

SANCO/10234/2013

Programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of certain animal diseases and zoonoses

Eradication and monitoring programme for Bluetongue

Slovenia

Approved* for 2013 by Commission Decision 2012/761/EU

* in accordance with Council Decision 2009/470/EC

version: 2.2

1. Identification of the programme

Member state :	SLOVENIJA
Disease	Bluetongue in endemic or high risk areas
Species :	Bovines and sheep and goats
This program is multi annual	:no
Request of Union co-financing from beginning of:	2013

version: 2.2

1.1 Contact

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2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease

Provide a concise description on the target population (species, number of herds and animals present and under the programme), the main measures (sampling and testing regimes, eradication measures applied, qualification of herds and animals, vaccination schemes) and the main results (incidents, prevalence, qualification of herds and animals). The information is given for distinct periods if the measures were substantially modified. The information is documented by relevant summary epidemiological tables (point 6), complemented by graphs or maps (to be attached).

(max. 32000 chars):

The disease has never been detected in Slovenia. In the frame of entomological surveillance presence of Culicoides midges was established. Current situation in the EU and neighbouring countries shows is rather favorable. The monitoring programme was implemented in 2005 for the first time and continued in the following years. In 2005 and 2006 serological testing was limited to the bordering regions with Croatia and Italy where bluetongue had occurred. Due to the BT situation in NW Europe a BT sero-surveillance and entomological surveillance in line with Commission Regulation (EC) No 1266/2007 of 26 October 2007 on implementing rules for Council Directive 2000/75/EC as regards the control, monitoring, surveillance and restrictions on movements of certain animals of susceptible species in relation to bluetongue (hereinafter referred to as: Regulation 1266/2007/EC) has been carrying out on the whole territory of Slovenia since 2007.

3. Description of the submitted programme

Provide a concise description of the programme with its main objective(s) (monitoring, control, eradication, qualification of herds and/or regions, reducing prevalence and incidence), the main measures (sampling and testing regimes, eradication measures to be applied, qualification of herds and animals, vaccination schemes), the target animal population, the area(s) of implementation and the definition of a positive case.

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(max. 32000 chars):

Entomology of vectors and active laboratory-based surveillance as well as passive surveillance are in line with EU requirements set out in Annex I of Commission Regulation 1266/2007 (hereinafter referred to as: Regulation 1266/2007/EC).

The programme consists of:

- 1. Passive surveillance: a formal and ongoing system aimed at detecting and investigating suspicions of bluetongue including an early warning system for reporting suspicious cases. Owners of animals as well as veterinarians must report promptly any suspicion of bluetongue to the competent authority. All suspected cases of bluetongue must be investigated immediately by the competent authority in order to confirm or rule out any outbreak of bluetongue. Disease awareness campaigns are put in place and enable veterinarians and farmers in identifying clinical signs of the disease.
- 2. Active laboratory-based surveillance consists of serological testing of susceptible population (bovines and small ruminants) aimed at detecting evidence of the bluetongue virus transmission through random sampling.

Sample size is designed in such way that samples are representative of the susceptible population. Slovenia is divided into 10 regions, which correspond to geographical areas as defined in Council Directive 64/432/EEC of 26 June 1964 on animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals and swine (hereinafter referred to as: Directive 64/432/EEC). In each of 10 regions, 14 herds will be randomly selected, as to detect a prevalence of 20 % with 95 % confidence in the population of susceptible animals and a representative sample of susceptible animals in these herds will be tested.

Samples will be taken once per year in the period when infection or seroconversion is most likely to be detected. According to the results of enthomological surveillance samples will be taken in the second half of the year.

- 3. Entomological surveillance consists of active annual program of vector catching aimed at gathering information on the proven and potential vector species, their distribution and seasonal profiles. One permanent trap per each region as defined in Directive 64/432/EEC is foreseen. These regions also correspond to geographical areas as defined in the above mentioned document. In addition 6 mobile traps will be used. It is foreseen that approximately 230 samples will be taken during the year.
- 4. Vaccination of susceptible species is the foreseen scenario in the case of an outbreak and circulation of BTV in the country or in the bordering regions of member states or third countries. In such a case, vaccination of susceptible animals will be implemented.

4. Measures of the submitted programme

4.1 Summary of measures under the programme

	Duration of the programme :	2013
First y	year:	
Со	ontrol	
⊠ Te	sting	

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Slaughter and animals tested positive
☐ Killing of animals tested positive
∀accination
Treatment
☐ Disposal of products
□ Eradication, control or monitoring

4.2 Organisation, supervision and role of all stakeholders involved in the programme

Describe the authorities in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme and the different operators involved. Descrive the responsabilities of all involved.

(max. 32000 chars):

Veterinary Administration of Slovenia (hereinafter referred to as: VARS) is in charge of the implementation of the programme. The supervision and control of the programme is conducted through VARS Regional Offices that are competent for the respective regions. Private veterinarians with concession are obliged to take samples and submit them to the designated regional laboratory of the University of Ljubljana, Veterinary faculty, National Veterinary Institute (hereinafter referred to as: NVI). Every year, the minister, responsible for the veterinary sector, issues the Decree on the compulsory programmes of monitoring, surveillance and eradication of diseases, and on vaccination programmes,

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which are to be carried out during a particular year. For the implementation of these Rules, VARS (CA) prepares the compulsory instructions, laying down the methods of implementation, operators, and methods of informing and reporting on the progress made in carrying out such programmes. For the purposes of conducting operations under the above Rules, veterinary practitioners have in place the relevant concession agreements with VARS, authorizing them for implementing operations for the State. Such a concession agreement covers inter alia animal health checks, animal identification, veterinary examinations, animal registration and identification data entering into the Central Register, eradication of animal diseases, basic diagnostics, carrying out activities under the Rules on the implementation of monitoring and vaccination, and animal welfare activities.

For the purposes of implementing the above programmes and animal health monitoring, VARS has set up the information technology system called CIS VURS EPI, which enables the traceability of samples from the point of sampling to a final assessment of test results. Vaccination data are entered into the database. In case of bovine animals, such data are linked to the ear-tag numbers, and in case of small ruminants, such data will be linked to holdings.

VARS as CA carries out two types of controls of activities conducted by veterinary practitioners holding concession agreements. The first type of control is linked to the implementation of the concession agreement, and the other type to the implementation of tasks laid down in the above Rules. To this end, the annual programme of controls has been drawn up and is implemented by VARS Regional Offices (ROs). The programme specifies the types, frequency and methods of implementation of controls. According to the concession agreement and the above Rules, vaccination against BT will be within the responsibility of veterinary practitioners holding such a concession agreement. Data entry into the CIS VURS EPI database on the implementation of vaccination within the vaccination scheme will be obligatory. Thus, all the animals and holdings vaccinated against BT will duly be registered and identified.

4.3 Description and demarcation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be implemented

Describe the name and denomination, the administrative boundaries, and the surface of the administrative and geographical areas in which the programme is to be applied. Illustrate with maps.

(max. 32000 chars):

The entire territory of the Republic of Slovenia extends over an area of 20,273 square kilometres, and is divided into 10 Regional Offices of VARS (regions as defined in Directive 64/432/EEC) for the needs of operations of veterinary inspection services. Serological and entomological surveillance will be carried out on the entire territory of the Republic of Slovenia.

4.4 Description of the measures of the programme

A comprehensive description needs to be provided of all measures unless reference can be made to Union legislation. The national legislation in which the measures are laid down is mentioned.

4.4.1 Notification of the disease

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(max. 32000 chars):

On the basis of the Rules on animal diseases (Ur. I. RS, št. 81/07, 24/10) which transpose Council Directive 82/894/EEC of 21 December 1982 on the notification of animal diseases within the Community and partially also Council Directive 2000/75/EC of 20 November 2000 laying down specific provisions for the control and eradication of bluetongue, bluetongue (BT) is a compulsory notifiable disease. When the presence of a BT is suspected, the veterinary organiszation having established the suspicion shall immediately notify thereof by telephone and by fax, on a form that must include the prescribed data, the Main Office of VARS (hereinafter referred to as: VARS HQ) which, in turn, shall immediately convene a meeting of the NDCC members. The VARS HQ shall provide for a 24-hour service line for these purposes.

