



Notification Number: 2001/310/E

## Draft Ministerial Decree establishing limits on certain polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in olive residue oil

Date received : 16/07/2001  
End of Standstill : 25/07/2001  
Invocation of the Emergency Procedure : Yes

### Message

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Message 002



Communication from the Commission - SG(2001) D/51587

Directive 98/34/EC

Translation of the message 001

Notification: 2001/310/E

(MSG: 200101587.EN)

### 1. Structured Information Line

MSG 002 IND 2001 0310 E EN 13-07-2001 E NOTIF

### 2. Member State

Spain

### 3. Department Responsible

SUBDIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE ASUNTOS INDUSTRIALES, ENERGÉTICOS,  
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### 4. Notification Number

2001/310/E COOA

### 5. Title

Draft Ministerial Decree establishing limits on certain polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in olive residue oil

### 6. Products Concerned

Olive residue oil.

### 7. Notification Under Another Act

Council Regulation (EEC) No 315/93 on contaminants in food.

### 8. Main Content

The aim of the draft is to establish maximum limits for certain polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in olive residue oil. To this end, point I of the Annex lays down the maximum acceptable limits, while point II establishes the criteria applicable to the method of analysis.



## **9. Brief Statement of Grounds**

The draft decree responds to the need to establish the maximum acceptable limits for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons by means of national legislation. This is in order to achieve the basic objective of protecting public health and consumer safety, given the scientific evidence of health risks, and confirmation by the health authorities of the presence of these contaminants in olive residue oil on the national market.

## **10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts**

Royal Decree No 308/1983 adopting the technical health legislation on edible vegetable oils.

## **11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure**

Yes

## **12. Grounds for the Emergency**

The health authorities have noted the presence on the market of olive residue oils with high levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, substances which can be considered as contaminants, whose danger to health has been confirmed by international bodies (WHO, International Agency of Research on Cancer, etc.).

This has made necessary the adoption of precautionary measures, which have duly been notified to the European Union pursuant to Directive 92/59/EEC on general product safety. However, it is essential to adopt national legislation for the establishment of the maximum acceptable limits, in the interests of food safety, and the actual legal certainty of the economic operators.

The said standard must be adopted urgently, not just for the reasons expressed, but also in order to appropriately manage the destination of the goods which are currently immobilised, thus avoiding any unnecessary economic repercussions.

## **13. Confidentiality**

No.

## **14. Fiscal measures**

No.

David O'Sullivan  
General Secretary  
European Commission