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II

(Non-legislative acts)

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

COUNCIL DECISION 2014/821/CFSP

of 4 November 2014

concerning the signing and conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine on the status of the European Union Advisory Mission for Civilian Security Sector Reform Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 37 thereof, in conjunction with Article 218(5) and (6) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

- (1) On 22 July 2014, the Council adopted Decision 2014/486/CFSP ⁽¹⁾.
- (2) On the same day, the Council adopted the Decision authorising the opening of negotiations with Ukraine in order to conclude an Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine on the status of the European Union Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) mission in Ukraine.
- (3) An agreement on the status of European Union Advisory Mission for Civilian Security Sector Reform Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine) ('the Agreement') has been negotiated between the Union and Ukraine.
- (4) The Agreement should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine on the status of the European Union Advisory Mission for Civilian Security Sector Reform Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine) is hereby approved on behalf of the Union.

The text of the Agreement is attached to this Decision.

Article 2

The President of the Council is hereby authorised to designate the person(s) empowered to sign the Agreement in order to bind the Union.

⁽¹⁾ Council Decision 2014/486/CFSP of 22 July 2014 on the European Union Advisory Mission for Civilian Security Sector Reform Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine) (OJ L 217, 23.7.2014, p. 42).

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 4 November 2014.

For the Council
The President
S. GOZI

AGREEMENT**between the European Union and Ukraine on the status of the European Union Advisory Mission for Civilian Security Sector Reform Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine)**

THE EUROPEAN UNION, hereinafter referred to as 'European Union' or 'the EU',

of the one part, and

UKRAINE, hereinafter referred to as 'Ukraine' or 'the Host State',

of the other part,

Together hereinafter referred to as 'the Parties',

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

- the letter dated 11 July 2014 from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine to the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,
- Council Decision 2014/486/CFSP of 22 July 2014 on the European Union Advisory Mission for Civilian Security Sector Reform Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine),
- that this Agreement will not affect the Parties' rights and obligations under international agreements and other instruments establishing international courts and tribunals, including the Statute of the International Criminal Court,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Scope and definitions

1. This Agreement shall apply to the European Union Advisory Mission in Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine) and its personnel.
2. This Agreement shall apply only within the territory of Ukraine.
3. For the purposes of this Agreement:
 - (a) 'EUAM Ukraine' or 'the Mission' shall mean the EU Advisory Mission for Civilian Security Sector Reform Ukraine established by the Council of the European Union in Decision 2014/486/CFSP, including its components, units, headquarters and personnel deployed in the territory of the Host State and assigned to EUAM Ukraine;
 - (b) 'Head of Mission' shall mean the Head of Mission of EUAM Ukraine, appointed by the Council of the European Union;
 - (c) 'European Union (EU)' shall mean the permanent bodies of the EU and their staff;
 - (d) 'EUAM Ukraine personnel' shall mean the Head of Mission, personnel of the Mission seconded by EU Member States, the European External Action Service (EEAS) and EU institutions and non-EU States invited by the EU to participate in EUAM Ukraine, international staff recruited on a contractual basis by EUAM Ukraine deployed for the preparation, support and implementation of the Mission, and personnel on mission for a Sending State, an EU institution or EEAS in the framework of the Mission. It shall not include commercial contractors or personnel employed locally;
 - (e) 'Headquarters' shall mean the EUAM Ukraine main headquarters in Kyiv;
 - (f) 'Sending State' shall mean any EU Member State or non-EU State that has seconded personnel to the Mission;
 - (g) 'Facilities' shall mean all buildings, premises, installations and land required for the conduct of the activities of the Mission, as well as for the accommodation of the Mission's personnel;

- (h) 'Personnel employed locally' shall mean personnel who are nationals of, or permanently resident in, Ukraine;
- (i) 'Official correspondence' shall mean all correspondence relating to EUAM Ukraine and its functions;
- (j) 'EUAM Ukraine means of transport' shall mean all vehicles and other means of transport owned, hired or chartered by EUAM Ukraine;
- (k) 'EUAM Ukraine assets' shall mean equipment, including means of transport, and consumer goods necessary for EUAM Ukraine activities.

Article 2

General provisions

1. EUAM Ukraine and EUAM Ukraine personnel shall respect the laws and regulations of the Host State and shall refrain from any action or activity incompatible with the objectives of EUAM Ukraine.
2. EUAM Ukraine shall be autonomous with regard to the execution of its functions under this Agreement. The Host State shall respect the unitary and international nature of EUAM Ukraine.
3. The Head of Mission shall regularly inform the Government of the Host State of the number of EUAM Ukraine personnel stationed within the Host State's territory.

Article 3

Identification

1. The list of EUAM Ukraine personnel, including their dates of arrival and departure, shall be provided to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine (MFA of Ukraine) for the duration of the Mission and updated when necessary. EUAM Ukraine personnel shall be provided with identification cards issued by the MFA of Ukraine and which confirm the status of EUAM Ukraine personnel.
2. EUAM Ukraine means of transport may bear distinctive EUAM Ukraine identification markings, a specimen of which shall be provided to the relevant authorities of the Host State, and license plates provided for diplomatic missions in Ukraine.
3. EUAM Ukraine shall have the right to display the flag of the EU at its Headquarters and elsewhere, alone or together with the flag of the Host State, as decided by the Head of Mission. National flags or insignia of the constituent national contingents of EUAM Ukraine may be displayed on Mission's facilities, EUAM Ukraine means of transport and uniforms, as decided by the Head of Mission.

Article 4

Border crossing and movement within Ukraine's territory

1. EUAM Ukraine personnel, EUAM Ukraine assets and EUAM Ukraine means of transport shall cross the border of the Host State at official border crossings, sea ports and via the international air corridors.
2. The Host State shall facilitate the entry into and the exit from the territory of the Host State for EUAM Ukraine personnel and EUAM Ukraine assets and EUAM Ukraine means of transport. EUAM personnel shall cross the state border of Ukraine with valid passport. On entry into and departure from the territory of the Host State, EUAM Ukraine personnel holding a Mission's identification card or a provisional proof of participation in the EUAM Ukraine shall be exempt from customs controls, visa and immigration requirements, and other forms of immigration control within the territory of the Host State.
3. EUAM Ukraine personnel shall be exempt from the regulations of the Host State governing the registration and control of aliens, but shall not acquire any right to permanent residence or domicile within the Host State's territory.
4. EUAM Ukraine shall import assets into the customs territory of the Host State or export assets from the customs territory of Ukraine, including transport facilities provided for official use in Ukraine, with exemption from customs inspection. Such goods, including vehicles, shall be declared in accordance with the customs legislation of the Host State applicable to diplomatic missions.

5. EUAM Ukraine personnel may drive vehicles, navigate vessels and operate aircrafts and any other means of transport within the territory of the Host State provided they have valid national or international driving licences, ship masters certificates or pilot licences, as appropriate. The Host State shall accept as valid, without tax or fee, driving licences or permits carried by EUAM Ukraine personnel.

6. EUAM Ukraine and EUAM Ukraine personnel together with their vehicles and any other means of transport, equipment and supplies shall enjoy free and unrestricted movement throughout the territory of the Host State, including its territorial sea and airspace in respect of the legislation of Ukraine.

If necessary, supplementary arrangements may be concluded in accordance with Article 18.

7. For the purpose of travel on official duties, EUAM Ukraine personnel and personnel employed locally shall be entitled to use public roads, bridges, ferries, airports and ports without the payment of duties, fees, tolls, taxes or other charges. EUAM Ukraine shall not be exempt from reasonable charges for services requested and received under the conditions that apply to those provided to the Host State's nationals.

Article 5

Privileges and immunities of EUAM Ukraine granted by the Host State

1. Facilities shall be inviolable. The Host State's agents shall not enter them without the consent of the Head of Mission.

2. Facilities, their furnishings and other assets therein as well as their means of transport shall be immune from search, requisition, attachment or execution.

3. EUAM Ukraine, its property and EUAM Ukraine assets, wherever located and by whomsoever held, shall enjoy immunity from every form of legal processes.

4. EUAM Ukraine's archives and documents shall be inviolable at any time, wherever they may be.

5. Official correspondence shall be inviolable.

6. EUAM Ukraine shall be exempt from all national, regional and communal dues, taxes and charges of a similar nature in respect of purchased and imported goods, services provided and facilities used by EUAM Ukraine for the purposes of EUAM Ukraine. EUAM Ukraine shall not be exempt from dues, taxes or charges that represent payment for services rendered.

7. The Host State shall permit the entry of items required for the purpose of EUAM Ukraine and shall grant those items exemption from all customs duties, fees, tolls, taxes and similar charges other than charges for storage, transport and other services rendered.

Article 6

Privileges and immunities of EUAM Ukraine personnel granted by the Host State

1. EUAM Ukraine personnel shall not be subject to any form of arrest or detention.

2. Papers, correspondence and assets of EUAM Ukraine personnel shall be inviolable, except in case of measures of execution which are permitted pursuant to paragraph 6.

3. EUAM Ukraine personnel shall enjoy immunity from the criminal jurisdiction of the Host State under all circumstances. Privileges granted to EUAM personnel and immunity from the criminal jurisdiction of Ukraine do not exempt them from the jurisdiction of the Sending State or the EU institutions. The immunity of EUAM Ukraine personnel from the criminal jurisdiction of the Host State may be waived by the Sending State or EU institution concerned, as the case may be. Such a waiver must always be an express waiver.

4. EUAM Ukraine personnel shall enjoy immunity from the civil and administrative jurisdiction of the Host State in respect of words spoken or written and all acts performed by them in the exercise of their official functions. If any civil proceeding is instituted against EUAM Ukraine personnel before any Host State court, the Head of Mission and the competent authority of the Sending State or EU institution shall be notified immediately. Prior to the initiation of the proceeding before the court, the Head of Mission and the competent authority of the Sending State or EU institution shall certify to the court whether the act in question was performed by EUAM Ukraine personnel in the exercise of their

official functions. If the act was performed in the exercise of official functions, the proceeding shall not be initiated and the provisions of Article 16 shall apply. If the act was not performed in the exercise of official functions, the proceeding may continue. The certification by the Head of Mission and the competent authority of the Sending State or EU institution shall be binding upon the jurisdiction of the Host State which may not contest it. The initiation of proceedings by EUAM Ukraine personnel shall preclude them from invoking immunity from jurisdiction in respect of any counter-claim directly connected with the principal claim.

5. EUAM Ukraine personnel shall not be obliged to give evidence as witnesses.
6. No measures of execution may be taken in respect of EUAM Ukraine personnel, except in the case where a civil proceeding not related to their official functions is instituted against them. Property of EUAM Ukraine personnel, which is certified by the Head of Mission to be necessary for the fulfilment of their official functions, shall be free from seizure for the satisfaction of a judgement, decision or order. In civil proceedings, EUAM Ukraine personnel shall not be subject to any restrictions on their personal liberty or to any other measures of constraint.
7. The immunity of EUAM Ukraine personnel from the jurisdiction of the Host State shall not exempt them from the jurisdictions of the respective Sending States.
8. EUAM Ukraine personnel shall, with respect to services rendered for EUAM Ukraine, be exempt from social security provisions which may be in force in the Host State.
9. EUAM Ukraine personnel shall be exempt from any form of taxation in the Host State on the salary and emoluments paid to them by EUAM Ukraine or the Sending States, as well as on any income received from outside the Host State.
10. The Host State shall, in accordance with such laws and regulations as it may adopt, permit the entry of articles for the personal use of EUAM Ukraine personnel, and shall grant exemption from all customs duties, taxes, and related charges other than charges for storage, transport and similar services, in respect of such articles. The Host State shall also allow the export of such articles. The purchase of goods and services on the domestic market by EUAM Ukraine personnel shall be exempt from VAT and taxes in accordance with the laws of the Host State.
11. The personal baggage of EUAM Ukraine personnel shall be exempt from inspection, unless there are serious grounds for considering that it contains articles that are not for the personal use of EUAM Ukraine personnel, or articles whose import or export is prohibited by the law or subject to quarantine regulations of the Host State. Inspection of such personal baggage shall be conducted only in the presence of EUAM Ukraine personnel concerned or an authorised representative of EUAM Ukraine.

Article 7

Personnel employed locally

Personnel employed locally shall enjoy privileges and immunities only to the extent allowed by the Host State. However, the Host State shall exercise its jurisdiction over such personnel in such a manner as not to interfere unduly with the performance of the functions of EUAM Ukraine.

Article 8

Criminal jurisdiction

The competent authorities of a Sending State, in consultation with the competent authorities of Ukraine, shall have the right to exercise criminal jurisdiction and disciplinary powers conferred on them by the law of the Sending State with regard to EUAM Ukraine personnel on the territory of the Host State.

Article 9

Security

1. The Host State, by its own means, shall ensure security of EUAM Ukraine personnel.

2. For the purposes of paragraph 1 the Host State shall take all necessary measures for the protection, safety and security of EUAM Ukraine and EUAM Ukraine personnel. Any specific provisions proposed by the Host State shall be agreed with the Head of Mission before their implementation. The Host State shall permit and support activities relating to the medical evacuation of EUAM Ukraine personnel.

If required, supplementary arrangements as referred to in Article 18 shall be concluded.

Article 10

Uniform

1. EUAM Ukraine personnel may wear national uniform or civilian dress with distinctive EUAM Ukraine identification.
2. The wearing of a uniform shall be subject to rules issued by the Head of Mission.

Article 11

Cooperation and access to information

1. The Host State shall provide full cooperation and support to EUAM Ukraine and EUAM Ukraine personnel. Where applicable, recourse will be made to the procedures foreseen in the Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union on security procedures for the exchange of classified information of 13 June 2005.

If required for the purposes of the first subparagraph, supplementary arrangements as referred to in Article 18 shall be concluded.

2. The Head of Mission and the Host State shall consult regularly and take appropriate measures to ensure close and reciprocal liaison at every appropriate level. The Host State may appoint a liaison officer to EUAM Ukraine.

Article 12

Host State support and contracting

1. The Host State shall assist, if requested, EUAM Ukraine in finding suitable facilities.
2. The Host State shall provide free of charge, if required and available, facilities which it owns. EUAM Ukraine shall be authorised to construct, alter or otherwise modify facilities as required for operational requirements. The Host State shall not claim any compensation in respect of constructions, alterations or modifications to those facilities.

Facilities owned by private entities, in so far as such facilities are requested for the conduct of EUAM Ukraine's administrative and operational activities shall be provided on the basis of appropriate contractual arrangements.

3. Within its means and capabilities, the Host State shall assist in the preparation, establishment and execution of and support for EUAM Ukraine, including co-location facilities and equipment for EUAM Ukraine experts.

If necessary, supplementary arrangements may be concluded in accordance with Article 18.

4. The Host State's assistance and support to EUAM Ukraine shall be provided under at least the same conditions as the assistance and support that it gives to its own nationals.

5. EUAM Ukraine shall have the necessary legal capacity under the legislation of the Host State in order to fulfil its mission, and in particular for the purpose of opening bank accounts and to acquire or dispose of assets and to be party to legal proceedings.

6. The law applicable to contracts concluded by EUAM Ukraine in the Host State shall be determined by the relevant provisions in those contracts.

7. The contracts concluded by EUAM Ukraine may stipulate that the dispute settlement procedure referred to in Article 15(3) and (4) shall be applicable to disputes arising from the implementation of the contract.

*Article 13***Deceased EUAM Ukraine personnel**

1. The Head of Mission shall have the right to take charge of and make suitable arrangements for the repatriation of any deceased EUAM Ukraine personnel, as well as of their personal property, and take appropriate measures for this purpose in respect of the legislation of Ukraine.
2. No autopsy shall be performed on any deceased members of EUAM Ukraine without the agreement of the State concerned, and the presence of a representative of EUAM Ukraine and/or a representative of the State concerned.
3. The Host State and EUAM Ukraine shall cooperate to the fullest extent possible with a view to the early repatriation of deceased EUAM Ukraine personnel.

*Article 14***Communications**

1. EUAM Ukraine may install and operate radio sending and receiving stations, as well as satellite systems in respect of the legislation of the Host State. It shall cooperate with the Host State's competent authorities with a view to avoiding conflicts in the use of appropriate frequencies.
2. EUAM Ukraine shall enjoy the right to unrestricted communication by radio (including satellite, mobile and hand-held radio), telephone, telegraph, facsimile and other means, as well as the right to install the equipment necessary for the maintenance of such communications within and between EUAM Ukraine facilities, including the laying of cables and land lines, for the purpose of EUAM Ukraine in respect of the legislation of the Host State.
3. Within its facilities EUAM Ukraine may make necessary arrangements for the conveyance of mail addressed to and from EUAM Ukraine and/or EUAM Ukraine personnel.

*Article 15***Claims for death, injury, damage and loss**

1. EUAM Ukraine, EUAM Ukraine personnel, the EU and the Sending States shall not be liable for any damage to or loss of civilian or government property which is related to operational necessities or caused by activities in connection with civil disturbances or the protection of EUAM Ukraine.
2. With a view to reaching an amicable settlement, claims for damage to, or loss of, civilian or government property not covered by paragraph 1, as well as claims for death of, or injury to, persons and claims for damage to, or loss of EUAM Ukraine property, shall be forwarded to EUAM Ukraine via the competent authorities of the Host State, with regard to claims brought by a legal or natural person from the Host State, and to the competent authorities of the Host State, with regard to claims brought by EUAM Ukraine.
3. Where no amicable settlement can be found, the claim shall be submitted to a claims commission composed of an equal basis of representatives of EUAM Ukraine and representatives of the Host State. Settlement of claims shall be reached by common agreement.
4. Where no settlement can be reached within the claims commission, the dispute shall be settled by diplomatic means between the Host State and EU representatives for claims up to and including EUR 40 000. For claims exceeding that amount, the dispute shall be submitted to an arbitration tribunal, whose decisions shall be binding.
5. The arbitration tribunal referred to in paragraph 4 shall be composed of three arbitrators, one being appointed by the Host State, one being appointed by EUAM Ukraine and the third being appointed jointly by the Host State and EUAM Ukraine. Where one of the parties does not appoint an arbitrator within two months or where no agreement can be found between the Host State and EUAM Ukraine on the appointment of the third arbitrator, the arbitrator in question shall be appointed by the President of the Court of Justice of the European Union.
6. An administrative arrangement shall be concluded between EUAM Ukraine and the administrative authorities of the Host State in order to determine the terms of reference of the claims commission and the arbitration tribunal, the procedure applicable within these bodies and the conditions under which claims are to be lodged.

*Article 16***Liaison and disputes**

1. All issues arising in connection with the application of this Agreement shall be examined jointly by representatives of EUAM Ukraine and the Host State's competent authorities.
2. Failing any prior settlement, disputes concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be settled exclusively by diplomatic means between the Host State and EU representatives.

*Article 17***Other provisions**

1. The Government of the Host State shall be responsible for the implementation and for the observance by the appropriate Ukrainian local authorities of the privileges, immunities and rights of EUAM Ukraine and of EUAM Ukraine personnel as provided for in this Agreement.
2. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or may be construed so as to derogate from any rights that may attach to an EU Member State or to any other State contributing to EUAM Ukraine under other agreements.

*Article 18***Implementing arrangements**

For the purpose of the application of this Agreement, operational, administrative and technical matters may be the subject of separate arrangements to be concluded between the Head of Mission and the Host State's administrative authorities.


*Article 19***Entry into force and termination**

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of reception, through diplomatic channels, of the last written notification about the fulfilment by the Parties of internal procedures necessary for the entry into force of this Agreement and shall remain in force until the date of departure of the last EUAM Ukraine personnel, as notified by EUAM Ukraine.
2. This Agreement may be amended or terminated by written agreement between the Parties.
3. Termination of this Agreement shall not affect any rights or obligations arising out of the execution of this Agreement before such termination.

Done at Brussels on the seventeenth day of November in the year two thousand and fourteen in the English and Ukrainian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the European Union

For Ukraine



REGULATIONS

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) No 1241/2014

of 7 November 2014

entering a name in the register of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications (Westfälischer Pumpernickel (PGI))

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 52(2),

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 50(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012, Germany's application to register the name 'Westfälischer Pumpernickel' was published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* ⁽²⁾.
- (2) As no statement of opposition under Article 51 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 has been received by the Commission, the name 'Westfälischer Pumpernickel' should therefore be entered in the register,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The name 'Westfälischer Pumpernickel' (PGI) is hereby entered in the register.

The name referred to in the first paragraph identifies a product in Class 2.3. Bread, pastry, cakes, confectionery, biscuits and other baker's wares in accordance with Annex XI to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 668/2014 ⁽³⁾.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 7 November 2014.

For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,
Phil HOGAN
Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 196, 26.6.2014, p. 20.

⁽³⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 668/2014 of 13 June 2014 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs (OJ L 179, 19.6.2014, p. 36).

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) No 1242/2014**of 20 November 2014****laying down rules pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund with regard to the presentation of relevant cumulative data on operations**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2328/2003, (EC) No 861/2006, (EC) No 1198/2006 and (EC) No 791/2007 and Regulation (EU) No 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 97(2) thereof,

After consulting the Committee for the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 97(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014, the Member States' managing authorities must provide the Commission with relevant cumulative data on operations selected for funding until the end of the previous year, including key characteristics of the beneficiaries and the operations.
- (2) In order to ensure the consistency and completeness of the cumulative data on operations selected for funding, it is necessary to provide common technical specifications and rules for the presentation of that cumulative data. For that purpose it is appropriate to refer to the database structure provided for in Annex I to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1243/2014 ⁽²⁾.
- (3) In order to allow for the prompt application of the measures provided for in this Regulation, this Regulation should enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The managing authorities shall follow the technical specifications and rules for the presentation of cumulative data on operations selected for funding, including key characteristics of the beneficiaries and the operations themselves, as provided for in Article 97(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014, in accordance with the forms and tables set out in the Annexes to this Regulation.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 149, 20.5.2014, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1243/2014 of 20 November 2014 laying down rules pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund with regard to the information to be sent by Member States, as well as on data needs and synergies between potential data sources (see page 39 of this Official Journal).

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 20 November 2014.

For the Commission
The President
Jean-Claude JUNCKER

ANNEX I

Information to be provided for each operation for the following fields as referred to in the database structure laid down in Annex I of Regulation (EU) No 1243/2014

Cumulative data on operations selected for funding from 1 January 2014 until 31 December ...

Field	Content of field
1	CCI
2	Unique Identifier of the Operation (ID)
3	Name of the operation
5	NUTS code
6	Beneficiary
7	Gender of beneficiary
8	Size of enterprise
9	State of progress of the operation
10	Total eligible cost
11	Total eligible public cost
12	EMFF support
13	Date of approval
14	Total eligible expenditure
15	Total eligible public expenditure
16	EMFF eligible expenditure
17	Date of final payment to beneficiary
18	Measure concerned
19	Output indicator

ANNEX II

Information to be provided for each operation only where the operation relates to fleet measures for the following fields as referred to in the database structure laid down in Annex I of Regulation (EU) No 1243/2014

Cumulative data on operations selected for funding from 1 January 2014 until 31 December ...

Field	Content of field
1	CCI
2	Unique Identifier of the Operation (ID)
4	Vessel number 'Community Fleet Register number' (CFR)

ANNEX III

Information to be provided for each operation on project implementation data for the following fields as referred to in the database structure laid down in Annex I of Regulation (EU) No 1243/2014

Cumulative data on operations selected for funding from 1 January 2014 until 31 December ...

Field	Content of field
1	CCI
2	Unique Identifier of the Operation (ID)
20	Operation implementation data
21	Value of the implementation data

ANNEX IV

Information to be provided for each operation on result indicators for the following fields as referred to in the database structure laid down in Annex I of Regulation (EU) No 1243/2014

Cumulative data on operations selected for funding from 1 January 2014 until 31 December ...

Field	Content of field
1	CCI
2	Unique Identifier of the Operation (ID)
22	Result indicator(s) related to the operation
23	Indicative result expected by the beneficiary
24	Value of result indicator when validated after implementation

Reference tables

Table 1 — project implementation data

Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
Chapter I: Sustainable development in fisheries					
I.1	Article 26 and Article 44(3) Innovation	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Type of innovation: products and equipment; process and techniques; management and organisation system	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— Number of people benefiting from the operation directly in companies supported	3	Numerical	
I.2	Article 27 and Article 44(3) Advisory services	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Type of advisory service: feasibility studies and advisory services; professional advice; business strategies	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
I.3	Article 28 and Article 44(3) Partnership scientists and fishermen	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Type of activities: networks; partnership agreement or association; data collection and management; studies; pilot projects; dissemination; seminars; best practices	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— Number of scientists involved in partnership	3	Numerical	
		— Number of fishermen involved in partnership	4	Numerical	
		— Number of other bodies benefiting from the operation	5	Numerical	

Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
I.4	Article 29(1).and (2) and Article 44(1)(a) Promotion of human capital, job creation and social dialogue — training, networking, social dialogue, support to spouse and partners	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Type of activities: training and learning; networking; social dialogue	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— Number of spouses and partners benefiting from the operation	3	Numerical	
		— Number of people or organisations benefiting from the operation (participants in training, members of networks, organisations involved in social dialogue actions)	4	Numerical	
I.5	Article 29(3) and Article 44(1)(a) Promotion of human capital, job creation and social dialogue — trainees on board SSCF	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Type of activities: training and learning	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— Number of trainees benefiting from the operation	3	Numerical	
I.6	Article 30 and Article 44(4) Diversification and new forms of income	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Type of diversification: investments on board; angling tourism; restaurants; environmental services; educational activities	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— Number of fishermen concerned	3	Numerical	
I.7	Article 31 and Article 44(2) Start-up support for young fishermen	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Age of the young fishermen benefiting from the operation	2	Numerical	

Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
I.8	Article 32 and Article 44(1)(b) Health and safety	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Type of equipment: investment on board; individual equipment	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— Number of fishermen concerned by the operation	3	Numerical	
I.9	Article 33 Temporary cessation of fishing activities	— Number of fishermen concerned	1	Numerical	Yes
		— Number of days covered	2	Numerical	
I.10	Article 34 Permanent cessation of fishing activities	— Number of fishermen concerned	1	Numerical	Yes
I.11	Article 35 Mutual Fund for adverse climatic events and environmental incidents — Creation of the Fund	— Name of mutual fund	1	String	No
I.12	Article 35 Mutual Fund for adverse climatic events and environmental incidents — Compensations paid	— Compensation paid for: adverse climatic events; environmental incidents; rescue costs	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	Yes
		— Number of crew members concerned	2	Numerical	
I.13	Article 36 Support for the systems of allocation of fishing opportunities	— Type of activity: design; development; monitoring; evaluation; management	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	No
		— Type of beneficiary	2	See code in Table 4, numerical	

Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
I.14	Article 37 Support for the design and implementation of conservation measures and regional cooperation	— Type of activity: design; development and monitoring; stakeholder participation; direct restocking	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Number of stocks concerned (if relevant)	2	Numerical	
		— Total area concerned by project (in km ²) (if relevant)	3	Numerical	
I.15	Article 38 and Article 44(1)(c) Limitation of the impact of fishing on the marine environment and adaptation of fishing to the protection of species	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Type of investment: selectivity of gear; reduce discards or deal with unwanted catches; eliminating impacts on ecosystem and sea bed; protecting gears and catches from mammals and birds; fish aggregating device in outermost regions	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation	3	Numerical	
I.16	Article 39 and Article 44(1)(c) Innovation linked to conservation of marine biological resources	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Type of operation: developing new technical or organisational knowledge reducing impacts; introducing new technical or organisational knowledge reducing impacts; developing new technical or organisational knowledge achieving sustainable use; introducing new technical or organisational knowledge achieving sustainable use	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation	3	Numerical	
I.17	Article 40(1)(a) Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity — collection of waste	— Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation	1	Numerical	Yes

Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
I.18	Article 40(1)(b) to (g) and (i) and Article 44(6) Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity — contribution to a better management or conservation, construction, installation or modernisation of static or movable facilities, preparation of protection and management plans related to Natura 2000 sites and spatial protected areas, management, restoration and monitoring marine protected areas, including Natura 2000 sites, environmental awareness, participation in other actions aimed at maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Type of operation: investment in facilities; management of resources; management plans for Natura 2000 and SPA; management of Natura 2000; management of MPAs; increasing awareness; other actions enhancing biodiversity	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— Total area concerned by Natura 2000 (in km ²) (if relevant)	3	Numerical	
		— Total area concerned by MPA (in km ²) (if relevant)	4	Numerical	
		— Number of fishermen concerned	5	Numerical	
I.19	Article 40(1)(h) Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity — schemes for the compensation of damage to catches caused by mammals and birds	— Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation	1	Numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
I.20	Article 41(1)(a) to (c) and Article 44(1)(d) Energy efficiency and mitigation climate change —On-board investments, energy efficiency audits and schemes, studies	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea (only for Article 41(1)(a))
		— Type of operation: equipment on board; fishing gear; energy efficiency audits and schemes; studies	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation	3	Numerical	
		— % decrease in fuel consumption	4	Numerical	
		— % decrease in CO ₂ emissions if relevant	5	Numerical	

Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
I.21	Article 41(2) and Article 44(1)(d) Energy efficiency and mitigation climate change — Engine replacement or modernisation	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Type of operation: replacement of engine; modernisation	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— kW before intervention (certified or physically inspected)	3	Numerical	
		— kW after intervention (certified or physically inspected)	4	Numerical	
		— Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation	5	Numerical	
		— % decrease in fuel consumption	6	Numerical	
		— % decrease in CO ₂ emissions if relevant	7	Numerical	
I.22	Article 42 and Article 44(1)(e) Added value, product quality and use of unwanted catches	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Type of operation: investments that add value to products; investments on board that improve the quality of the fishery products	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation	3	Numerical	

Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
I.23	Article 43(1) and (3) and Article 44(1)(f) Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters — investments improving fishing port and auction halls infrastructure or landing sites and shelters, investments to improve the safety of fishermen	— Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both	1	See code in Table 2, numerical	Yes if operation relates to sea
		— Category of investment: Fishing ports; landing sites; auction halls; shelters	2	See code in Table 5, numerical	
		— Type of investment: quality; control and traceability; energy efficiency; environmental protection; safety & working conditions	3	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation	4	Numerical	
		— Number of other port users or other workers benefiting from the operation	5	Numerical	
I.24	Article 43(2) Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters — investments to facilitate compliance with the obligation to land all catches	— Category of investment: Fishing ports; landing sites; auction halls; shelters	1	See code in Table 5, numerical	No
		— Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation	2	Numerical	

Chapter II: Sustainable development of aquaculture

II.1	Article 47 Innovation	— Type of innovation: knowledge development; introduction of new species; feasibility studies	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Type of research body involved	2	See code in Table 4, numerical	
		— Number of employees benefiting from the operation directly linked in the enterprises supported	3	Numerical	

Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
II.2	Article 48(1)(a) to (d) and (f) to (h) Productive investments in aquaculture	— Type of investment: productive; diversification; modernisation; animal health; quality of products; restoration; complementary activities	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Number of employees benefiting from the operation	2	Numerical	
II.3	Article 48(1)(e) and (i) and (j) Productive investments in aquaculture — resource efficiency, reducing usage of water and chemicals, recirculation systems minimising water use	— Type of investment: environmental and resources; water usage and quality; closed systems	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
II.4	Article 48(1)(k) Productive investments in aquaculture — increasing energy efficiency, renewable energy	— Type of investment: energy efficiency; renewable energy	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
II.5	Article 49 Management, relief and advisory services for aquaculture farms	— Type of operation: setting up management; purchase of farm advisory services; relief and advisory services (focus on compliance with environmental legislation); relief and advisory services (focus on environmental impact assessment); relief and advisory services (focus on compliance with animal welfare, health & safety, and public health legislations); relief and advisory services (focus on marketing & business strategies)	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Number of employees benefiting from the operation	2	Numerical	

Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
II.6	Article 50 Promotion of human capital and networking	— Type of activity: professional training; lifelong learning; dissemination; new professional skills; improvement of working conditions and promotion of occupational safety; networking and exchange of experience	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Number of employees benefiting from the operation	2	Numerical	
		— Number of spouses and life-partners benefiting from the operation	3	Numerical	
II.7	Article 51 Increasing the potential of aquaculture sites	— Type of operation: identification of areas; improvement of support facilities and infrastructures; preventing serious damage; actions following the detection of increased mortalities or diseases	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Number of employees benefiting from the operation	2	Numerical	
II.8	Article 52 Encouraging new aquaculture farmers practising sustainable aquaculture	— Total area concerned (in km ²)	1	Numerical	No
		— Number of employees benefiting from the operation	2	Numerical	
II.9	Article 53 Conversion to eco-management and audit schemes and organic aquaculture	— Type of operation: conversion to organic aquaculture; participation in EMAS	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Number of employees benefiting from the operation	2	Numerical	
		— Total area concerned (in km ²)	3	Numerical	

Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
II.10	Article 54 Aquaculture providing environmental services	— Type of operation: aquaculture in Natura 2000 areas; <i>ex situ</i> conservation and reproduction; aquaculture operations including conservation and improvement of environment and biodiversity	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Number of employees benefiting from the operation	2	Numerical	
		— Total area concerned by Natura 2000 (in km ²)	3	Numerical	
		— Total area concerned outside Natura 2000 (in km ²)	4	Numerical	
II.11	Article 55 Public health measures	— Number of employees benefiting from the operation	1	Numerical	No
II.12	Article 56 Animal health and welfare measures	— Type of operation: control and eradication of diseases; best practices and codes of conduct; reduction of dependence on veterinary medicines; veterinary or pharmaceutical studies and good practices; health protection groups; compensation to mollusc farmers	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Number of employees benefiting from the operation	2	See code in Table 3, numerical	
II.13	Article 57 Aquaculture stock insurance	— Number of employees benefiting from the operation	1	Numerical	No

Chapter III: Sustainable development of fisheries and aquaculture areas

III.1	Article 62(1)(a) Preparatory support	— Type of beneficiary	1	See code in Table 4, numerical	No
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Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
III.2	Article 63 Implementation of local development strategies — selection of FLAGs ⁽¹⁾	— Total population covered by FLAG (in units)	1	Numerical	No
		— Number of public partners in FLAG	2	Numerical	
		— Number of private partners in FLAG	3	Numerical	
		— Number of civil society partners in FLAG	4	Numerical	
		— Number of FTE employed by FLAG for administration	5	Numerical	
		— Number of FTE employed by FLAG for animation	6	Numerical	
III.3	Article 63 Implementation of local development strategies — Projects supported by FLAGs (including running costs and animation)	— Type of operation: adding value; diversification; environment; socio-cultural; governance; running costs and animation	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Type of beneficiary	2	See code in Table 4, numerical	
III.4	Article 64 Cooperation activities	— Type of operation: preparatory support; projects within the same MS; projects with other MS; projects with partners outside the EU	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Number of partners if relevant	2	Numerical	
Chapter IV: Marketing and processing related measures					
IV.1	Article 66 Production and marketing plans	— Number of members of producers' organisations involved	1	Numerical	No
IV.2	Article 67 Storage aid	— Number of producers' organisations members benefiting from the operation	1	Numerical	No

Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
IV.3	Article 68 Marketing measures	— Type of operation: create producers' organisations, association or inter-branch organisations; find new markets and improve marketing conditions (focus on species with marketing potential); find new markets and improve marketing conditions (focus on unwanted catches); find new markets and improve marketing conditions (focus on products with low impact or organic products); promoting quality and value-added (focus on certification and promotion sustainable products); promoting quality and value-added (focus on quality schemes); promoting quality and value-added (focus on direct marketing); promoting quality and value-added (focus on packaging); transparency of production; traceability and eco-labels; standard contracts; communication and promotional campaigns	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	
		— Number of firms benefiting from the operation	2	Numerical	
		— Number of producers' organisations members benefiting from the operation	3	Numerical	
IV.4	Article 69 Processing of fishery and aquaculture products	— Type of investment: energy saving or reducing impact on the environment; improve safety, hygiene, health, working conditions; processing catches not for human consumption; processing by-products; processing of organic aquaculture products; new or improved products, processes or management system	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Number of firms supported	2	Numerical	
		— Number of employees benefiting from the operation	3	Numerical	

Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
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Chapter V: Compensation for additional costs in outermost regions for fishery and aquaculture products

V.1	Article 70 Compensation regime	— Additional costs compensated	1	Numerical	No
		— Number of firms benefiting from the operation	2	Numerical	
		— Number of employees benefiting from the operation	3	Numerical	

Chapter VI: Accompanying measures for the common fisheries policy under shared management

VI.1	Article 76 Control and enforcement	— Type of operation: purchase, installation and development of technology; development, purchase and installation of the components to ensure data transmission; development, purchase and installation of the components necessary to ensure traceability; implementation of programmes for exchanging and analysing data; modernisation and purchase of patrol vessels, aircraft and helicopters; purchase of other control means; development of innovative control and monitoring systems and pilot projects; training and exchange programmes; cost/benefit analyses and assessments of audits; seminars and media tools; operational costs; implementation of an action plan	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	Yes if investments on board
		— Type of beneficiary	2	See code in Table 4, numerical	
VI.2	Article 77 Data collection	— Type of beneficiary	1	See code in Table 4, numerical	No

Code of the measure Column 18	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data	Code of the implementation data Column 20	Possible value and type of value Column 21	Community Fleet Register number (CFR) mandatory (Yes or No)
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Chapter VII: Technical Assistance at the initiative of the Member State

VII.1	Article 78 Technical Assistance at the initiative of the Member State	— Type of operation: implementation of the operational programme; IT systems; improving administrative capacity; communication activities; evaluation; studies; control and audit, network of FLAGs; other	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
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Chapter VIII: Fostering the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy

VIII.1	Article 80(1)(a) Integrating Maritime Surveillance	— Type of operation: contributing to IMS; contributing to CISE	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Type of beneficiary	2	See code in Table 4, numerical	
VIII.2	Article 80(1)(b) Promotion of the protection of marine environment, and the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources	— Type of operation: MPA; Natura 2000	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Surface of MPA covered (km ²) (if relevant)	2	Numerical	
		— Surface of Natura 2000 covered (km ²) (if relevant)	3	Numerical	
		— Type of beneficiary	4	See code in Table 4, numerical	
VIII.3	Article 80(1)(c) Improving the knowledge on the state of the marine environment	— Type of operation: establishment of monitoring programme; establishment of measures for MSFD	1	See code in Table 3, numerical	No
		— Type of beneficiary	2	See code in Table 4, numerical	

(¹) Information to be provided only when the FLAG is selected

Table 2 — type of fisheries

Code	Description
1	Sea
2	Inland fisheries
3	Both

Table 3 — types of operation

Code	Description	Linked to measure(s) code
1	Products and equipment	I.1
2	Process and techniques	I.1
3	Management and organisation system	I.1
4	Feasibility studies and advisory services	I.2
5	Professional advice	I.2
6	Business strategies	I.2
7	Networks	I.3
8	Partnership agreement or association	I.3
9	Data collection and management	I.3
10	Studies	I.3
11	Pilot projects	I.3
12	Dissemination	I.3
13	Seminars	I.3
14	Best practices	I.3

Code	Description	Linked to measure(s) code
15	Training and learning	I.4, I.5
16	Networking	I.4
17	Social dialogue	I.4
18	Investments on board	I.6
19	Angling tourism	I.6
20	Restaurants	I.6
21	Environmental services	I.6
22	Educational activities	I.6
23	Investment on board	I.8
24	Individual equipment	I.8
25	Adverse climatic event	I.12
26	Environmental incident	I.12
27	Rescue costs	I.12
28	Design	I.13, I.14
29	Development	I.13, I.14
30	Monitoring	I.13, I.14
31	Evaluation	I.13
32	Management	I.13
33	Stakeholder participation	I.14
34	Direct restocking	I.14
35	Selectivity of gear	I.15

Code	Description	Linked to measure(s) code
36	Reduce discards or deal with unwanted catches	I.15
37	Eliminating impacts on ecosystem and sea bed	I.15
38	Protecting gears and catches from mammals and birds	I.15
39	Fish aggregating device in outermost regions	I.15
40	Developing new technical or organisational knowledge reducing impacts	I.16
41	Introducing new technical or organisational knowledge reducing impacts	I.16
42	Developing new technical or organisational knowledge achieving sustainable use	I.16
43	Introducing new technical or organisational knowledge achieving sustainable use	I.16
44	Investment in facilities	I.18
45	Management of resources	I.18
46	Management plans for Natura 2000 and SPA	I.18
47	Management of Natura 2000	I.18
48	Management of MPAs	I.18
49	Increasing awareness	I.18
50	Other actions enhancing biodiversity	I.18
51	Equipment on board	I.20
52	Fishing gear	I.20
53	Energy efficiency audits and schemes	I.20
54	Studies	I.20
55	Replacement of engine	I.21
56	Modernisation	I.21

Code	Description	Linked to measure(s) code
57	Investments that add value to products	I.22
58	Investments on board that improve the quality of the fishery products	I.22
59	Quality	I.23
60	Control and traceability	I.23
61	Energy efficiency	I.23
62	Environmental protection	I.23
63	Safety & working condition	I.23
64	Knowledge development	II.1
65	Introduction of new species	II.1
66	Feasibility studies	II.1
67	Productive	II.2
68	Diversification	II.2
69	Modernisation	II.2
70	Animal health	II.2
71	Quality of products	II.2
72	Restoration	II.2
73	Complementary activities	II.2
74	Environmental and resources	II.3
75	Water usage and quality	II.3
76	Closed systems	II.3
77	Energy efficiency	II.4

