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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2024/1941

of 22 July 2024

designating a European Union reference laboratory for food improvement agents in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council

(notified under document C(2024)5053)

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2017 on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products, amending Regulations (EC) No 999/2001, (EC) No 396/2005, (EC) No 1069/2009, (EC) No 1107/2009, (EU) No 1151/2012, (EU) No 652/2014, (EU) 2016/429 and (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Regulations (EC) No 1/2005 and (EC) No 1099/2009 and Council Directives 98/58/EC, 1999/74/EC, 2007/43/EC, 2008/119/EC and 2008/120/EC, and repealing Regulations (EC) No 854/2004 and (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directives 89/608/EEC, 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC, 91/496/EEC, 96/23/EC, 96/93/EC and 97/78/EC and Council Decision 92/438/EEC (Official Controls Regulation) ([1]), and in particular Article 93(1) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1004 ([2]) established the European Union reference laboratory for food improvement agents ('EURL FIA').

(2) In accordance with Article 93(2), point (a), of Regulation (EU) 2017/625, the Commission followed a public selection process for the designation of the European Union reference laboratory for food improvement agents. The evaluation of the applications received was carried against the requirements and tasks set out in Articles 93(3) and 94 of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and against the criteria set out in the call for selection.

(3) Based on the results of the evaluation, the Belgian laboratory Sciensano should be designated as the European Union reference laboratory for food improvement agents. Its work programme is to be established in accordance with the objectives and priorities of the relevant work programmes adopted by the Commission in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council ([3]).

(4) In order to ensure that the appropriate level of methods of analysis, test or diagnosis, and the development of validated methods and the coordinated assistance of the official laboratory is maintained, and in accordance with Article 93(2), point (b), of Regulation (EU) 2017/625, the designation as European Union reference laboratory should be reviewed regularly.

(5) The designated EURL FIA should be given time to prepare its work programme for the next budgetary period. Therefore, this Decision should start to apply from 1 August 2024,

([1]) OJ L 95, 7.4.2017, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/625/oj.

([2]) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1004 of 22 January 2024 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and the Council by establishing the European Union reference laboratory for food improvement agents (OJ L, 2024/1004, 3.4.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2024/1004/oj).

([3]) Regulation (EU) 2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing a programme for the internal market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, the area of plants, animals, food and feed, and European statistics (Single Market Programme) and repealing Regulations (EU) No 99/2013, (EU) No 1287/2013, (EU) No 254/2014 and (EU) No 652/2014 (OJ L 153, 3.5.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/690/oj).

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. The following laboratory is designated as the European Union reference laboratory for food improvement agents ('EURL FIA'):

Sciensano, Rue Juliette Wytsmanstraat 14, 1050 Brussels, Belgium.

2. The designation referred to in paragraph 1 shall be reviewed regularly.

Article 2

This Decision shall apply from 1 August 2024.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 22 July 2024.

For the Commission
Stella KYRIAKIDES
Member of the Commission