COMMISSION DECISION

of 11 September 2007

on the Community's financial contribution to a programme for the control of organisms harmful to plants and plant products in the French overseas departments for 2007

(notified under document number C(2007) 4147)

(Only the French text is authentic)

(2007/610/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 247/2006 of 30 January 2006 laying down specific measures for agriculture in the outermost regions of the Union [1] and in particular the first sentence of the first subparagraph of Article 17(3),

Whereas:

(1) Growing conditions in the French overseas departments require special measures concerning crop production. Those measures include expensive plant health measures.

(2) Commission Decision 2007/609/EC of 10 September 2007 on the definition of the measures eligible for Community financing in the programmes for the control of organisms harmful to plants and plant products in the French overseas departments, in the Azores and in Madeira [2] defines the measures eligible for Community financing under programmes for the control of organisms harmful to plants and plant products in the French overseas departments, the Azores and Madeira.

(3) The French authorities have submitted to the Commission a programme providing for plant health measures. That programme specifies the objectives to be achieved, the expected deliverables, the measures to be carried out, their duration and their cost with a view to a possible Community financial contribution. The measures provided for in that programme fulfill the requirements of Commission Decision 2007/609/EC.

(4) In accordance with Article 3(2)(a) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1290/2005 of 21 June 2005 on the financing of the common agricultural policy [3], plant-health measures are to be financed from the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund. For the purposes of financial control of those measures Articles 9, 36 and 37 of that Regulation apply.

(5) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plant Health,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

A Community financial contribution to France for the official programme for the control of organisms harmful to plants and plant products in the French overseas departments for 2007, as specified in Part A of the Annex, is approved.

It shall be limited to 60 % of the total eligible expenditure, as specified in Part B of the Annex, with a maximum of EUR 224 700 (VAT excluded).

Article 2

1. An advance of EUR 100 000 shall be paid within 60 days after receipt of a request for payment by France.

2. The balance of the financial contribution shall be paid provided that a final implementation report on the programme is submitted to the Commission in electronic form by 15 March 2008 at the latest.

That report shall contain:

(a) a concise technical evaluation of the entire programme, including the degree of achievement of physical and qualitative objectives and of progress accomplished, and an assessment of the immediate phytosanitary and economic impact, and

[1] OJ L 42, 14.2.2006, p. 1. Regulation as amended by Regulation (EC) No 2013/2006 (OJ L 384, 29.12.2006, p. 13).

[2] See page 20 of this Official Journal.

[3] OJ L 209, 11.8.2005, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 378/2007 (OJ L 95, 5.4.2007, p. 1).

(b) a financial cost statement indicating the actual expenditure broken down by sub-programme and by measure.

3. With respect to the indicative budget breakdown specified in Part B of the Annex, France may adjust the financing between different measures in the same sub-programme within a limit of 15 % of the Community contribution to this sub-programme, provided that the total amount of eligible costs scheduled in the programme is not exceeded and that the main objectives of the programme are not thereby compromised.

It shall inform the Commission of any adjustments made.

Article 3

This Decision shall apply from 1 January 2007.

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the French Republic.

Done at Brussels, 11 September 2007.

For the Commission

Markos KYPRIANOU

Member of the Commission

ANNEX

Programme and indicative budget breakdown for 2007

PART A

Programme

The programme shall consist of three sub-programmes:

(1) sub-programme for the department of Martinique:

(a) Measure 1.1: plant health evaluation and diagnostics by use of the regional laboratory and its mobile unit ('labo vert');

(b) Measure 1.2: study of the biodiversity in fruit or vegetable farms;

(2) sub-programme for the department of Guyana:

(a) Measure 2.1: set up of an agricultural phytosanitary warning system for rice production;

(b) Measure 2.2: strengthening of the diagnosis capacity by the use of the regional laboratory and its mobile unit ('labo vert');

(3) sub-programme for the department of Guadeloupe:

(a) Measure 3.1: set up of an survey network for fruit flies;

(b) Measure 3.2: survey and follow-up of the coconut lethal yellowing disease;

(c) Measure 3.3: management of the risk of introduction of harmful organisms by the touristic activity;

(d) Measure 3.4: set up of a method for bio-depollution of soils contaminated by chlordecone and HCH;

(e) Measure 3.5: targeted control of the manioc ant.

PART B

Indicative budget breakdown

(in euro), with indication of the various expected deliverables

Sub-programmes	Nature of deliverable (S: provision of services, R: research or study work)	Eligible expenditure	National contribution	EC contribution
Martinique				
Measure 1.1	On-site phytosanitary diagnostics (S)	75 000		
Measure 1.2	Study on the biodiversity and beneficial auxiliaries (R)	40 500		
Sub-total		115 500	46 200	69 300
Guyane				
Measure 2.1	Modelized phytosanitary warning system (R)	110 000		
Measure 2.2	On-site phytosanitary diagnostics (S)	25 000		
Sub-total		135 000	54 000	81 000
Guadeloupe				
Measure 3.1	Setting-on of a survey network for fruit flies (R)	28 000		
Measure 3.2	Report of survey for a disease and communication to the producers on phytosanitary risks (S)	12 000		
Measure 3.3	Actions of communication to the public on the risks of introduction of harmful organisms (S)	28 000		
Measure 3.4	Setting-on of a bio-depollution method for contaminated soils (R)	15 000		
Measure 3.5	Study on the possible integrated control of a harmful organism (R)	41 000		
Sub-total		124 000	49 600	74 400
Total		374 500	149 800	224 700