The designated laboratory shall immediately communicate the results of diagnostic investigations by telephone (via the 24-hour service line) and by fax or e-mail to the VARS HQ.

VARS HQ must notify the disease immediately or no later than within 24 hours to the International Office of Epizootic Diseases – OIE, the European Commission, and the competent veterinary authorities of all neighbouring countries. Notification shall include all the information required, and it shall be faxed or mailed or forwarded by the ADNS system.

4.4.2 Target animals and animal population

(max. 32000 chars):

Target animals are bovine animals and small ruminants.

Bovine population size: 35.225 holdings with 457.634 animals (on 31 December 2011).

Small ruminant population size: 7.708 holdings with 155.206 animals (on 31 December 2011).

4.4.3 Identification of animals and registration of holdings

(max. 32000 chars):

Veterinary Compliance Criteria Act (Ur. I. RS, no. 93/05)

Rules on the identification and registration of cattle (Ur. I. RS, no. 16/03)

The Veterinary Compliance Criteria Act is laying down in Articles 7 and 11 that stables under the veterinary control must be registered with the VARS, on the basis of a decision issued within the administrative procedure. Legal and natural persons involved in the breeding activity must report any changes regarding animals, facilities or other changes to the nearest veterinary organisation that is keeping the register of establishments and animals, and notify thereof the VARS.

Animal Identification and Registration Service (hereinafter referred to as: ISR) keeps a register of breeding/rearing establishments in the Republic of Slovenia. Each holding is identified on the basis of a unique KMG – MID, an identification number that defines the location of holding. It shall be obtained by each holding, when entered in the register of agricultural holdings.

Rules on the identification and registration of cattle (Ur. I. RS, no. 16/03)

By adopting the Rules on the identification and registration of bovine animals, the Republic of Slovenia has fully transposed Regulation (EC) No. 1760/2000 establishing a system for the identification and registration of bovine animals and regarding the labelling of beef and beef products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No. 820/97 (hereinafter referred to as: Regulation 1760/2000), into the Slovenian

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legal order in the sector of identification of bovine animals. The Rules are laying down the methods of identification and registration of bovine animals, monitoring of movements of bovine animals, register of bovine animals at the holding (hereinafter referred to as: RBH), bovine passport (hereinafter referred to as: passport), CRBA, ear tag, and the methods of ordering and supply of ear tags, tasks of public services in the field of identification and registration of bovine animals, and the control of implementation of provisions of these Rules.

Rules on the identification and registration of ovine and caprine animals (Ur. I. RS, no. 75/10) By adopting the Rules on the identification and registration of ovine and caprine animals, the Republic of Slovenia has fully transposed Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 of 17 December 2003 establishing a system for the identification and registration of ovine and caprine animals and amending Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 and Directives 92/102/EEC and 64/432/EEC (hereinafter referred to as: Regulation 21/2004), into the Slovenian legal order in the sector of identification of ovine and caprine animals (hereinafter referred to as: small ruminants). The Rules are laying down the methods of identification and registration of small ruminants, monitoring of movements of small ruminants, register of small ruminants at the holding (hereinafter referred to as: register), Central register of ovine and caprine animals, ear tags and the methods of ordering and supply of ear tags, registration of owners in the database of animal owners, tasks of public services in the field of identification and registration of small ruminants and the control of implementation of provisions of these Rules.

4.4.4 Qualifications of animals and herds

(max. 32000 chars) :		
Not relevant		

4.4.5 Rules of the movement of animals

(max. 32000 chars):

Rules on measures for the detection, prevention and suppression of bluetongue (Ur. I. RS, no. 23/04) According to the above mentioned rules, all animals suspected to be infected with bluetongue are not allowed to be moved neither in the holding nor from the holding, until the disease is officially ruled out or confirmed.

In the Republic of Slovenia, animals must be identified in accordance with the prescribed identification methods. All movements of bovine animals and small ruminants are recorded in the CRBA and CROCA established in accordance with the provisions of the Regulation (EC) No. 1760/2000 and Regulation No. 21/2004.

Until 2006, animals moved within the country were accompanied by the prescribed veterinary certificate, on which basis their state of health was verified, certifying that in the place of origin of the animals a certain contagious animal disease transmissible by the relevant animal species has not been detected. In 2006, veterinary certificates for movements inside the territory of Slovenia were abolished. Only in exceptional cases VARS may require the provision of a veterinary certificate for movements in the territory of RS, where so required in order to protect public and animal health or where required by

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Community rules.

Movements of the sick and injured animals to the slaughterhouse shall be carried out on the basis of a veterinary referral form only. The holder of animals shall obtain the prescribed veterinary referral form also for animals intended for transport to a slaughterhouse, from the stables with an unverified or suspect epidemiological situation.

For Intra-community trade the provisions of Council Directives 90/425/EEC, 64/432/EEC and 91/68/EEC have been enforced since 1st May 2004, when Slovenia became a member of EU.

4.4.6 Tests used and sampling schemes

(max. 32000 chars):

Tests to be used in the frame of the programme: AB ELISAs, RT-qPCR, tests for determination of vectors.

4.4.7 Vaccines used and vaccination schemes

(max. 32000 chars):

Vaccination scheme and vaccines will be determined depending on the location of the outbreak (within the country, in other MS or TC) and type of BTV.

4.4.8 Information and assessment on bio-security measures management and infrastructure in place in the holdings involved.

(max. 32000 chars):

A good biosecurity regime should always be in place to improve farm efficiency, protect neighbouring farms and the countryside, and safeguard animal and human health.

Biosecurity measures are taken as routine especially on bigger holdings.

Reduce where possible the movements of people, vehicles or equipment into areas where farm animals are kept and by this to minimise potential contamination with manure, slurry and other products that could carry disease.

Veterinarians taking samples should (direct contact with farm animals occurs) cleanse and disinfect protective clothing, footwear, equipment, vehicles before and after contact, or where practicable use disposable protective clothing.

4.4.9 Measures in case of a positive result

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A short description is provided of the measures as regards positive animals (slaughter, destination of carcasses, use or treatment of animal products, the destruction of all products which could transmit the disease or the treatment of such products to avoid any possible contamination, a procedure for the disinfection of infected holdings, the therapeutic or preventive treatment chosen, a procedure for the restocking with healthy animals of holdings which have been depopulated by slaughter and the creation of a surveillance zone around infected holding)

(max. 32000 chars):

Rules on measures for the detection, prevention and suppression of bluetongue (Ur. I. RS, no. 23/04) Article 6 (Measures on confirmation of bluetongue)

- 1. When the presence of bluetongue is officially confirmed, the official veterinarian shall, in addition to measures under paragraph 3 of Article 4 of these Rules, require to be carried out and/or carry out the following measures:
- a. slaughter of animals so as to avoid the spread of disease. VARS shall notify the European Commission of each measure taken;
- b. harmless disposal of dead animal carcasses and diseased animals in accordance with the Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council;
- c. measures under Article 4 of these Rules shall be extended to holdings situated within a radius of 20 kilometres (infected zone included) around the infected holding;
- d. appropriate measures adopted within the framework of the Standing Veterinary Committee within the European Commission (hereinafter referred to as: Standing Veterinary Committee); should VARS decide to take the initiative of starting a preventive vaccination programme against bluetongue, it must notify the European Commission accordingly;
- e. epizootiological investigation in accordance with Article 7 of these Rules.