Code	Description	Linked to measure(s) code
78	Renewable energy	II.4
79	Setting up management	II.5
80	Purchase of farm advisory services	II.5
81	Relief and advisory services (focus on compliance with environmental legislation)	II.5
82	Relief and advisory services (focus on environmental impact assessment)	II.5
83	Relief and advisory services (focus on compliance with animal welfare, health & safety, and public health legislations)	II.5
84	Relief and advisory services (focus on marketing & business strategies)	II.5
85	Professional training	II.6
86	Lifelong learning	II.6
87	Dissemination	II.6
88	New professional skills	II.6
89	Improvement of working conditions and promotion of occupational safety	II.6
90	Networking and exchange of experience	II.6
91	Identification of areas	II.7
92	Improvement of support facilities and infrastructures	II.7
93	Preventing serious damage	II.7
94	Actions following the detection of increased mortalities or diseases	II.7
95	Conversion to organic aquaculture	II.9
96	Participation in EMAS	II.9
97	Aquaculture in Natura 2000 areas	II.10

Code	Description	Linked to measure(s) code
98	<i>Ex-situ</i> conservation and reproduction	II.10
99	Aquaculture operations including conservation and improvement of environment and biodiversity	II.10
100	Control and eradication of diseases	II.12
101	Best practices and codes of conduct	II.12
102	Reduction of dependence on veterinary medicines	II.12
103	Veterinary or pharmaceutical studies and good practices	II.12
104	Health protection groups	II.12
105	Compensation to mollusc farmers	II.12
106	Adding value	III.3
107	Diversification	III.3
108	Environment	III.3
109	Socio-cultural	III.3
110	Governance	III.3
111	Running costs and animation	III.3
112	Preparatory support	III.4
113	Projects within the same MS	III.4
114	Projects with other MS	III.4
115	Projects with partners outside the EU	III.4
116	Create producers' organisations, association or inter-branch organisations	IV.3
117	Find new markets and improve marketing conditions (focus on species with marketing potential)	IV.3
118	Find new markets and improve marketing conditions (focus on unwanted catches)	IV.3

Code	Description	Linked to measure(s) code
119	Find new markets and improve marketing conditions (focus on products with low impact or organic products)	IV.3
120	Promoting quality and value-added (focus on certification and promotion sustainable products)	IV.3
121	Promoting quality and value-added (focus on quality schemes)	IV.3
122	Promoting quality and value-added (focus on direct marketing)	IV.3
123	Promoting quality and value-added (focus on packaging)	IV.3
124	Transparency of production	IV.3
125	Traceability and eco-labels	IV.3
126	Standard contracts	IV.3
127	Communication and promotional campaigns	IV.3
128	Energy saving or reducing impact on the environment	IV.4
129	Improve safety, hygiene, health, working conditions	IV.4
130	Processing catches not for human consumption	IV.4
131	Processing by-products	IV.4
132	Processing of organic aquaculture products	IV.4
133	New or improved products, processes or management system	IV.4
134	Purchase, installation and development of technology	VI.1
135	Development, purchase and installation of the components to ensure data transmission	VI.1
136	Development, purchase and installation of the components necessary to ensure traceability	VI.1
137	Implementation of programmes for exchanging and analysing data	VI.1
138	Modernisation and purchase of patrol vessels, aircrafts and helicopters	VI.1
139	Purchase of other control means	VI.1

Code	Description	Linked to measure(s) code
140	Development of innovative control and monitoring systems and pilot projects	VI.1
141	Training and exchange programmes	VI.1
142	Cost/benefit analyses and assessments of audits	VI.1
143	Seminars and media tools	VI.1
144	Operational costs	VI.1
145	Implementation of an action plan	VI.1
146	Implementation of the operational programme	VII.1
147	IT systems	VII.1
148	Improving administrative capacity	VII.1
149	Communication activities	VII.1
150	Evaluation	VII.1
151	Studies	VII.1
152	Control and audit	VII.1
153	Network of FLAGs	VII.1
154	Other	VII.1
155	Contributing to IMS	VIII.1
156	Contributing to CISE	VIII.1
157	MPA	VIII.2
158	Natura 2000	VIII.2
159	Establishment of monitoring programme	VIII.3
160	Establishment of measures for MSFD	VIII.3

Table 4 — types of beneficiary

Code	Description
1	Public authority
2	Legal person
3	Natural person
4	Organisation of fishermen
5	Producers' organisations
6	NGO
7	Research centre/University
8	Mixed

Table 5 — Categories of investment

Code	Description	Linked to measure(s) code
1	Fishing ports	I.23, I.24
2	Landing sites	I.23, I.24
3	Auction halls	I.23, I.24
4	Shelters	I.23, I.24

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) No 1243/2014
of 20 November 2014

laying down rules pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund with regard to the information to be sent by Member States, as well as on data needs and synergies between potential data sources

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2328/2003, (EC) No 861/2006, (EC) No 1198/2006 and (EC) No 791/2007 and Regulation (EU) No 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 107(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽²⁾ lays down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the European Social Fund (ESF), the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF). That Regulation requires the Member States' managing authorities to establish a system to record and store, in computerised form, data on each operation necessary for monitoring, evaluation, financial management, verification and audit, including data on individual operations.
- (2) Annex III to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 480/2014 ⁽³⁾ lists the data to be recorded and stored in computerised form for each operation within the monitoring system established by each Member State.
- (3) Additional rules on data recording and transmission are needed for the functioning of the common monitoring and evaluation system provided for by Article 107 of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014. In accordance with Article 107(3) of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014, those rules should specify the information to be sent by Member States, whilst seeking the greatest synergies with other potential data sources such as the list of data to be recorded and stored as required by Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.
- (4) In order to allow for the prompt application of the measures provided for in this Regulation, this Regulation should enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.
- (5) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Subject matter

This Regulation establishes the rules on the information to be sent to the Commission by the Member States in order to permit the monitoring and evaluation of the operations financed under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) under shared management.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 149, 20.5.2014, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 320).

⁽³⁾ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 480/2014 of 3 March 2014 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (OJ L 138, 13.5.2014, p. 5).

*Article 2***List of data and database structure**

1. Each Member State shall record in its database as referred to in Article 125(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and provide to the Commission a list of data containing the information referred to in Article 107(3) of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 and complying with the structure set out in Annex I to this Regulation.
2. The list of data shall be recorded and provided to the Commission for each operation selected for funding under the operational programme supported by the EMFF.

*Article 3***Entering information in the database**

The data referred to in Article 2 shall be entered in the database at the following two stages:

- (a) at the time of approval of an operation;
- (b) once an operation has been completed.

*Article 4***Operation implementation data**

The information referred to in Part D of Annex I (Operation implementation data) shall be based on the fields outlined in Annex II.

*Article 5***Entry into force**

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 20 November 2014.

For the Commission
The President
Jean-Claude JUNCKER

DATABASE STRUCTURE

PART A

Administrative information:

Field	Content of field	Description	Data needs and synergies
1	CCI	Common Code of Identification of the operational programme	Data field 19 of Annex III to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 480/2014 ⁽¹⁾
2	Unique Identifier of the Operation (ID)	Required for all operations supported by the Fund	Data field 5 of Annex III to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 480/2014
3	Name of the operation	If available and if field 2 is a number	Data field 5 of Annex III to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 480/2014
4	Vessel number 'Community Fleet Register number' (CFR ⁽²⁾)	Where relevant	EMFF Specific
5	NUTS code ⁽³⁾	Put most relevant NUTS level (default = level III)	EMFF Specific
6	Beneficiary	Beneficiary name (only legal entities and natural persons in accordance with national law)	Data field 1 of Annex III to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 480/2014
7	Gender of beneficiary	Where relevant (possible value: 1: male, 2: female, 3: other)	EMFF Specific
8	Size of enterprise	Where relevant ⁽⁴⁾ (possible values: 1: micro, 2: small, 3: medium, 4: large)	EMFF Specific
9	State of progress of the operation	1 digit: code 0 = operation covered by a decision granting aid but for which no expenditure has yet been certified to the Commission code 1 = operation interrupted following partial implementation (for which some expenditure has been certified to the Commission)	EMFF Specific

Field	Content of field	Description	Data needs and synergies
		code 2 = operation abandoned following partial implementation (for which some expenditure has been certified to the Commission) code 3 = operation completed (for which all expenditures have been certified to the Commission)	

(¹) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 480/2014 of 3 March 2014 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (OJ L 138, 13.5.2014, p. 5).

(²) Annex I to Commission Regulation (EC) No 26/2004 of 30 December 2003 on the Community fishing fleet register (OJ L 5, 9.1.2004, p. 25).

(³) Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) (OJ L 154, 21.6.2003, p. 1).

(⁴) In accordance with Article 2(28) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of 17 December 2013 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 320) for SMEs.

PART B

Expenditure forecast (In the currency applicable to the operation)

Field	Content of field	Description	Data needs and synergies
10	Total eligible cost	Amount of the total eligible cost of the operation approved in the document setting out the conditions for support.	Data field 41 of Annex III to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 480/2014
11	Total eligible public cost	Amount of the total eligible costs constituting public expenditure as defined in Article 2(15) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.	Data field 42 of Annex III to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 480/2014
12	EMFF support	Amount of public support, as set out in the document setting out the conditions for support.	EMFF specific
13	Date of approval	Date of the document setting out the conditions for support	Data field 12 of Annex III to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 480/2014

PART C

Financial implementation of the operation (in EUR)

Field	Content of field	Description	Data needs and synergies
14	Total eligible expenditure	Eligible expenditure declared to the Commission established on the basis of costs actually incurred and paid, together with in-kind contributions and depreciations, where applicable.	Data field 53 of Annex III to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 480/2014

Field	Content of field	Description	Data needs and synergies
15	Total eligible public expenditure	Public expenditure, as defined in Article 2(15) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, corresponding to the eligible expenditure declared to the Commission established on the basis of costs actually reimbursed and paid, together with in-kind contributions and depreciations, where applicable.	Data field 54 of Annex III to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 480/2014
16	EMFF eligible expenditure	EMFF expenditure corresponding to the eligible expenditure declared to the Commission	EMFF specific
17	Date of final payment to beneficiary		Data field 45 of Annex III to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 480/2014 (only date of final payment to beneficiary)

PART D

Operation implementation data

Field	Content of field	Comment	Data needs and synergies
18	Measure concerned	Code of the measure (see Annex II)	EMFF specific
19	Output indicator	Numerical value	EMFF specific
20	Operation implementation data	See Annex II	EMFF specific
21	Value of the implementation data	Numerical value	EMFF specific

PART E

Result indicators

Field	Content of field	Comment	Data needs and synergies
22	Result indicator(s) related to the operation	Code number of the result indicator ⁽¹⁾	EMFF specific
23	Indicative result expected by the beneficiary	Numerical value	EMFF specific
24	Value of result indicator when validated after implementation	Numerical value	EMFF specific

⁽¹⁾ Established in accordance with Article 107(1) of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014.

