



28 February 2016

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
Wellington  
[tnd@mfat.govt.nz](mailto:tnd@mfat.govt.nz)

To whom it may concern

**Spirits New Zealand – Submission on Proposed EU FTA**

Spirits New Zealand (SNZ) is the national trade organisation representing New Zealand's leading producers, distributors, brand owners, importers and exporters of premium spirits and spirit-based drinks. Spirits NZ represents over 96% of spirit industry interests in New Zealand.

Our members are Bacardi, Beam Suntory, Brown-Forman, Diageo, Hancocks, Independent Liquor, Lion, Moet-Hennessy and Pernod Ricard. In addition we have three associate members who are Anchor Ethanol, EuroVintage and Federal Merchants.

SNZ wholeheartedly supports the negotiation of a free trade agreement with the European Union. We note that our last trade arrangements were set over 30 years ago.

As the world's largest trading entity and NZ's third largest trading partner it would seem to be an obvious step to commence FTA negotiations in line with other FTAs negotiated by both parties. In particular the recently signed Trans Pacific Partnership contains a separate annex (Annex 8-A Wine and Distilled Spirits under Chapter 8: Technical Barriers to Trade) for wine and spirits.

SNZ asks that government negotiators pursue the development of a similar annex – or at least similar notional TBT relief – as contained in Annex 8-A of the TPP agreement.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Brewer', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chief Executive