COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION
of 4 July 2017
on the financing of the 2017 work programme on training in the field of food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare and plant health in the framework of the ‘Better Training for Safer Food’ programme
(2017/C 215/04)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (1) and, in particular, Article 84 thereof,


Whereas:

(1) Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council (3) lays down general rules for the performance of official controls to verify compliance with rules aiming, in particular, at preventing, eliminating or reducing to acceptable levels risks to humans and animals and guaranteeing fair practices in feed and food trade and protecting consumer interests. Article 51 of that Regulation provides that the Commission may organise training courses for the staff of the competent authorities of Member States responsible for the official controls referred to in that Regulation, which may be opened to participants from third countries, in particular developing countries. Those courses may include, in particular, training on European Union feed and food law and animal health and animal welfare rules.


(3) The ‘Better Training for Safer Food’ Programme has been established by the Commission in 2006 in order to achieve the aims set out in Regulation (EC) No 882/2004. The Commission Communication of 20 September 2006 on ‘Better training for safer food’ (5) explores options for future organisation of training.

(4) Regulation (EU) No 652/2014 establishes provisions for the management of expenditure from the general budget of the European Union in the fields governing food and feed safety, animal health and welfare and plant health rules. Article 31 provides that the Union may finance the training of the staff of the competent authorities responsible for official controls, as referred to in Article 51 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, in order to develop a harmonised approach to official controls and other official activities to ensure a high level of protection of human, animal and plant health.

(5) In order to ensure implementation of the ‘Better Training for Safer Food’ Programme in Member States it is necessary to adopt a financing decision and the work programme on training in the field of food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare and plant health for 2017. Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 (1) establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.

(6) Commission Implementing Decision 2013/770/EU (2) establishes the ‘Consumer, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency’ (hereafter ‘the Agency’). This Decision entrusts the Agency with certain management and programme implementation tasks relating to the food safety training measures performed pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 and Directive 2000/29/EC.

(7) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Article 111(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

(8) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme, it is appropriate to define the term ‘substantial change’, within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

(9) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

**Article 1**

**The work programme**

The annual work programme for the implementation of the Better Training for Safer Food Programme for 2017, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The annual work programme constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

**Article 2**

**Union contribution**

1. The maximum contribution for the implementation of the work programme for the year 2017 is set at EUR 16 500 000 and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the budget line 17 04 03 of the general budget of the European Union for 2017.

2. The appropriations provided for in paragraph 1 may also cover interest due for late payment.

**Article 3**

**Flexibility clause**

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20 % of the maximum contribution provided for in Article 2(1) of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme. The increase of the maximum contribution set in Article 2(1) of this Decision shall not exceed 20 %.

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The responsible authorising officer may apply the type of changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and of proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 4 July 2017.

For the Commission
Vytenis ANDRIUKAITIS
Member of the Commission
ANNEX

1. **Introduction**

On the basis of the objectives laid down in Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 and Directive 2000/29/EC, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2017 as follows:

| 1.1 Procurement (implemented under direct management): External contracts for the execution of the training programme and other learning tools | EUR 16 500 000 |

**TOTAL** EUR 16 500 000

2. **Procurement**

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for procurement contracts in 2017 amounts to EUR 16 500 000.

**LEGAL BASIS**

Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, Article 51
Directive 2000/29/EC, Article 2(1)(i)
Regulation (EU) No 652/2014, Articles 31 and 36(1)

**BUDGET LINE**

Budget line: 17 04 03

**INDICATIVE NUMBER AND TYPE OF CONTRACTS ENVISAGED**

For each of the technical issues referred to below, one or more direct or framework service contracts will be signed. It is estimated that around 18 direct or specific service contracts will be signed. External contractors are mainly involved in the organisational and logistical aspects of the training activities.

**SUBJECT OF THE CONTRACTS ENVISAGED (IF POSSIBLE)**

For 2017, the training actions will concern the following subjects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Amount in EUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contingency planning and animal disease control</td>
<td>1 265 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant protection products evaluation and authorisation</td>
<td>630 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Pest Management</td>
<td>890 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Contact Material</td>
<td>760 000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Control over food improvement agents</td>
<td>1 215 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HACCP audits</td>
<td>1 700 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food hygiene and flexibility</td>
<td>1 200 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiological criteria in foodstuffs and control of zoonoses</td>
<td>915 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>Amount in EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>New food investigation techniques</td>
<td>900 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies and animal by-products</td>
<td>745 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal auditing of official control systems</td>
<td>910 000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strengthening impact of Union overview audits</td>
<td>880 000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support for Union controls in Member States and non-EU countries</td>
<td>430 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU approach to anti-microbial resistance</td>
<td>1 110 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU approach to risk analysis</td>
<td>630 000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integration into EU information management systems</td>
<td>1 100 000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online learning and teaching, including development of tools, support and assistance</td>
<td>750 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal health and welfare, plant health and food safety contingency trainings, conferences and learning and dissemination tools</td>
<td>470 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>16 500 000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES PURSUED**

The operational objectives pursued are to develop, organise and manage the training programmes in the identified areas in order to ensure high level of competence amongst control staff, make official controls more uniform, objective and efficient throughout the EU and contribute to a greater uniformity of control procedures between EU and non-EU partners.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

The results, as expected by the Commission, are as follows:

(a) improve the awareness and knowledge of control staff in the identified training areas;

(b) provide for a common understanding of the current EU provisions and tools relating to official controls in the identified training areas;

(c) disseminate best practices for official controls in the identified training areas;

(d) favour exchange of experience in order to increase the level of expertise and harmonisation in the approach to official controls in the identified training areas.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

EUR 16 365 000 (financing of food safety measures under Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 and Directive 2000/29/EC) will be managed and implemented by the Consumer, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (Commission Decision 2013/770/EU). The remaining EUR 135 000 will be managed by the Commission to cover the assistance and support to online learning and teaching project.
INDICATIVE TIMEFRAME FOR LAUNCHING THE PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE

Approximately during 3rd-4th quarter of 2017.

INDICATIVE AMOUNT OF THE CALL FOR TENDERS

EUR 16 500 000