II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 4 September 1996

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

(Only the Italian text is authentic)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(96/534/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 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 'Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale di Brescia' in Italy 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 (EC) No 1287/95 [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 Italy financial assistance for the stocking of antigen for production of foot-and-mouth disease vaccine.

Article 2

The 'Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale di Brescia' in Italy shall hold the stock of antigen to which Article 1 relates. The provisions of Article 4 of Council Decision 91/666/EEC shall apply.

[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 125, 8. 6. 1995, p. 1.

Article 3

The Community's financial assistance shall be a maximum of ECU 70 000 for the period 1 August 1996 to 31 July 1997.

Article 4

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

— 70 % by way of an advance at Italy's request,

— the balance following presentation of supporting documents.

These documents must be presented before 1 October 1997.

Article 5

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

Article 6

This Decision is addressed to Italy.

Done at Brussels, 4 September 1996.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission