

Information on the activity and tasks of the National Council of Wine Communities

The objective of the National Council of Wine Communities (hereinafter referred to as: the NCWC) is: The assertion of the interests of Hungarian grape and wine growers, the upgrade of the level of wine production, and the improvement of the marketability and competitiveness of the products through all available legal means, the protection of the reputation of Hungarian wines, the assertion of modern protection means of origin and quality, the promotion of establishing new vineyards, the upgrade of their quality level, and the undertaking of market organisation tasks.

1. The tasks of the NCWC are:

- a) Assists the activity of wine communities and wine community councils;
- b) Summarises and analyses the data provision by the wine communities and prepares recommendations for occasional interventions into the agricultural market;
- c) Manages the central registration of replanting rights, the converted planting licences, new planting licences, and replanting licences;
- d) Organises services to promote market access of the products;
- e) May represent the wine community organisations in administering issues related to origin, quality, and origin protection; evaluates appeals against the decisions of the magistrate of the wine community at first instance in public administration matters;
- f) Cooperates with the authorities and institutions performing tasks in connection with grape growing and winemaking;
- g) Keeps in contact with foreign and international trade organisations;
- h) Organises exhibitions, wine competitions and conferences;
- i) Observes the functioning of wine communities;
- j) Through its representatives, it is authorised to participate at wine community councils and the meetings of the committees of their board of directors;
- k) Organises advanced trainings and meetings for the wine communities and the officials and employees of wine communities;
- l) Exercises its right to evaluation prior to interventions into the agricultural market in connection with winemaking;
- m) Contributes to protecting the reputation of Hungarian wines;
- n) Promotes the functioning of the wine community organisation and their members in accordance with legal regulations;
- o) Maintains regular contact with the producers and the sales persons and organisations;
- p) Reviews the effective wine region regulations, evaluating and publishing them on its website; determines the competent wine community for non-wine regional municipalities and designates the competent magistrate of the wine community, publishing this information on its website;
- q) Once a year, the NCWC evaluates the activities of the wine communities and their magistrates, reporting to the minister;
- r) Within the framework of market organisation tasks:
 - Provides information on the special characteristics of wine products with Protected Designation of Origin and geographical indication;
 - Organises the community promotion of wines, with preference over third countries;
 - Collects production and market knowledge and improves its applicability;

- Improves the coordination of distributing the products of the wine sector, especially through market research and analysis;
 - Draws up standard contract templates compatible with the community rules;
 - Promotes a more efficient exploitation of the inherent potential of products in the wine sector;
 - Provides the information necessary to adjust production to market requirements and consumer tastes and expectations, particularly with regard to product quality and protection of the environment;
 - Elaborates the tools and methods, with the help of which product quality can be improved in all phases of winemaking;
 - Ensures the protection of designations of origin, quality trademarks (certification trademarks), and geographical indications;
 - Promotes the development of integrated cultivation or other environmentally sound cultivation methods;
 - Sends a report to the competent ministry responsible for agricultural policy within 30 days from the end of the business year on the data certifying compliance with the conditions of recognition and the execution of the activities determined in the interbranch recognition in the previous business year;
 - Determines the amount of market development contribution;
- s) In order to perform its tasks determined by legal regulations, it develops and operates a proprietary IT system, in the course of which it is authorised to manage the personal data of wine community members and those subject to data provision obligation;
- t) Establishes the base and supplementary amounts of the wine community contribution;
- u) Establishes the amount of wine community contribution for grape growers and winemakers in non-wine community areas;
- v) Establishes the amount of wine community contribution to be paid after the quantity of wine imported from the European Economic Area for downstream processing;

2. The tasks of the NCWC as an interbranch organisation:

Based on article 157 of Regulation (EU) No. 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products, and Act XCVII of 2015 on the organisation of the markets in agricultural products and interbranch organizations, the NCWC has been authorised to carry out the following tasks:

- a) improving knowledge and the transparency of production and the market, including by publication of aggregated statistical data on production costs, prices, including, where appropriate, price indices, volumes and duration of contracts which have been previously concluded, and by providing analyses of potential future market developments at regional, national or international level;
- b) forecasting of production potential, and recording public market prices;
- c) helping to coordinate better the way the products are placed on the market, in particular by means of research and market studies;
- d) exploring potential export markets;
- e) without prejudice to Articles 148 and 168, drawing up standard forms of contract, compatible with Union rules, for the sale of agricultural products to purchasers and/or the supply of processed products to distributors and retailers, taking into account the need to achieve fair competitive conditions and to avoid market distortions;

- f) exploiting to a fuller extent the potential of the products, including at the level of market outlets, and developing initiatives to strengthen economic competitiveness and innovation;
- g) providing the information and carrying out the research necessary to innovate, rationalise, improve and adjust production and, where applicable, the processing and marketing, towards products more suited to market requirements and consumer tastes and expectations, in particular with regard to product quality, including the specific characteristics of products with a protected designation of origin or a protected geographical indication, and protection of the environment;
- h) developing methods and instruments for improving product quality at all stages of production and, where applicable, of processing and marketing;
- i) taking all possible actions to uphold, protect and promote organic farming and designations of origin, quality labels and geographical indications;
- j) promoting and carrying out research into integrated, sustainable production or other environmentally sound production methods;
- k) promoting consumption of, and/or furnishing information concerning, products on the internal market and external markets;

The NCWC also performs its other duties, as determined by the relevant legal regulations.

Budapest, 21 February 2017



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