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DRAFT EAST AFRICAN STANDARD

Potable spirit — Specification

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

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Foreword

Development of the East African Standards has been necessitated by the need for harmonizing requirements governing quality of products and services in the East African Community. It is envisaged that through harmonized standardization, trade barriers that are encountered when goods and services are exchanged within the Community will be removed.

In order to achieve this objective, the Community established an East African Standards Committee mandated to develop and issue East African Standards.

The Committee is composed of representatives of the National Standards Bodies in Partner States, together with the representatives from the private sectors and consumer organizations. Draft East African Standards are circulated to stakeholders through the National Standards Bodies in the Partner States. The comments received are discussed and incorporated before finalization of standards, in accordance with the procedures of the Community.

East African Standards are subject to review, to keep pace with technological advances. Users of the East African Standards are therefore expected to ensure that they always have the latest versions of the standards they are implementing.

EAS 109 was prepared by Technical Committee EASC/TC 007, *Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition EAS 109:2000, which has been technically revised.

Potable spirit — Specification

1 Scope

This East African Standard specifies requirements and methods of sampling and test for potable spirits.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

CODEX STAN 192, *Codex general standard for food additives*

EAS 39, *Hygiene in the food and drink manufacturing industry — Code of practice*

EAS 103, *Schedule for permitted food additives*

EAS 100, *Food stuffs — Methods of determination of Lead*

EAS 123, *Distilled water — Specification*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this standard, the following terms and definitions shall apply.

3.1

potable spirit

ethyl alcohol product obtained by distilling fermented carbohydrate material or mixing neutral spirit with water in proportion suitable for human consumption with or without flavour

3.2

alcohol

as ethyl alcohol (C₂H₅OH)

3.3

neutral spirit

distillate obtained from fermented carbohydrate material, purified by fractional distillation with the removal of fusel oil and furfural

4 quality requirements

4.1 Ingredients

4.1.1 The ingredients for potable spirit shall include the following:

- a) demineralised water or distilled water conforming to EAS 123;
- b) neutral spirit, if used for blending, conforming to EAS 144; and
- c) flavouring agents, if used, in accordance with CAC/GL 66

4.2 General requirements

Potable spirit shall:

- a) possess the characteristic aroma associated with the product;
- b) be clear, free of particulate matter and characteristic colour;
- c) have characteristic odour and free of foreign odour; and
- d) have characteristic taste and free of foreign taste.

4.3 Specific quality requirements

Potable spirits shall comply with the quality requirements specified in Table 1.

Table 1 — Quality requirements for potable spirit

Characteristics	Requirements	Test method
Alcohol, percent by volume at 20 °C, min.	35	EAS 104
Acidity, as acetic acid, mg/L absolute alcohol, max	12	
Aldehydes (as acetaldehyde), mg/L, max.	5	
Methanol content, mg/L, max.	50	
Higher alcohol (fusel oil) as amyl alcohol mg/L of absolute alcohol, max	30	

6 Food additives

Food additives may be used in the preparation of potable spirit in accordance with CODEX STAN 192.

7 Hygiene

Potable spirit shall be manufactured and handled in a hygienic manner in accordance with EAS 39.

8 Weights and measures

The volume and fill of potable spirit shall comply with the weights and measures regulations of Partner States or equivalent legislation

9 Packaging

9.1 Potable spirit shall be packaged in suitable food grade containers.

9.2 Potable spirit shall be packaged for bulk delivery and storage in containers that shall prevent contamination of the product and preserve its safety and quality.

10 Labelling

In addition to the requirements of EAS 38, the following specific labelling requirements shall apply and shall be legibly and indelibly marked:

- a) common name as 'Potable spirit';
- b) name, physical location and address of manufacturer;_importer/bottler
- c) ethyl alcohol content, % by volume;
- d) net content;
- e) batch identification number/code;
- f) country of origin ; and
- g) statutory warnings.

11 Sampling and test

Sampling and testing of potable spirit shall be done in accordance with EAS 104.

Bibliography

ES 8M 3 -250 -1974, *Spirits – Specification*

