Recognizing the importance of sea salt in the diet, and indirectly also in the food processing industry, in the production, preparation, distribution and marketing of sea salt, as well as the interest of business entities for the production of organic sea salt in the Republic of Croatia, the Agriculture Committee agrees that sea salt should be included in the list in Annex I to the Regulation proposal.

Following the discussion conducted at the joint meeting of the European Affairs Committee and the Agriculture Committee and based on the previously mentioned opinions, the Agriculture Committee is presenting to the European Commission the following

CONCLUSIONS

1. We are welcoming the efforts of the European Commission to simplify and establish a single framework of production rules, labelling of organic products and introduction of a control system in organic production and labelling of organic products.

2. The Agriculture Committee, underlining the need for including sea salt in the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on organic production and labelling of organic products, amending Regulation (EU) No XXX/XXX of the European Parliament and of the Council [Official Controls Regulation] and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, invites the European Commission to include sea salt in the list in Annex I of the Regulation proposal.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE
Franjo Lucić
(signed)