



Brussels, 18.12.2015  
C(2015) 9573 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 18.12.2015**

**on the adoption of a financing decision regarding the Union financial contribution to emergency measures to combat lumpy skin disease in Greece in 2015 and establishing a stock of vaccines against lumpy skin disease**

## COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 18.12.2015

**on the adoption of a financing decision regarding the Union financial contribution to emergency measures to combat lumpy skin disease in Greece in 2015 and establishing a stock of vaccines against lumpy skin disease**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 652/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 laying down provisions for the management of expenditure relating to the food chain, animal health and animal welfare, and relating to plant health and plant reproductive material, amending Council Directives 98/56/EC, 2000/29/EC and 2008/90/EC, Regulations (EC) No 178/2002, (EC) No 882/2004 and (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Directive 2009/128/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Council Decisions 66/399/EEC, 76/894/EEC and 2009/470/EC<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 36(4) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Lumpy skin disease is a highly infectious viral disease of bovine animals that can be transmitted by insect vectors and which can have a severe impact on the profitability of cattle farming causing disturbance to trade within the Union and exports to third countries.
- (2) In the event of the occurrence of lumpy skin disease in a Member State, there is a risk that the disease agent may spread rapidly to other cattle holdings within that Member State, and also to other Member States and to third countries through vectors like insects and also through trade in live animals or their products.
- (3) Council Directive 92/119/EEC<sup>3</sup> lays down minimum Union measures for the control of lumpy skin disease that are to be taken by Member States in the event of the occurrence of that disease, as a matter of urgency, in order to prevent further spread of the virus and to eradicate the disease.
- (4) In accordance with Article 84 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the commitment of expenditure from the Union budget shall be preceded by a financing decision specifying the essential elements of the action involving expenditure and

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 189, 27.6.2014, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

<sup>3</sup> Council Directive 92/119/EEC of 17 December 1992 introducing Community measures for the control of certain animal diseases and specific measures relating to swine vesicular disease (OJ L 62, 15.3.1993, p. 69).

adopted by the institution or the authorities to which powers have been delegated by the institution. Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012<sup>4</sup> establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.

- (5) Article 6(1) of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014 provides that grants may be awarded to Member States up to defined maximum rates in respect of the measures taken as a result of the confirmation that one of the animal diseases listed pursuant to Article 7 of that Regulation has occurred, provided that the measures have been applied immediately and the applicable provisions laid down in the relevant Union law have been complied with.
- (6) In accordance with Article 5(2) of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014, the co-financing rate for Greece is increased to 75% of the eligible costs as for this Member State the gross national income per inhabitant based on the latest Eurostat data is less than 90% of the Union average.
- (7) Article 8(2) of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014 provides that costs shall be eligible from the date of notification of the occurrence of the disease by the Member States to the Commission. Such costs may also include costs incurred as a result of a suspected occurrence of such a disease, provided that that occurrence is subsequently confirmed.
- (8) Outbreaks of lumpy skin disease have occurred in Greece since 20 August 2015 and have been duly notified by the Greek authorities from 20 August 2015.
- (9) In accordance with Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014 Greece has undertaken the necessary eradication measures in accordance with Directive 92/119/EEC, including vaccination measures in order stop further spread of the disease.
- (10) The authorities of Greece have informed the Commission and the other Member States in the framework of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed of the eradication measures applied in accordance with the Union legislation, including vaccination measures against the disease in accordance with Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/1500 as amended, and the results thereof.
- (11) The Authorities of Greece have therefore fulfilled their obligations with regard to the measures provided for in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014.
- (12) Article 6(5) of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014 provides that a Union financial contribution may be awarded for the establishment of stocks of biological products or the acquisition of vaccines doses if the occurrence or the development in a third country or Member State of one of the animals diseases and zoonoses listed pursuant to Article 7 or 10 of that Regulation might constitute a threat to the Union.
- (13) In order to stop the further spread of the lumpy skin disease, it is necessary to establish a stock of vaccines against lumpy skin disease to support the swift implementation of vaccination measures against lumpy skin disease in Greece but also, if needed, in neighbouring countries or Member States.
- (14) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed,

---

<sup>4</sup> Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1).

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*  
*Objectives and expected results*

1. The objective of the action implemented by Greece is the protection of the animal health status of the Union.
2. The expected result is the eradication of lumpy skin disease in Greece and the avoidance of further spread of the disease.

*Article 2*  
*Award criteria for the grant towards emergency eradication measures implemented by Greece*

The award criteria are:

- (a) compliance with the requirements of Directive 92/119/EC;
- (b) relevance of the planned activities in view of eradication of the disease.

*Article 3*  
*Financial contribution by the Union towards emergency eradication measures implemented by Greece*

1. A maximum financial contribution by the Union of EUR 6 400 000 shall be granted to Greece for emergency eradication measures for the period from 20 August 2015 to 31 December 2015, to cover the costs listed in paragraph 3 to combat lumpy skin disease.
2. The financial contribution by the Union shall be financed from the following line of the general budget of the European Union for 2016: budget line 17.0404: EUR 19 000 000.
3. The financial contribution by the Union to Greece for the period from 20 August 2015 to 31 December 2015 shall be at the rate of 75% of the following eligible costs incurred in accordance with Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014:
  - (a) costs of compensation to owners for the value of their animals slaughtered or culled;
  - (b) costs of slaughtering or culling the animals and related transport costs;
  - (c) costs of compensation to owners for the value of their destroyed products of animal origin;
  - (d) costs of cleaning, desinsectisation and disinfection of holdings and equipment, based on the epidemiology and characteristics of the pathogen;
  - (e) costs for the transport and the destruction of the contaminated feeding stuffs and, where it cannot be disinfected, contaminated equipment;
  - (f) costs of purchase, storage, administration or distribution of vaccines as well as costs of inoculation itself;
  - (g) costs of transport and disposal of carcasses.

#### *Article 4*

##### *Financial contribution by the Union towards the establishment of a stock of vaccines against lumpy skin disease*

1. The decision to establish a stock of vaccines against lumpy skin disease is adopted.
2. The maximum financial contribution by the Union towards the establishment of a stock of vaccines against lumpy skin disease is set at EUR 500 000.
3. The financial contribution by the Union shall be financed from the following line of the general budget of the European Union for 2016: budget line 17.0404: EUR 19 000 000.

<b>Action</b>	<b>Type of contract</b>	<b>Estimated no of contracts</b>	<b>Indicative date</b>	<b>Indicative amount (in EUR)</b>
establishment of a stock of vaccines against lumpy skin disease	Call for tender/ direct service contract	1	1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2016	500 000

#### *Article 5*

##### *Financing Decision*

This Decision constitutes a financing decision in the meaning of Article 84 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

#### *Article 6*

##### *Flexibility Clause*

1. An increase of less than 20% of the maximum financial contribution by the Union referred to individually in Article 3(1) and Article 4(2) of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature and the objective of the action.
2. The authorising officer responsible may adopt the changes referred to in paragraph 1 in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 18.12.2015

*For the Commission*

*Vytėnis ANDRIUKAITIS*

*Member of the Commission*