



Brussels, 24.7.2015
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 24.7.2015

**on the adoption of the work programmes of the Commission for the years 2015 and 2016
and on the financing of the Union contribution to the European Union reference
laboratories**

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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/EC¹, and in particular Articles 30 and 36(1) 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 1605/2002², and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 32 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 lays down the requirements for and the responsibilities of the European Union (EU) reference laboratories.
- (2) In order to ensure implementation of the activities to be carried out by the EU reference laboratories, it is necessary to adopt the multiannual work programme for 2015 and 2016 and the corresponding financing decision. Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012³ establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (3) It is necessary to adopt a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.
- (4) Article 190(1)(d) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012⁴ lays down that grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to the bodies identified by a basic act, within the meaning of Article 54 of the Financial Regulation, as beneficiaries of a grant or to bodies designated by the Member States, under their

¹ OJ L 189, 27.6.2014, p. 1.

² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

³ 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).

⁴ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

responsibility, where those Member States are identified by a basic act as beneficiaries of a grant.

- (5) It is appropriate to authorise award of grants without a call for proposals to the bodies identified in the work programme and for the reasons provided therein.
- (6) The EU reference laboratories are to submit their annual work programmes for the years 2016 and 2017. Those work programmes should be in conformity with the objectives and priorities of the present work programme of the Commission. The award of the grants for those programmes is to be subject to their approval by the Commission.
- (7) The level of the annual Union financial support for the activity of the EU reference laboratories is decided on a yearly basis. Given the significance of the activities undertaken by the EU reference laboratories for the interest of the Union, those should be co-financed at the rate of 100% of eligible costs listed in Article 30 of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014, and within the limit of the amounts in the present Decision. Other costs not eligible but necessary to carry out the tasks will not be co-financed.
- (8) Annex VII to Regulation (EC) 882/2004 identifies six EU reference laboratories within the Joint Research Centre, which is a directorate-general of the Commission. The rules governing the Union financial aid for the Joint Research Centre are laid down in an annual administrative arrangement.
- (9) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme, it is appropriate to define the term 'substantial change' within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.
- (10) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The work programme

This Decision lays down a multiannual work programme for the years 2015 and 2016 in accordance with Article 36(1) of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014 and provides the basis for the annual work programmes of the European Union reference laboratories to be implemented in the years 2016 and 2017.

The multiannual work programme for the implementation of Union co-funded programmes of the European reference laboratories for the years 2016 and 2017 as set out in the Annex is adopted.

This work programme constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 for actions funded from appropriations of 2015 for an amount of EUR 16 000 000 and from appropriations of 2016 for an amount of EUR 16 500 000.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum contribution for the implementation of the Commission work programme for the year 2015 is set at EUR 16 000 000 and for the year 2016 at EUR 16 500 000, and shall be

financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the European Union:

budget line 17. 0403.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft general budget of the Union for 2016, following the adoption of the budget by the budgetary authority, or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

Article 3
Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20 % of the maximum contribution set in Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme. The increase of the maximum contribution set in Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20 %.

In implementing this decision, the authorising officer responsible may apply the type of changes referred to in the first paragraph in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Article 4
Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to the bodies identified in the Annex, in accordance with the conditions specified therein.

Done at Brussels, 24.7.2015

For the Commission
Vytenis ANDRIUKAITIS
Member of the Commission

