COMMISSION DECISION

of 30 March 2007

concerning a Community financial contribution towards a baseline survey on the prevalence of
Salmonella in turkeys to be carried out in Bulgaria and in Romania

(notified under document number C(2007) 1401)

(Only the Bulgarian and Romanian texts are authentic)

(2007/208/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), and in particular Article 20 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Decision 90/424/EEC provides for Community financial contributions towards specific veterinary measures. It also provides for the Community to undertake or assist the Member States in undertaking the technical and scientific measures necessary for the development of veterinary legislation and for the development of veterinary education or training.


(3) In order to set the Community target, comparable data on the prevalence of Salmonella in populations of turkeys in Bulgaria and in Romania need to be available. Such information is presently not available and a special survey should therefore be carried out to monitor the prevalence of Salmonella in turkeys over a suitable period in those Member States.

(4) A baseline study on Salmonella in turkey is to be carried out by the other Member States between October 2006 and September 2007 in accordance with Commission Decision 2006/662/EC of 29 September 2006 concerning a financial contribution from the Community towards a baseline survey on the prevalence of Salmonella in turkeys to be carried out in the Member States (3). The same procedures should be used in the baseline studies in Bulgaria and in Romania. However, the period of the survey should be shortened in order to enable the analysis of the data of all Member States at the same time.

(5) The survey is to provide the technical information necessary for the development of Community veterinary legislation. Given the importance of collecting comparable data on the prevalence of Salmonella in turkeys in Bulgaria and in Romania, those Member States should be granted a Community financial contribution for implementing the specific requirements of the survey. It is therefore appropriate to reimburse 100 % of the costs incurred in the laboratory testing, subject to a ceiling. All other costs, such as those relating to sampling, travel and administration should not be eligible for any Community financial contribution.

(6) The financial contribution from the Community should be granted provided that the survey is carried out in accordance with Community law and subject to compliance with certain other specified conditions. The financial contribution should be granted in so far as the actions provided for are effectively carried out and provided that the authorities furnish all the necessary information within the time limits provided for.

(7) It is necessary to clarify the rate to be used for the conversion of payment applications submitted in national currencies as defined in Article 1(d) of Council Regulation (EC) No 2799/98 of 15 December 1998 establishing agrimonetary arrangements for the euro (4).

(8) 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

Subject matter and scope

1. A survey shall be carried out to assess the prevalence of Salmonella spp. in Bulgaria and in Romania in the following flocks of turkeys:

(a) flocks of fattening turkeys sampled within three weeks of the 
      date of leaving the selected holding for slaughter;

(b) flocks of breeding turkeys within nine weeks before the date 
      of depopulation of the flocks.

2. The survey on the Salmonella prevalence of the flocks 
   referred to in paragraph 1 (the flocks) shall cover the period 
   from 1 April 2007 to 30 September 2007.

3. For the purposes of this Decision, ‘the competent 
   authority’ shall be the authority or authorities of a Member 
   State as designated under Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 
   2160/2003.

**Article 2**

**Sampling frame**

1. The sampling for the purpose of the survey shall be 
   carried out on holdings containing at least 500 fattening 
   turkeys or 250 breeding turkeys. On each selected holding of 
   fattening turkeys, one flock of the appropriate age shall be 
   sampled.

However, if the calculated number of flocks to be sampled as 
set out in the technical specifications is higher than the number 
of holdings available with at least the number of turkeys 
specified in the first subparagraph, in order to achieve that 
calculated number of flocks, up to four flocks may be 
sampled on the same holding. Where possible those additional 
flocks from a single holding shall be from different turkey 
houses and samples taken in different months.

If the number of flocks to be sampled is still not sufficient, 
more than four flocks may be sampled on the same holding, 
larger holdings being focused on.

2. Sampling shall be performed by the competent authority 
or under its supervision.

**Article 3**

**Detection of Salmonella spp. and serotyping of the relevant 
isolates**

1. Detection of Salmonella spp and serotyping of the relevant 
isolates shall take place in national reference laboratories for 
Salmonella (NRL).

Those laboratories shall have proven experience in using the 
required detection method, shall implement a quality-
assurance system complying with ISO standard 17025, and 
shall be supervised by the NRL.

2. The detection of Salmonella spp. shall be performed in 
   accordance with the method recommended by the 
   Community reference laboratory for Salmonella.

3. Serotyping of the relevant isolates shall be performed 
   according to the Kaufmann-White scheme.

**Article 4**

**Collection of data, assessment and reporting**

1. The competent authority shall collect and assess the 
   results achieved pursuant to Article 3 of this Decision on the 
basis of the sampling framework referred to in Article 2 thereof, 
and shall report all necessary aggregated data and its assessment 
thereof to the Commission.

The Commission shall forward those results together with the 
national aggregated data and assessments done by the Member 
States to the European Food Safety authority, which shall 
examine them.

2. The national aggregated data and results referred to in 
   paragraph 1 shall be made available publicly in a form that 
   ensures confidentiality.

**Article 5**

**Technical specifications**

The tasks and activities referred to in Articles 2, 3 and 4 of this 
Decision shall be performed in conformity with the technical 
specifications SANCO/2083/2006 presented at the meeting of the 
Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health 
on 18 July 2006 as published on the Commission website 
http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/biosafety/salmonella/impl_reg_en.htm

**Article 6**

**Community financial contribution**

1. A Community financial contribution shall be granted to 
   Bulgaria and Romania for the costs incurred by them for 
laboratory testing, i.e. for the bacteriological detection of 
Salmonella spp. and the serotyping of the relevant isolates.
2. The maximum Community financial contribution shall be:

(a) EUR 20 per test for bacteriological detection of Salmonella spp.;

(b) EUR 30 per test for serotyping of the relevant isolates.

However, the Community financial contribution shall not exceed the amounts set out in Annex I.

Article 7

Conditions for granting a Community financial contribution

1. The financial contribution provided for in Article 6 shall be granted to Bulgaria and to Romania provided that the survey is implemented in accordance with the relevant provisions of Community law, including the rules on competition and on the award of public contracts, and subject to compliance with the following conditions:

(a) the laws, regulations and administrative provisions required to implement the survey shall come into force by 1 April 2007 at the latest;

(b) a progress report covering the first three months of the survey shall be forwarded by 31 July 2007; the progress report should contain all information given in Chapter 6 Reporting of the technical specifications referred to in Article 5;

(c) a final report shall be forwarded by 31 October 2007 at the latest on the technical execution of the survey, together with supporting evidence for the costs incurred and the results attained during the period 1 April 2007 to 30 September 2007; the supporting documents concerning the costs incurred shall comprise at least the information set out in Annex II;

(d) the survey shall be implemented effectively.

2. An advance payment of 50 % of the total amount referred to in Annex I may be paid at the request of Bulgaria and of Romania.

3. Failure to comply with the time limits in provided for paragraph 1(c) shall entail a progressive reduction of the Community financial contribution to be paid, amounting to 25 % of the total amount by 15 November 2007, 50 % by 1 December 2007 and 100 % by 15 December 2007.

Article 8

Conversion rate for expenditure

For reasons of administrative efficiency all expenditure presented for a financial contribution by the Community should be expressed in euro. In accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 1913/2006 of 20 December 2006 laying down detailed rules for the application of the agrimonetary system for the euro in agriculture and amending certain regulations (1), the conversion rate for expenditure in a currency other than the euro should be the rate most recently set by the European Central Bank prior to the first day of the month in which the application is submitted by the Member State concerned.

Article 9

Application

This Decision shall apply from 1 April 2007.

Article 10

Addressees

This Decision is addressed to the Republic of Bulgaria and to Romania.

Done at Brussels, 30 March 2007.

For the Commission
Markos KYPRIANOU
Member of the Commission

ANNEX I

Maximum Community financial contribution to Bulgaria and Romania

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member State</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>2 990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>3 250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEX II

Certified financial report on the implementation of a baseline survey on the prevalence of *Salmonella* spp. in flocks of turkeys

Reporting period: 1 April 2007 to 30 September 2007

**Statement on costs incurred on the survey and eligible for Community financial contribution:**

Reference number of Commission Decision providing Community financial contribution: ........................................................

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Costs incurred related to functions at/by</th>
<th>Number of tests</th>
<th>Total costs of testing incurred during reporting period (national currency)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bacteriology for <em>Salmonella</em> spp.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serotyping <em>Salmonella</em> isolates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Declaration by the beneficiary

We certify that

— the costs set out in the statement of costs are genuine and have been incurred in carrying out the tasks laid down in Commission Decision 2007/208/EC and were essential for the proper performance of those tasks;

— all supporting documents for those costs are available for audit purposes.

Date: ....................................................................................................................................................................................................

Person financially responsible: ........................................................................................................................................................................

Signature: .....................................................................................................................................................................................................

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