OPERATION IMPLEMENTATION DATA

Code of the measure	Measures in Regulation (EU) No 508/2014	Operation implementation data
Chapter I: Sustainable development in fisheries		
I.1	Article 26 and Article 44(3) Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Type of innovation: Products and equipment; process and techniques; management and organisation system — Number of people benefiting from the operation directly in companies supported
I.2	Article 27 and Article 44(3) Advisory services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Type of advisory service: feasibility studies and advisory services; professional advice; business strategies
I.3	Article 28 and Article 44(3) Partnerships between scientists and fishermen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Type of activities: networks; partnership agreement or association; data collection and management; studies; pilot projects; dissemination; seminars; best practices — Number of scientists involved in partnership — Number of fishermen involved in partnership — Number of other bodies involved in the operation
I.4	Article 29(1) and (2) and Article 44(1)(a) Promotion of human capital, job creation and social dialogue — training, networking, social dialogue, support to spouse and partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Type of activities: training and learning; networking; social dialogue — Number of spouses and partners benefiting from the operation — Number of people or organisations benefiting from the operation (participants in training, members of networks, organisations involved in social dialogue actions)
I.5	Article 29(3) and Article 44(1)(a) Promotion of human capital, job creation and social dialogue — trainees on board of SSCF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Type of activities: training and learning — Number of trainees benefiting from the operation
I.6	Article 30 and Article 44(4) Diversification and new forms of income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Type of diversification: investments on board; angling tourism; restaurants; environmental services; educational activities — Number of fishermen concerned

Code of the measure	Measures in Regulation (EU) No 508/2014	Operation implementation data
I.7	Article 31 and Article 44(2) Start-up support for young fishermen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Age of the young fishermen benefiting from the operation
I.8	Article 32 and Article 44(1)(b) Health and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Type of equipment concerned: investment on board; individual equipment — Number of fishermen concerned by the operation
I.9	Article 33 Temporary cessation of fishing activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Number of fishermen concerned — Number of days covered
I.10	Article 34 Permanent cessation of fishing activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Number of fishermen concerned
I.11	Article 35 Mutual Fund for adverse climatic events and environmental incidents — Creation of the Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Name of mutual fund
I.12	Article 35 Mutual Fund for adverse climatic events and environmental incidents — Compensations paid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Compensation paid for: adverse climatic events; environmental incidents; rescue costs — Number of vessels concerned — Number of crew members concerned
I.13	Article 36 Support for the systems of allocation of fishing opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Type of activity: design; development; monitoring; evaluation; management — Type of beneficiary: public authority; legal or natural person; organisation of fishermen; producers organisations; other
I.14	Article 37 Support for the design and implementation of conservation measures and regional co-operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Type of activity: design; development and monitoring; stakeholder participation; direct restocking — Number of stocks concerned if relevant — Total area concerned by project (in km²)
I.15	Article 38 and Article 44(1)(c) Limitation of the impact of fishing on the marine environment and adaptation of fishing to the protection of species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Type of investment: selectivity of gear; reduce discards or deal with unwanted catches; eliminating impacts on ecosystem and sea bed; protecting gears and catches from mammals and birds; fish aggregating device in outermost regions — Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation

Code of the measure	Measures in Regulation (EU) No 508/2014	Operation implementation data
I.16	Article 39 and Article 44(1)(c) Innovation linked to conservation of marine biological resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Type of operation: developing new technical or organisational knowledge reducing impacts; introducing new technical or organisational knowledge achieving sustainable use; introducing new technical or organisational knowledge achieving sustainable use — Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation
I.17	Article 40(1)(a) Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity — collection of waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation
I.18	Article 40(1)(b) to (g) and (i) and Article 44(6) Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity — contribution to a better management or conservation, construction, installation or modernisation of static or movable facilities, preparation of protection and management plans related to NATURA 2000 sites and spatial protected areas, management, restoration and monitoring marine protected areas, including NATURA 2000 sites, environmental awareness, participation in other actions aimed at maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Type of operation: investment in facilities; management of resources; management plans for NATURA 2000 and SPA; management of NATURA 2000; management of MPAs; increasing awareness; other actions enhancing biodiversity — Total area concerned by Natura 2000 (in km²) — Total area concerned by MPA (in km²) — Number of fishermen concerned
I.19	Article 40(1)(h) Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity — schemes for the compensation of damage to catches caused by mammals and birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation
I.20	Article 41(1)(a),(b) and (c) and 44(1)(d) Energy efficiency and mitigation climate change — On board investments, energy efficiency and audit schemes, studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Type of operation: equipment on board; fishing gear; energy efficiency; studies — Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation — % decrease in fuel consumption — % decrease in CO₂ emissions if relevant

Code of the measure	Measures in Regulation (EU) No 508/2014	Operation implementation data
I.21	Article 41(2) and Article 44(1)(d) Energy efficiency and mitigation climate change — Engine replacement or modernisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Type of operation: replacement; modernisation — kW before intervention (certified or physically inspected) — kW after intervention (certified or physically inspected) — Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation — % decrease in fuel consumption — % decrease in CO₂ emissions if relevant
1.22	Article 42 and Article 44(1)(e) Added value, product quality and use of unwanted catches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Type of operation: investments that add value to products; investments on board that improve the quality of the fishery products — Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation
1.23	Article 43(1) and (3) and Article 44(1)(f) Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters — investments improving fishing port and auctions halls infrastructure or landing sites and shelters; investments to improve the safety of fishermen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Indication as to whether the operation relates to sea or inland fishing or both — Category of investment: Fishing ports; landing sites; auction halls; shelters — Type of investment: quality; control and traceability; energy efficiency; environmental protection; safety & working conditions — Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation — Number of other port users or other workers benefiting from the operation
I.24	Article 43(2) Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters — investments to facilitate compliance with the obligation to land all catches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Category of investment: Fishing ports; landing sites; auction halls; shelters — Number of fishermen benefiting from the operation

Chapter II: Sustainable development of aquaculture

II.1	Article 47 Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Type of innovation: knowledge development; introduction of new species; feasibility studies — Type of research body involved: private, public — Number of employees benefiting from the operation directly in the enterprises supported
II.2	Article 48(1)(a) to (d) and (f) to (h) Productive investments in aquaculture-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Type of investment: productive; diversification; modernisation; animal health; quality of products; restoration; complementary activities — Number of employees benefiting from the operation

Code of the measure	Measures in Regulation (EU) No 508/2014	Operation implementation data
II.3	Article 48(1)(e), (i) and (j) Productive investments in aquaculture — resource efficiency, reducing usage of water and chemicals, recirculation systems minimising water use	— Type of investment: environmental and resources; water usage and quality; closed systems
II.4	Article 48(1)(k) Productive investments in aquaculture — increasing energy efficiency, renewable energy	— Type of investment: energy efficiency; renewable energy
II.5	Article 49 Management, relief and advisory services for aquaculture farms	— Type of operation: setting-up management; relief and advisory services; purchase of farm advisory services — Type of advisory service if relevant: compliance with environmental legislation; environmental impact assessment; compliance with animal welfare, health & safety, and public health legislations; marketing & business strategies — Number of employees benefiting from the operation
II.6	Article 50 Promotion of human capital and networking	— Type of activity: professional training; lifelong learning; dissemination; new professional skills; improvement of working conditions and promotion of occupational safety; networking and exchange of experience. — Number of employees benefiting from the operation — Number of spouses and life-partners benefiting from the operation
II.7	Article 51 Increasing the potential of aquaculture sites	— Type of operation: identification of areas; improvement of support facilities and infrastructures; preventing serious damage; actions following the detection of mortality or diseases. — Number of employees benefiting from the operation
II.8	Article 52 Encouraging new sustainable aquaculture farmers practising sustainable aquaculture	— Total area concerned (in km ²) — Number of employees benefiting from the operation
II.9	Article 53 Conversion to eco-management and audit schemes and organic aquaculture	— Type of operation: conversion to organic aquaculture; participation in EMAS — Number of employees benefiting from the operation — Total area concerned (in km ²)
II.10	Article 54 Aquaculture providing environmental services	— Type of operation: aquaculture in Natura 2000; ex-situ conservation and reproduction; aquaculture operations including conservation and improvement of environment and biodiversity. — Number of employees benefiting from the operation — Total area concerned by Natura 2000 (in km ²) — Total area concerned outside Natura 2000 (in km ²)

Code of the measure	Measures in Regulation (EU) No 508/2014	Operation implementation data
II.11	Article 55 Public health measures	— Number of employees benefiting from the operation
II.12	Article 56 Animal health and welfare measures	— Type of operation: control and eradication of diseases; best practices and codes of conduct; reduction of dependence on veterinary medicines; veterinary or pharmaceutical studies and good practices; health protection groups; compensation to mollusc farmers. — Number of employees benefiting from the operation
II.13	Article 57 Aquaculture stock insurance	— Number of employees benefiting from the operation

Chapter III: Sustainable development of fisheries and aquaculture areas

III.1	Article 62(1)(a) Support from the EMFF for community-led local development — preparatory support	— Type of beneficiary: public body; NGO; other collective body; private individual
III.2	Article 63 Implementation of local development strategies — selection of FLAGs ⁽¹⁾	— Total population covered by FLAG (in units) — Number of public partners in FLAG — Number of private partners in FLAG — Number of civil society partners in FLAG — Number of FTE employed by FLAG for administration — Number of FTE employed by FLAG for animation
III.3	Article 63 Implementation of local development strategies — projects supported by FLAGs (including running costs and animation)	— Type of operation: adding value; diversification; environment; socio-cultural; governance; running costs and animation
III.4	Article 64 Cooperation activities	— Type of operation: preparatory support; projects within the same MS; projects with other MS; projects with partners outside the EU — N° of partners if relevant

Chapter IV: Marketing and processing related measures

IV.1	Article 66 Production and marketing plans	— Number of members of Producers Organisations involved
IV.2	Article 67 Storage aid	— Number of Producers Organisations members benefiting from the operation

Code of the measure	Measures in Regulation (EU) No 508/2014	Operation implementation data
IV.3	Article 68 Marketing measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Type of operation: create Producers Organisations, association or inter-branch organisations; find new markets and improve marketing conditions; promoting quality and value-added; transparency of production; traceability and eco-labels; standard contracts; communication and promotional campaigns. — For projects aiming at finding new markets and improving marketing conditions: species with marketing potential; unwanted catches; products with low impact or organic products. — For projects aiming at promoting quality and value-added: quality schemes; certification and promotion sustainable products; direct marketing; packaging. — Number of firms benefiting from the operation — Number of Producers Organisations members benefiting from the operation
IV.4	Article 69 Processing of fishery and aquaculture products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Type of investment: energy saving or reducing impact on the environment; improve safety, hygiene, health, working conditions; processing catches not for human consumption; processing by-products; processing of organic aquaculture products; new or improved products, processes or management system. — Number of firms supported — Number of employees benefiting from the operation

Chapter V: Compensation for additional costs in outermost regions for fishery and aquaculture products

V.1	Article 70 Compensation regime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Additional costs compensated — Number of firms benefiting from the operation — Number of employees benefiting from the operation
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Chapter VI: Accompanying measures for the common fisheries policy under shared management

VI.1	Article 76 Control and enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — type of operation: purchase, installation and development of technology; development, purchase and installation of the components to ensure data transmission; development, purchase and installation of the components necessary to ensure traceability; implementation of programmes for exchanging and analysing data; modernisation and purchase of patrol vessels, aircrafts and helicopters; purchase of other control means; development of innovative control and monitoring systems and pilot projects; training and exchange programmes; cost/benefit analyses and assessments of audits; seminars and media tools; operational costs; implementation of an action plan — Type of beneficiary: private, public, mixed — Number of fishing vessels concerned if relevant
VI.2	Article 77 Data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Type of beneficiary: private, public, mixed

Code of the measure	Measures in Regulation (EU) No 508/2014	Operation implementation data
Chapter VII: Technical Assistance at the initiative of the Member State		
VII.1	Article 78 Technical Assistance at the initiative of the Member State	— Type of operation: implementation of the operational programme; IT systems; improving administrative capacity; communication activities; evaluation; studies; control and audit, network of FLAGs; other
Chapter VIII: Fostering the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy		
VIII.1	Article 80(1)(a) Integrating Maritime Surveillance	— Type of operation: contributing to IMS; contributing to CISE — Type of beneficiary: private, public, mixed
VIII.2	Article 80(1)(b) Protection of marine environment, and the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources	— Type of operation: MPA; NATURA 2000 — Surface of MPA covered (km ²) — Surface of NATURA 2000 covered (km ²) — Type of beneficiary: private, public, mixed
VIII.3	Article 80(1)(c) Improving the knowledge on the state of the marine environment	— Type of operation: establishment of monitoring programme; establishment of measures for MSFD — Type of beneficiary: private, public, mixed
(1) Information to be provided only when the FLAG is selected.		

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) No 1244/2014
of 20 November 2014**

laying down rules for the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps ('EU Aid Volunteers initiative')

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps ('EU Aid Volunteers initiative')⁽¹⁾, in particular Articles 9(3), 10(1) and 12(6) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 375/2014, the Commission should establish standards and procedures covering the necessary conditions, arrangements and requirements to be applied by sending and hosting organisations when identifying, selecting, preparing, managing and deploying candidate volunteers and EU Aid Volunteers to support humanitarian aid in third countries. Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 provides that these standards should be adopted through delegated acts and the procedures should be adopted through implementing acts.
- (2) All stakeholders of the EU Aid Volunteers initiative, including the volunteers themselves and the sending and hosting organisations should be encouraged to share a sense of identity in the initiative.
- (3) It is important that candidate volunteers are identified and selected in a non-discriminatory, fair and transparent procedure, based on partnership between sending and hosting organisations, which meets the real needs expressed at local level by hosting organisations.
- (4) Thorough induction should be provided by both sending and hosting organisations to prevent misunderstandings on roles and expectations and to provide volunteers with appropriate, practical preparation for placements. This would lay the foundation for trust and acceptance within host communities taking full account of relevant cultural sensitivities.
- (5) Training is an essential part of the pre-deployment preparation that should be provided to all candidate volunteers in a structured programme of mandatory and optional courses. In addition, junior professionals should be enabled, where relevant through apprenticeship placements, to further develop their competences and acquire new specific knowledge and skills relevant for the humanitarian sector. In particular, this should be appropriate to the activities and context of sending and hosting organisations.
- (6) An appropriate supervision and management system should be put in place by sending and hosting organisations. They should jointly supervise and assess the performance and achievements of EU Aid Volunteers and provide feedback on their task assignments and objectives. This will help to improve the accountability of the EU Aid Volunteers initiative.
- (7) Mentoring should complement supervision and management and provide the EU Aid Volunteer with additional support before, during and after deployment.
- (8) A channel for ongoing communication and additional support from the sending organisation should be established during deployment in third countries. Debriefing and end of placement support should be provided to all EU Aid Volunteers.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 122, 24.4.2014, p. 1.

- (9) Provision of adequate working and living conditions are needed to allow EU Aid Volunteers to undertake their assignments in a safe and sanitary environment, and to meet their basic needs without suffering personal hardship, while respecting the spirit of a modest, non-ostentatious lifestyle as a volunteer. Subsistence allowances and other payments allocated to EU Aid Volunteers are not intended to represent a salary for regular employment. Rates for these payments should not be established in the light of professional experience, expertise or the results of the volunteer's task assignment: they aim uniquely to cover living costs during deployment. To ensure a high and equal level of protection, all EU Aid Volunteers should be covered by a comprehensive insurance policy specifically designed to protect them throughout the entire duration of their deployment in third countries and any relevant periods before and after.
- (10) Duty of care is of paramount importance and is a shared responsibility. Sending and hosting organisations should, as far as possible, look after the health, safety, security and well-being of EU Aid Volunteers and develop appropriate security, health and safety procedures. EU Aid Volunteers should equally do everything to ensure their own health, safety and security, and that of others, at the workplace.
- (11) The monitoring and assessment of the individual performance of EU Aid Volunteers should be an ongoing process throughout the entire placement. It should be based on a supervision and performance management system and provide data that demonstrates to what extent the individual performance of the EU Aid Volunteer contributes — at outcome and impact level — to the objectives of the project and the overall initiative.
- (12) A robust certification mechanism is necessary to ensure that sending and hosting organisations comply with the standards laid down in the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 and the procedures laid down in this Regulation. Such a certification mechanism should be based on the principles of simplification and non-duplication, differentiation between sending and hosting organisations, cost-effectiveness, transparency and impartiality, encouraging diversity and accessibility.
- (13) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established by Article 26 of the Regulation (EU) No 375/2014.
- (14) In order to ensure a timely implementation of the EU Aid Volunteers initiative, it is necessary for this Regulation to enter into force as an urgent matter as it sets the provisions based on which implementing organisations to deploy EU Aid Volunteers in third countries,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

CHAPTER 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Subject matter

This Regulation establishes rules to implement the Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 as regards the following matters listed in Articles 9(3), 10(1) and 12(6) thereof:

- (a) the procedures to be followed for the identification, selection and necessary pre-deployment preparation of candidate volunteers, including apprenticeship placements, where relevant;
- (b) arrangements for the training programme and the procedure for assessing the candidate volunteers' readiness to be deployed;
- (c) provisions for the deployment and management of EU Aid Volunteers in third countries, including, inter alia, supervision in the field, continued support through coaching, mentoring, additional training, necessary working conditions, post-deployment support;
- (d) the provision of insurance coverage and living conditions of volunteers including the coverage of subsistence, accommodation, travel and other relevant expenses;

- (e) procedures to be followed before, during and after deployment to ensure duty of care and appropriate safety and security measures, including medical evacuation protocols and security plans that cover emergency evacuation from third countries, including the necessary procedures for liaison with national authorities;
- (f) procedures for monitoring and assessing the individual performance of EU Aid Volunteers;
- (g) a certification mechanism ensuring that sending organisations comply with the standards and procedures referred to in Article 9 of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014, and a differentiated certification mechanism for hosting organisations.

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation, the definitions in Article 3 of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 and the definitions provided for in the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 shall apply. The following definitions shall also apply:

- (a) 'Competence framework' means a framework within the meaning laid down by the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014;
- (b) 'Learning and development plan' means a plan within the meaning laid down by the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014;
- (c) 'Trainer' means a person recruited by the training provider to deliver one or more training modules or to facilitate scenario-based simulation exercises and to assess the candidate volunteers' competences;
- (d) 'Training mentor' means a trainer, recruited by the training provider, with a coordinating role to assess the eligibility of the candidate volunteer for deployment. He or she is responsible for a group of candidate volunteers. He or she coordinates the assessment of their competences based on feedback from other trainers, and engages with candidate volunteers individually to reflect on their self-assessment and trainers' assessment;
- (e) 'Mentoring' means a process of informal transmission of knowledge, social capital and psychosocial support relevant to work, career or professional development. Mentoring entails informal communication, usually face-to-face and over a sustained period, between a person identified by the hosting organisation as the mentor, on one hand, who is perceived to have relevant knowledge, expertise and experience, and the EU Aid Volunteer, on the other;
- (f) 'Debriefing' means a process that provides the sending and hosting organisations and the EU Aid Volunteer with clear information on the results of the assignment, the achievements of the EU Aid Volunteers, and recommendations or learning from their experience, as well as capitalisation, lessons learnt and a positive professional closure of the placement.

CHAPTER 2

PROCEDURES FOR IDENTIFICATION AND SELECTION OF CANDIDATE VOLUNTEERS

Article 3

Identification and selection procedure

1. Sending and hosting organisations shall jointly set up an identification and selection procedure. Roles, responsibilities and processes shall be defined to ensure a transparent, fair and effective recruitment process in respect of the standard on equal treatment, equal opportunities and non-discrimination, as provided for in the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014.
2. The identification and selection procedure shall be based on a partnership between the sending and hosting organisations and ensure timely and ongoing communication. The sending organisation shall ensure that the hosting organisation is consistently involved throughout the entire recruitment process.
3. The agreed identification and selection procedure shall be applicable to all stages of the recruitment process.

