

30 March 2017

## **International Council of Beverages Associations' Statement Regarding Benzoates**

Today the International Council of Beverages Associations released the following statement regarding recent misinformation about benzoates in beverages:

"Ingredient and product safety is of the utmost importance to our consumers and our members. We diligently follow and respect the authority of national food safety and standard setting bodies. Regulatory agencies around the globe have found that benzoate use in beverages does not present a safety concern to consumers. Benzoates are naturally occurring in some berries and used as preservatives in a wide range of food and drinks."

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The International Council of Beverages Associations (ICBA) is an international nongovernmental organization established in 1995 that represents the interests of the worldwide non-alcoholic beverage industry. The members of ICBA include national and regional beverage associations, as well as international beverage companies that operate in more than 200 countries and territories and produce, distribute, and sell a variety of non-alcoholic sparkling and still beverages, including soft drinks, sports drinks, energy drinks, bottled waters, flavored and/or enhanced waters, ready-to-drink teas and coffees, 100% fruit or vegetable juices, nectars and juice drinks, and dairy-based beverages. For media inquiries please contact ICBA's media line at +1 (202) 463-6739 or icba@icba-net.org.