COMMISSION DECISION

of 29 May 1996

on financial assistance from the Community for storage in the United Kingdom of antigen for production of foot-and-mouth disease vaccine

(Only the English text is authentic)

(96/353/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Decision 90/424/EEC of 26 June 1990 on expenditure in the veterinary field [1], as last amended by Commission Decision 94/370/EC [2], and in particular Article 14 thereof,

Whereas by virtue of Council Decision 91/666/EEC of 11 December 1991 establishing Community reserves of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines [3], establishment of antigen banks is part of the Community's action to create Community reserves of foot-and-mouth vaccine;

Whereas Article 3 of that Decision designates the Institute for Animal Health at Pirbright in the United Kingdom as an antigen bank holding Community reserves;

Whereas the functions and duties of these antigen banks are specified in Article 4 of that Decision; whereas Community assistance must be conditional on accomplishment of these;

Whereas Community financial assistance should be granted to these banks to enable them to carry out the said functions and duties;

Whereas for budgetary reasons the Community assistance should be granted for a period of one year;

Whereas for supervisory purposes Articles 8 and 9 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 of 21 April 1970 on financing of the common agricultural policy [4], as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2048/88 [5], should apply;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Community shall grant the United Kingdom financial assistance for the stocking of antigen for production of foot-and-mouth disease vaccine.

Article 2

The Institute for Animal Health at Pirbright in the United Kingdom shall hold the stock of antigen to which Article 1 relates. The provisions of Article 4 of Council Decision 91/666/EEC shall apply.

Article 3

The Community's financial assistance shall be a maximum of ECU 60 000 for the period 1 August 1995 to 31 July 1996.

Article 4

The Community's financial assistance shall be paid as follows:

— 70 % by way of an advance at the United Kingdom's request,

— the balance following presentation by the United Kingdom of supporting documents, which demonstrate the effective completion of the tasks. These documents must be presented before 1 October 1996.

Article 5

Articles 8 and 9 of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

[1] OJ No L 224, 18. 8. 1990, p. 19.
[2] OJ No L 168, 2. 7. 1994, p. 31.
[3] OJ No L 368, 31. 12. 1991, p. 21.
[4] OJ No L 94, 28. 4. 1970, p. 13.
[5] OJ No L 185, 15. 7. 1988, p. 1.

Article 6

This Decision is addressed to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Done at Brussels, 29 May 1996.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission