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French cooperatives say France is nearing a decree on wine producer organizations

The measure would create a formal framework for collective action in the wine sector, though disputes over eligibility and funding remain.

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French wine cooperatives expect the government to publish a decree on the recognition of wine producer organizations before the end of 2026, a step they say is moving closer after months of discussion over the rules that would apply to the sector.

The update was reported Wednesday by Agra, which said Vignerons Coopérateurs de France believes the draft decree is now advancing toward completion. The issue had already been raised publicly on April 23, when Annie Genevard referred to the project during the congress of the Cnaoc, the group that represents winegrowers producing appellation wines.

The planned decree would set the framework for recognizing producer organizations in the French wine industry. Those organizations, often referred to in Europe as OPs, are meant to give growers a formal structure for acting collectively within rules set by French and European law. In practice, that can include coordinating production, organizing supply, improving marketing, and strengthening dialogue within the supply chain, although the exact scope depends on the final legal text and the conditions attached to recognition.

According to the account relayed by Agra, talks are still continuing on key points of the decree. Those discussions include the requirements that wine groups would have to meet in order to obtain recognition and the question of contributions linked to the system. No final text has been published yet, and the government has not announced a precise adoption date beyond the expectation that it could come before the end of 2026.

For French cooperatives, the decree has been awaited for some time because wine has not had the same operational framework for producer organizations that exists in some other farm sectors. Recognition matters because it can determine which groups are allowed to organize collectively under an official status and what tools they may use once recognized. The final wording will therefore be closely watched by cooperatives, independent growers, trade groups, and other parts of the industry.

The timing is important for the drinks business more broadly because wine producers are operating in a difficult market environment marked by weak demand in some categories and pressure on margins. If the decree gives producers a clearer legal path

to organize supply and negotiate collectively where the rules allow, it could improve their ability to manage volumes and defend prices. That potential effect is one reason the measure is being followed beyond the farm gate, including by companies involved in wine distribution and other beverage markets.

The reference made by Genevard in April had signaled that the government was at least considering a dedicated text for the wine sector. The latest indication from Vignerons Coopérateurs de France suggests that work has continued since then, even if the remaining points under negotiation show that the process is not finished. Until the decree is published, many practical questions will remain open, including which entities will qualify, how representative they must be, and what obligations will come with official recognition.

France’s cooperative wine sector has a central role in national production, which is why its position carries weight in the debate. A decree that is too restrictive could limit the number of groups able to apply, while one that is too broad could raise concerns about governance, funding, or competition. That balance appears to be at the center of the current talks.

Neither the brief report cited by Agra nor the public comments referenced in it provided the full details of the draft text. But the message from the cooperatives was clear: after a period of uncertainty, they now expect the government to deliver a decree on wine producer organizations by the end of 2026.