



Joint Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Working Group on Wine under the Agreement between the European Union and Japan for an Economic Partnership

Brussels and Tokyo (by videoconference), 30 November 2021

The third meeting of the Working Group on Wine under the Agreement between the European Union (EU) and Japan for an Economic Partnership (EPA) took place on 30 November 2021. In view of travel and other restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the meeting was held by video teleconference.

The meeting allowed a fruitful exchange of views on matters related to Chapter 2 - section C of the EPA (Facilitation of wine product export) between Japanese and EU participants. On the Japanese side, MOFA, MOF, and NTA, were represented; on the EU side, there were participants from the Directorates-General AGRI and TRADE, as well as from the EU Delegation to Japan.

The enclosed meeting agenda was adopted (cf. Annex).

According to Article 2.29.1(b), the Working Group reviewed the implementation of Article 2.27, confirming the progress made by Japan and the EU to authorise the oenological practices referred to in Section D of Part 1 and in Section D of Part 2 of Annex 2-E (so called “phase three”).

Japan informed that the following additives have been authorised for use in wine in Japan on the following dates and the authorisation of the rest of the additives of phase three is expected to be completed by 02/2024.

- *Kaolin (aluminium silicate) – authorisation on 06/09/2019*
- *Argon – authorisation on 06/09/2019*
- *Malolactic fermentation activators – authorisation on 22/02/2021*
- *Potassium caseinate – authorisation on 25/06/2021*

EU informed that it was working to complete its authorisation process of phase three by 02/2024 and that the work was proceeding smoothly.

In view of the above, both parties confirmed that the process on both sides for authorisation of the oenological practices of phase three was on-going without any problem and reaffirmed that they would cooperate with each other in order to complete the authorisation process of both sides in accordance with the EPA.



3rd Meeting of the Working Group on Wine under the Agreement between the European Union and Japan for an Economic Partnership

30 November 2021
09:00-10:00 (Brussel time)
17:00-18:00 (Tokyo time)

Agenda

- 1. Opening Session**
 - a. Japan**
 - b. EU**
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda (Article 22.4.3(d))**
- 3. Review of the implementation of Article 2.27 of the Agreement between the EU and Japan for an Economic Partnership (Article 2.29.1(b))**

Article 2.27: State of play on the steps taken by the EU and by Japan to authorise the oenological practices referred to in Section D of Part 1 and in Section D of Part 2 of Annex 2-E (so called “phase three”).
- 4. Any Other Business (A.O.B.)**
- 5. Closing session (date and venue of the next meeting)**
 - a. Japan**
 - b. EU**