



PHIL HOGAN

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Honourable Members of the European Parliament,

I would like to thank you for your letter of 21 April 2016, in which you express your concerns about the olive oils produced in Calabria as regards their profile of fatty acids and suggest that the European Commission responds before the next crop year.

As you mention in your letter, the Italian request to modify the limits of the three fatty acids (heptadecanoic, heptadecenoic and eicosenoic acid) has been examined in the framework of the chemists' meeting of the International Olive Council (IOC) and led to a proposal for increasing these three limits with the view to addressing the problem of some Italian varieties.

As soon as these new limits are adopted by the IOC Council (scheduled for 15 July 2016), the Commission will amend by a delegated act, Regulation (EEC) n° 2568/91¹ in order to reflect these changes. Since there is a period for objection from the Parliament and the Council of a minimum of two months, the delegated act cannot enter into force before November 2016.

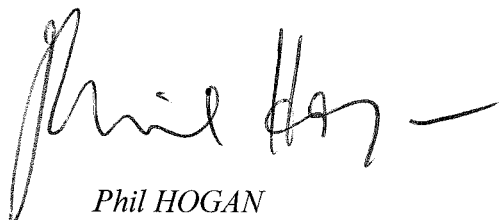
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*Ms Rosa D'Amato
Ms Laura Ferrara
Mr Marco Zullo
Members of the European Parliament
European Parliament
By e-mail*

¹ OJ L 248, 5.9.1991. p.1

The application for registration of "Olio di Calabria" as Protected Geographical Indication (IT/PGI/0005/01314) was submitted to the Commission on 20.02.2015. The exchange of views with the Italian authorities to ensure that the application meets the requirements of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs² is on-going. A second letter asking for clarifications was sent to the Italian authorities on 07.03.2016.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Hogan', followed by a horizontal line.

Phil HOGAN

² OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.