
COMMISSION DECISION**of 29 April 2004****laying down transitional measures for certain national reference laboratories for the detection of residues in the new Member States***(notified under document number C(2004) 1743)***(Text with EEA relevance)****(2004/479/EC)**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to the Treaty of Accession of the Czech Republic, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Malta, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia, and in particular Article 2(3) thereof,

Having regard to the Act of Accession of the Czech Republic, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia, and in particular Article 42 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Some national reference laboratories for the detection of residues in the new Member States, mentioned in Commission Decision 98/536/EC¹, will have difficulties in carrying out from 1 May 2004 certain tasks in compliance with Council Directive 96/23/EC² of 29 April 1996 on measures to monitor certain substances and residues thereof in live animals and animal products and repealing Directives 85/358/EEC and 86/469/EEC and Decisions 89/187/EEC and 91/664/EEC;
- (2) These laboratories need a limited period of time to prepare in particular as regards developing analytical methods to be in full compliance with Directive 96/23/EC;
- (3) In order to facilitate the transition from the existing regime to that resulting from the application of the Community veterinary rules, it is therefore appropriate to grant these

¹ OJ L 251, 11.09.1998, p. 39² OJ L 125, 23.05.1996, p. 10

laboratories a transitional period in order to enable these laboratories to make the necessary preparations;

- (4) These laboratories have given reliable guarantees of the existence of the necessary agreements with other laboratories in the European Community which will carry out the necessary tasks during that time;
- (5) Due to the state of preparedness of these laboratories, the transitional period should be limited to a maximum period of 12 months;
- (6) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

During a period expiring on 1 May 2005, the laboratories listed in column D of the Annex may carry out the tasks under Article 14(1) of Directive 96/23/EC pursuant to which the laboratories listed in column B are listed in Commission Decision 98/536/EC .

Article 2

The Decision shall take effect *subject* to and as from the date of entry into force of the Treaty of Accession of the Czech Republic, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 29 April 2004.

For the Commission

David BYRNE

Member of the Commission

ANNEX

Member State (A)	National Reference Laboratory (B)	Group of residues (C)	Associated Laboratory (D)
Czech Republic	National Reference Laboratory for residues of Veterinary Drugs Ustav pro statni kontrolu veterinarnich biopreparatu a leciv Hudcova 56 A 621 00 Brno	Group A6 (nitrofurans)	RIKILT – Institute of Food Safety- Wageningen - NL
Estonia	Veterinaar- ja Toidulaboratoorium Väike-Paala 3 11415 Tallinn	Group A2, A3, B2 a) (ivermectins) Group A5 Group A6 (confirmation) Group B2 a)-levamisole, B3e) Group B3e)	EELA - Finland LABERCA- Nantes France Chemistry Unit – GALAB- Germany Danish Veterinary and Food Administration – Denmark Danish Veterinary and Food Administration – Denmark
Cyprus	Εθνικό Έργαστήριο Αναφοράς για τον έλεγχο των υπολειμμάτων Γενικό Χημείο του Κράτους Κίμωνος 44 1451 Λευκωσία National Reference Laboratory for the Control of Residues General State Laboratory Kimonos 44 1451, Nicosia		
Latvia	Valsts veterinārmedicīnas diagnostikas centrs Leļupes iela 3 Rīga, LV-1076	Group B1 in honey Group B3 e) in fish	EELA - Finland
Lithuania	Nacionalinė veterinarijos laboratorija J.Kairiūkščio g. 10 LT-2021 Vilnius	Group B1, B3e) in fish Groups A6, B1, B2c) in honey	W.E.J GmbH Stenzelring 14 b 21107 Hamburg Germany

'Slovenia	Nacionalni veterinarski Inštitut Gerbičeva 60 SI-1000 Ljubljana	Groups A1, A3, A4, A5, A6, B2b, B2d. Amitraz in honey Mercury in fish	Chelab- Italy Regional Public Health Laboratory of Nova Gorica (ZZV-Ng) Institute of Public Health - Ljubljana
Slovakia	Štátny veterinárny a potravinový ústav Akademická 3 SK - 949 01 Nitra Štátny veterinárny a potravinový ústav Hlinkova 1/B SK - 040 01 Košice	Confirmation for groups A1, A3, A4, A5 Confirmation for group B3d)	ISCVBM BRNO (Czech Republic) State Veterinary Institute JIHLAVA (Czech Republic)