

STANDARDIZATION ACTIVITY IN WINEGROWING AND WINEMAKING FIELD IN REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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Abstract: Categories of normative documents elaborated for the development of the Law of Grape and Wine (57-XVI from 10.03.2006) of Republic of Moldova which regulates the activity of standardization of viticulture and winemaking area, and also the technological documents, the field and particularity of their application are described in the article below.

Keywords: standardization, normative documents, national standards, technical regulations, general rules, technological instructions.

Introduction

The development of the Moldova' economy after signing and ratification of the Association Agreement between the EU and Moldova is oriented to extension the international relations in trade, stable and balanced growth of trade in goods and strengthen the position of goods and services market. To achieve these objectives and to remove technical barriers to trade, it is in a continuous process to align the legal framework, including technical legislation with European and international law.

At the same time, Moldova's accession as a member-partner to European Committee for Standardization has a beneficial impact on the national economy as harmonizing technical regulations with EC Regulations and standards creates premises for improving the quality of local products by making them more competitive and increasing the opportunities to export them, especially in the European Union.

Thus, the legal framework for the implementation of national standardization activities was recently adopted by the Organic Law Nr. 20 on national standardization, published on 8 April 2016 according to which the national standards are marked as „standard moldovenesc” and not „standard moldovean” as writing down before. Thus, the principles of national standardization activities is resumed to the development and adoption of Moldovan standards by consensus of stakeholders by involving all stakeholders to establish the voluntary nature of Moldovan' standards application, their correlation with the evolution of legislation, the development of science and technology and compliance of European, international and interstate standardization rules.

Currently the legislative act which regulates the local wine growth and winemaking filed is based on two basic organic laws. The first and most important is the Vine and Wine Law no. 57-XVI of 10 March 2006 with subsequent amendments and additions [1] and the second - the Law on the manufacture and circulation of ethyl alcohol and alcoholic beverages no. 1100-XIV of 30 June 2000 [2].

Normative documents

Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry continues the reforms started in 2010 by drafting and adoption of several government decisions, namely normative acts intended to implement and complement the existing legislative base, which aims to increase the quality and ensure the traceability of wine products.

One of these reforms is the formation of Vine and Wine Register, which purpose is the registration of all types of vineyards that are larger than 0.15 ha and of volumes of grapes, the quantity of produced and stored wine products, principles of operation of this Technical concept of the Automated informational system was approved by Government Decision 282 of 18 March 2016. Under this concept the Government of Moldova is the owner of Vine and Wine Register, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry is the possessor and the National Office of Vine and Wine is the holder. So ends with new elaborations [4]

For the practical application of the laws listed in the field of manufacture, organoleptic and physico-chemical evaluation of wine products were developed and approved 4 technical regulations and 1 regulation:

1. Technical Regulation [3] "The organization of vine and wine market", was approved by Government Decision no. 356 of June 11, 2015 (150-159 OG of 06.19.2015), which partially transposes about 5 EU' regulations, the most important being the European Parliament' and Council' Regulation (EU) 1308/2013 of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organization of agricultural products markets;
2. Technical regulation on the production, certification, testing and marketing of propagating and planting vine material approved by Government Decision no. 418 of 9 July 2009 (Official Gazette no.112-114. of 17.07 2009);
3. Technical regulation "Analytical methods in wine production" approved by Government Decision no. 708 of 20 September 2011 (Official Gazette no. 164-165 of 04.10.2011);
4. Technical regulation "Alcoholic beverages' definition, description, presentation and labeling" approved by Government Decision no. 317 of 23 May 2012 (104-108 MB of 1 June 2012), being harmonized with European Parliament' and Council' Regulation (EC) no. 110/2008 of 15.01.2008 on spirit drinks' definition, description, presentation, labeling and protection of geographical indications.

Also, by Government Decision no. 810 of 10.29.2015 (OG no. 306-310 of 13 November 2015) it was approved "Regulation on the evaluation of the organoleptic characteristics of wine products through sensory analysis".

Government decisions are considered normative documents that establish for regulated products the essential requirements, and they can be implemented in practice by applying one or more related standards to supplement the essential requirements set out in these regulations with technical specification, but according to Law of standardization, their compliance is not mandatory.

Thus, in order to facilitate the interpretation of the technical regulations and for their more detailed practical application, periodic are developed, reviewed and brought in line with the relevant national regulatory and legislative standards. At the moment the branch has about 22 national standards in force.

Only in the last 5 years, researchers of Scientific-Practical Institute of Horticulture and Food Technologies, which holds the presidency and secretariat of Technical Committee no. 9, respecting all principles of standardization, have developed and updated following national standards (MS) in winegrowing and winemaking fields:

1. MS 84: 2015 "Fresh grapes for industrial processing. Specifications";
2. SM 186: 2014 "Brandy. General technical conditions";
3. SM 192: 2015 "Flavored alcoholic beverages. Specifications"
4. SM 206: 2011 "Propagating vine material. Technical conditions";
5. SM 207: 2010 "Planting vine material. Technical conditions";
6. SM 277: 2010 "Raw and grinding ethyl alcohol of wine origin. Technical conditions";
7. SM 278: 2010 "Special effervescent sparkling, aerated wines. General technical conditions";
8. SM 299: 2010 "Alcoholic juice. Technical conditions";
9. SM 303: 2011 "Raw material dry wines for distillation. Technical conditions"
10. SM 311: 2014 "Spirits. Technical conditions";
11. SM 312: 2014 "Distilled wine. Technical conditions";
12. SM 319: 2015 "Fruit distillate and distilled fruit marc. Specifications "and
13. SM 320: 2015 "Raw material wines for sparkling wines and quality sparkling wines. Specifications".

Currently, it is working on the review of the most important standards in wines production, which will be renamed according to classified categories by GD 356/2015 namely standards SM 117 "Wines, liqueur wines, wines of overripe grapes, wines from dried grapes and raw materials for their production. Specifications" and SM 154 "Sparkling wines, quality sparkling wines and quality sparkling aromatic wines. Specifications"

Under the old concept of the Law on standardization differed several categories of normative documents: national standards (SM), temporary national standards (SMV), firm standards (SF) and codes of good practice. In wine growth and winemaking fields have found application only two categories of documents - national standards and firm standards. It is worth mentioning that according to current legislation in force, as category of normative standards like firm standards (SF) disappears, but can be renamed to "technical specifications", these being the only normative documents admitted in Republic of Moldova.

Conclusion

The reforms which are carried out in standardization involve many changes in the fields of national economy, which have a major impact on the whole system of standardization of wine growth and winemaking filed.

In this context, the main direction of activity in wine industry standardization remains: increasing the competitiveness of local wine products and spirits, promoting successful innovation and technical progress and facilitate the application of national legislation.

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