Article 7 (Epizootiological investigation)

- 1. On the basis of questionnaires prepared within the Contingency Plan for the case of an outbreak of bluetongue, the veterinarian shall carry out the epizootiological investigation concerning the suspect cases or outbreaks of bluetongue, which must include the following data:
- a. duration of the period for which bluetongue may have been present at the holding;
- b. possible origin of bluetongue at the holding and the identification of other holdings which have animals that may have been infected or contaminated from the same source;
- c. presence and distribution of vectors of the disease;
- d. movements of animals from or to the holdings in question or any departure of animal carcases from those holdings.

Article 8 (Protection zone and surveillance zone)

1. Immediately upon official confirmation of disease, the official veterinarian must, in addition of measures under Article 6 of these Rules, determine the borders of the protection zone having the radius of at least 100 kilometres around the infected holding, and of the surveillance zone with a depth of at least 50 kilometres extending beyond the limits of the protection zone, and in which no vaccination has been carried out during the previous twelve months. The geographical, administrative, ecological and epizootiological factors connected with bluetongue and the control arrangements must be taken into account.

Measures to be implemented in restruiction zone (protection and surveillance zones) are in compliance with the Directive 2000/75/EC and Commission regulation 1266/2007/EC.

4.4.10 Compensation scheme for owners of slaughtered and killed animals

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(max. 32000 chars):

Veterinary Practice Act (Ur. I. RS, št. 33/01, 45/04)

Rules on the compensations in the veterinary field (Ur. I. RS, št. 105/07)

A specific appraising commission shall assess animals prior to slaughter. Compensation shall be determined on the basis of market value of animal. Animal holder shall be paid the compensation, when he has immediately reported the suspicion or outbreak of disease, when all the diagnostic and other investigations of animal have been carried out, and when he has complied with any other prescribed and imposed measures for the prevention and suppression of disease.

Compensation payment procedure shall be instituted on the request of animal holder, who submits an application with the relevant Regional Office of the VARS.

Diagnostic investigation costs, the difference between the slaughter and breeding value, compensation for items and raw materials shall be covered from the national budget of the Republic of Slovenia.

4.4.11 Control on the implementation of the programme and reporting

(max. 32000 chars):

The control over the implementation is carried out by the official veterinarians in accordance with Annual working plan.

Reporting is done in accordance with the Council Decision 2009/470/EC.

5. Benefits of the programme

A description is provided of the benefits for farmers and society in general

(max. 32000 chars):

The main benefit would be early detection of possible presence of the disease and by this reduction of possible consequences and costs.

Data on the epidemiological evolution during the last five years

9

Data already submitted via the online system for the years 2007 - 2010:

yes

Evolution of the disease

6.1

○ Not applicable

Evolution of the disease:

icable OApplicable...

Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2

Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests for year: 6.2.1

7011

Region	Animal Species	Test Tyne	Test Description	Number of samples	Number of positive samples	
		odí, so,			2019	
SLOVENIJA Bovine	Bovine	serological test	AB ELISA	1 552	(9)	×
SLOVENIJA Bovine	Bovine	microbiological or virological te: RT-qPCR	RT-qPCR	81	0	×
SLOVENIJA	SLOVENIJA Sheep and Goats	serological test	AB ELISA	3 820	54	×
SLOVENIJA	SLOVENIJA Sheep and Goats	microbiological or virological tes RT-qPCR	RT-qPCR	52	0	×
SLOVENIJA Vectors	Vectors	other test	Vector determination	189	189	×
Total				5 694		
				ADD A NEW ROW	EW ROW	

Data on infection

6.3

Data on infection

○ Not applicable

Data on the status of herds

6.4

Data on the status of herds: \bigcirc Not applicable

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the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring	
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Data on vaccination or treatment programmes 6.5

○ Not applicable Data on vaccination or treatment programmes is

○ Applicable...

Data on wildlife

9.9

Not applicable

Data on Wildlife is:

7. Targets

The blocks 7.1.1, 7.1.2.1, 7.1.2.2, 7.2, 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 are repeated multiple times in case of first year submission of multiple program.

Targets related to testing (one table for each year of implementation) 7.1

7.1.1 Targets on diagnostic tests for year:

2013

	×	×	×	×	×		
Number of planned tests	1 400	250	4 470	400	230	6 750	wo.
Objective	surveillance	confirmation of suspected cases	surveillance	confirmation of suspected cases	surveillance	Total	Add a new row
Type of sample	poold	poold	poold	poold	vectors		
Target population	Bovines	Bovines	Sheep and goat	Sheep and goat	Vectors		
Type of the test	AB ELISA	RT - qPCR	AB ELISA	RT -qPCR	Vector determination		
Region	SLOVENIJA	SLOVENIJA	SLOVENIJA	SLOVENIJA	SLOVENIJA		

7.1.2 Targets on testing herds and animals

7.1.2.1 Targets on testing herds

○ Not applicable

○ Applicable...

7.1.2.1 Targets on the testing of herds for year:

2013

Total number of Number of Total number of herds under the herds expected herds programme to be checked
140 140
149
289 289

7.1.2.2 Targets on testing animals

○ Not applicable

○ Applicable...

7.1.2.2 Targets on the testing of animals for year:

2013

		×	×		
dicators	% positive animals (Expected animal prevalence)	0	0	0	W
Target indicators	Expected % coverage at animal level	100	100	100	Add a new row
tering	Total number of animals expected to be slaughtered	0	0	0	Ad
Slaughtering	Number of animals with positive result expected to be slaughtered or culled	0	0	0	
	Number of expected positive animals	0	0	0	
	Number of Number of animals to be expected tested individually positive animals	1 400	4 470	5870	
	Number of animals expected to be tested	1 400	4 470	5 870	
	Number of Number of Total number animals under the animals expected of animals programme to be tested	1 400	4 470	5 870	
	Total number of animals	457 634	155 206	612 840	
	Species	Bovine	Sheep and goat		
	Region	SLOVENIJA	SLOVENIJA	Total	

Targets on qualification of herds and animals

Targets on qualification of herds and animals ONot applicable

7.3 Targets on vaccination or treatment

7.3.1 Targets on vaccination or treatment is ONot applicable

○Applicable...

○ Applicable... ○ Not applicable 7.3.2 Targets on vaccination or treatment of wildlife is

2013 Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme for year:

 ∞

The blocks are repeated multiple times in case of first year submission of multiple program.

1. Testing							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
Cost of analysis	Elisa (serum antibody detection)	Individual animal sample/test	5 870	10.58	62104,6 yes	yes	×
Cost of analysis	PCR (animal samples)	Individual animal sample/test	029	63.12	41028 yes	yes	×
Cost of analysis	Vector identification	Pooled sample test	230	188.72	43405,6 yes	yes	×
					Add a new row	row	
2. Vaccination or treatment							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
					Add a new row	row	
3. Slaughter and destruction							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
					Add a new row	row	
4. Cleaning and disinfection							

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

Community Continuity funding Unitary cost in EUR Total amount in EUR requested	Add a new row		Unitary cost in EUR Total amount in EUR requested	Add a new row		Unitary cost in EUR Total amount in EUR requested	Add a new row		Unitary cost in EUR Total amount in EUR requested	Add a new row	146 538,20 €
Unit Number of units			Unit Number of units			Unit Number of units			Unit Number of units		
Specification		r the programme only)	Specification		equipment	Specification			Specification		Total
Cost related to		5. Salaries (staff contracted for the programme only)	Cost related to		6. Consumables and specific equipment	Cost related to		7.Other costs	Cost related to		

Attachments

IMPORTANT:

- 1) The more files you attach, the longer it takes to upload them.
- 2) This attachment files should have one of the format listed here: zip, jpg, jpg, jpeg, tiff, tif, xls, doc, bmp, pna.
- 4) IT CAN TAKE SEVERAL MINUTES TO UPLOAD ALL THE ATTACHED FILES. Don't interrupt the uploading by closing the pdf and wait until you have received a 3) The total file size of the attached files should not exceed 2 500Kb (+- 2.5 Mb). You will receive a message while attaching when you try to load too much.
 - Submission Number!
- 5) Zip files cannot be opened (by clicking on the Open button). All other file formats can be opened.