COMMISSION DECISION

of 18 December 1996

on financial aid from the Community for the operation of the Community Reference Laboratory for salmonella (Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieuhygiëne, Bilthoven, Netherlands)

(Only the Dutch text is authentic)

(97/32/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 Chapter I of Annex IV to Council Directive 92/117/EEC of 17 December 1992 concerning measures for protection against specified zoonoses and specified zoonotic agents in animals and products of animal origin in order to prevent outbreaks of food-borne infections and intoxications [3], as last amended by the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden, designates the Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieuhygiëne, Bilthoven, The Netherlands as the Community Reference Laboratory for salmonella;

Whereas all the functions and duties which the laboratory has to perform are specified in Chapter II of Annex IV to the abovementioned Directive; 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 financial aid is to be granted for a period of nine months staring on 1 April 1996; whereas the reason for choosing that date is the need to take into account the work done by the laboratory from the said date and to assess its capacity for carrying out the work efficiently;

Whereas, for supervisory purposes, Articles 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 Netherlands for the functions and duties to be carried out by the Community Reference Laboratory for salmonella referred to in Chapter II of Annex IV to Directive 92/117/EEC.

Article 2

The Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieuhygiëne, Bilthoven, Netherlands, 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 75 000 for the period 1 April to 31 December 1996.

Article 4

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

— 70 % by way of an advance at the Netherlands' request,

— the balance following presentation of supporting documents by the Netherlands. Those documents must be presented before 1 March 1997.

Article 5

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

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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 62, 15. 3. 1993, p. 38.
[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 Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Done at Brussels, 18 December 1996.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission