COMMISSION DECISION

of 12 January 1996

on financial aid from the Community for the operation of the Community Reference Laboratory for avian influenza (Central Veterinary Laboratory, Addlestone, United Kingdom)

(Only the English text is authentic)

(96/99/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 28 (2) thereof,

Whereas Annex V to Council Directive 92/40/EEC of 19 May 1992 introducing Community measures for the control of avian influenza [3], as last amended by the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden, designates the Central Veterinary Laboratory, Addlestone, United Kingdom as the Community Reference Laboratory for avian influenza;

Whereas all the functions and duties which the laboratory has to perform are specified in Annex V to Council Directive 92/40/EEC; whereas Community assistance must be conditional on the accomplishment of those functions and duties by the laboratory;

Whereas Community financial aid should be granted to the Community Reference Laboratory to assist it in carrying out the said functions and duties;

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

Whereas, for supervisory purposes, Article 8 and 9 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 of 21 April 1970 on the 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 hereby grants financial assistance to the United Kingdom for the functions and duties to be carried out by the Community Reference Laboratory for avian influenza referred to in Annex V to Directive 92/40/EEC.

Article 2

The Central Veterinary Laboratory, Addlestone, United Kingdom shall perform the functions and duties referred to in Article 1.

Article 3

The Community's financial assistance shall amount to a maximum of ECU 80 000 for the period from 1 January to 31 December 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 of supporting documents by the United Kingdom. Those documents must be presented before 1 March 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 the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Done at Brussels, 12 January 1996.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

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[1] OJ No L 224, 18. 8. 1990, p. 19.
[2] OJ No L 168, 2. 7. 1994, p. 31.
[3] OJ No L 167, 22. 6. 1992, p. 1.
[4] OJ No L 94, 28. 4. 1970, p. 13.
[5] OJ No L 185, 15. 7. 1988, p. 1.