Turkish Wine Sector and European Union Harmonization

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KEY WORDS: Economy, Turkey, wine, EU harmonization, policy, potential

ABSTRACT

In Turkey, viniculture and wine making has been one of the areas of interest since ancient eras with the presence of high quality grape varieties as well as the favorable climatic and soil conditions. Accordingly, wine has also been one of the preferred drinks in the country for a long time. Since 1960’s wine has also been subject to the foreign trade especially to European Union (EU) countries basically and has been selected as one of agricultural products that is subject to negotiation within the harmonization era between 2 parties.

The aim of the study is to give a snapshot of the currently implemented policies as well as assessing expected policy changes in Turkish wine sector within EU harmonization era. The study is composed of three parts. At the first part, production potential and consumption of wine in Turkey has been briefly examined. Then, applied wine policies including current legal framework as well as foreign trade profile have been mentioned. At the third part of the study, expected policy changes in Turkish wine making in the framework of harmonization with the EU have been evaluated. To be able to foresee the effects of the policies to be actualized in order to increase sector’s competitive power especially with regard to EU wine market, related recent policy changes have also been included in the study. (Bulletin de l’OIV, 2009, vol. 82, n°938-939-940, p. 229-249)