4. The identification and selection procedure shall include as a minimum:
 - (a) Definition of the task assignment, competence profile and selection criteria for EU Aid Volunteers as provided for in Article 4;
 - (b) Announcement and application as provided for in Article 5;
 - (c) Assessment, long and short-listing of the applicants as provided for in Article 6;
 - (d) Selection as provided for in Article 7.

Article 4

Definition of the task assignment, competence profile and selection criteria for EU Aid Volunteers

1. Based on a needs assessment to be carried out in accordance with the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014, the hosting organisation shall propose, in accordance with the requirements set out in point 1 of Annex I, the task assignment for the EU Aid Volunteer, including flexible elements to take account the volunteer's input once recruited.
2. The sending organisation shall review the task assignment to help modify it, as needed, in order to ensure a suitable and realistic matching, taking into account the EU Aid Volunteers' expected competences and the absorption capacity and needs of the hosting organisation.
3. Based on the task assignment and competence framework, the sending and hosting organisations shall define a competence profile of the EU Aid Volunteer and selection criteria with minimum requirements to be used during the recruitment process. The competence profile shall also indicate whether the volunteer is a senior or junior professional and the need for any apprenticeship placement.

Article 5

Announcement and application

1. The sending organisation shall be responsible for the announcement of the placement. With input from the hosting organisation, it shall produce an announcement information pack in order to inform about the initiative and attract candidate volunteers.
2. The announcement shall be as a minimum in English, written in clear, concrete and accessible language, and provide information about the position offered to the candidate volunteer in accordance with the requirements set out in point 2 of Annex I.
3. It shall be published for a minimum of one month on the central platform of the EU Aid Volunteers initiative with the possibility to use additional promotion opportunities to attract applicants to the central platform. In duly justified circumstances for placements for response to humanitarian aid crisis, the announcement may be posted for less than a month, but not less than one week.
4. Applicants shall apply using a standardised application form, including a structured CV. Applicants shall also complete a standardised self-assessment questionnaire to assess their competences as required for the competence framework and their adaptability to the task assignment and living and working conditions referred to in the announcement. On these, they shall be required to give their consent.

Article 6

Assessment, long- and shortlisting

1. The sending organisation shall assess applicants based on the information provided in the application form and self-assessment questionnaire, a statement of their motivation to participate in the EU Aid Volunteers initiative — and in the specific placement — and an assessment of their ability to analyse a relevant scenario of humanitarian aid by means of a written test, essay or similar tests.

2. Based on the assessment, the sending organisation shall provide a longlist of applicants to the hosting organisation in view of jointly agreeing a shortlist of applicants to be interviewed.
3. Shortlisted applicants shall be invited to a structured interview based on the competence framework. The interview can be face-to-face or using telecommunication technologies, where possible, with the participation of the hosting organisation. Additional assessment methods may include assessment centres, group activities and work simulation exercises.
4. The sending organisation may perform, where necessary, personal and professional reference checks before final selection. Applicants shall be informed about the screening process at the start of the process in the announcement.

Article 7

Selection

1. The hosting organisation shall take the final decision about the candidate volunteer selected and shall confirm its selection to the sending organisation, which shall be responsible for offering a position and preparing the induction phase. For each position, substitute volunteers may be chosen to replace the candidate in case he or she resigns or is no longer available.
2. The sending and hosting organisations must be able to demonstrate and justify how they have taken their selection decision in respect of the principles of equal treatment, equal opportunities and non-discrimination throughout the entire identification and selection process.
3. The selection procedure shall be completed within a reasonable time period. The sending organisation shall inform all applicants about the selection decision and inform them about the possibility to receive feedback. It shall invite the successfully selected candidate volunteer to confirm in writing their interest to participate in the EU Aid Volunteers initiative.
4. The sending organisation shall ensure that documentation related to the identification and selection process is traceable and retained in compliance with the data protection standard as provided for in the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014.

Article 8

Assessment of learning needs

1. Based on the results of the recruitment process, the needs of the hosting organisation and the envisaged deployment, the sending organisation shall assess, in consultation with the hosting organisation and the candidate volunteer, the learning needs and identify training programme modules in which to participate based on the following criteria:
 - (a) Seniority, with the possibility for senior professionals to focus on mandatory modules and to choose the appropriate level of project management training and specialised optional modules;
 - (b) The needs of the hosting organisation for specific competences, to be addressed through participation of the candidate volunteer in optional modules;
 - (c) General competences of the candidate volunteer, to be addressed through participation in optional modules.
2. The sending organisation shall fill in the learning and development plan as provided for in the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 and identify the assessed competences of successfully selected candidate volunteers and their learning needs, to be transmitted to the training providers.

CHAPTER 3

TRAINING PROGRAMME OF THE EU AID VOLUNTEERS INITIATIVE

Article 9

Training programme

1. A training programme for all successfully selected candidate volunteers shall be implemented by training provider(s) with input, where relevant, from sending and hosting organisations and former volunteers.

2. The training programme shall be based on the competence framework and shall be adaptable to the needs of both junior and senior professionals.
3. The training programme shall consist of a combined learning approach based on e-learning and classroom modules.
4. Mandatory modules for all candidate volunteers shall include:
 - (a) General introduction to the Union its external relations and crisis response system;
 - (b) Introduction to humanitarian action, the Union humanitarian aid policy and the EU Aid Volunteers initiative;
 - (c) Managing personal safety, security and health;
 - (d) Project management;
 - (e) Inter-cultural awareness (and transversal issues);
 - (f) A scenario-based simulation exercise requiring candidate volunteers to demonstrate acquired competences.
5. Optional modules shall include:
 - (a) Advocacy and communication;
 - (b) Psychological first aid;
 - (c) Training of multipliers;
 - (d) Volunteer management;
 - (e) Organisational development;
 - (f) Tailor-made modules, where necessary, in particular related to adapting the technical competences of candidate volunteers to a humanitarian aid context.
6. Candidate volunteers shall attend all mandatory modules and may attend one or more optional modules to be selected in accordance with Article 8.
7. The training curriculum, with details of each module, including its status, target group, timeline, competences addressed and related learning outcomes, shall be as set out in Annex II.

Article 10

Assessment of candidate volunteers during and after training

1. During the training and upon its completion, candidate volunteers shall be assessed for their preparedness for deployment based on the competence framework.
2. The assessment shall be jointly organised by the trainers, with a key coordination role to be played by the candidate volunteer's training mentor.
3. The assessment of competences shall be based on the trainers' assessments of the candidate volunteer's knowledge, skills and attitude, including:
 - (a) Self-assessment to be completed by the candidate volunteer after the scenario-based simulation exercise;
 - (b) Observation notes to be provided by trainers after each module and after the scenario-based simulation exercise;
 - (c) Training mentor's assessment providing a critical review of the self-assessment and observation notes from a one-to-one mentoring session between the training mentor and the candidate volunteer based on feedback from trainers.
4. The assessment of all competences shall be included in the candidate volunteer's learning and development plan that shall be updated upon completion of the training and indicate the courses followed and the results obtained.
5. Candidate volunteers who display poor proficiency in any of the transversal or specific competences shall be disqualified. The trainers and the training mentor must be able to explain and justify, if necessary, any such assessment and decision.

CHAPTER 4

PROCEDURES FOR PRE-DEPLOYMENT PREPARATION OF CANDIDATE VOLUNTEERS*Article 11***Induction programme**

1. The induction process shall familiarise the candidate or EU Aid Volunteer with the sending and hosting organisations' culture, policies and practices, and the expectations of the task assignment.
2. The sending and hosting organisations shall jointly develop an induction programme. The programme shall define their roles and responsibilities based on inputs from returned EU Aid Volunteers, where possible, to benefit from their first-hand experience and learning. The programme shall comprise:
 - (a) Pre-deployment induction to be provided by the sending organisation as provided for in Article 12;
 - (b) In-country induction to be provided by the hosting organisation as provided for in Article 18.
3. The sending and hosting organisations shall organise, where appropriate, joint sessions involving all candidate or EU Aid Volunteers together.

*Article 12***Pre-deployment induction**

1. The sending organisations shall ensure that all candidate volunteers receive a thorough and appropriate face-to-face induction prior to their deployment. This shall cover, as a minimum, the following:
 - (a) Organisation and management structure and processes, teams involved in the project (including project manager, crisis management officer, human resources), organisational mission and objectives in relation to the EU Aid Volunteers initiative;
 - (b) Comprehensive information on the context of the project in which the candidate volunteer will operate, their task assignment and the needs assessment that underpins it; and the envisaged working and living conditions as provided for in Articles 22 and 24-27;
 - (c) The relevant legal framework applicable to the volunteer as provided for in the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014;
 - (d) Standards and procedures relevant to the volunteer, including disciplinary and grievance, anti-fraud and corruption, child and vulnerable adult safeguarding, code of conduct as provided for in the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014;
 - (e) Mandatory context-specific security briefing and health and safety briefing (including medical check prior to departure) as provided for in Articles 28 and 30;
 - (f) Supervision and performance management system and procedure, and support mechanisms in place, including mentoring and other support as provided for in Articles 19, 20 and 21;
 - (g) The learning and development plan;
 - (h) Information about the network for the EU Aid Volunteers initiative and how it supports volunteers before, during and after deployment;
 - (i) Information about the communication and visibility activities envisaged in the project, based on the communication plan referred to in Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014, including contact information for the responsible Regional Information Officer of the Commission.
 - (j) The debriefing process as provided for in Article 23.
2. In the context of the induction, the sending organisation shall also provide information about the Commission's humanitarian aid field office responsible for the country of deployment and inform this office of the imminent deployment of EU Aid Volunteers.

3. The sending organisation shall ensure that all information provided during the induction process is read and understood by the candidate volunteers and remains easily accessible throughout their participation in the EU Aid Volunteers initiative.

Article 13

Apprenticeship placements for junior professionals

1. Candidate volunteers who are junior professionals may be required, in addition to the training, to undertake an apprenticeship placement with a sending organisation to learn through experience the procedures, ethics and context of humanitarian work and further prepare for the envisaged deployment as an EU Aid Volunteer. The duration of the apprenticeship shall be for a maximum period of up to six months with a possibility for limited prolongation in duly justified exceptional cases.

2. The sending organisation, in consultation with the hosting organisation and the apprentice volunteer, shall review and update the learning needs in the learning and development plan based on the needs of the apprenticeship placement. The learning and development plan shall define in particular:

- (a) The learning outcomes the apprentice volunteer is expected to achieve during their apprenticeship period;
- (b) The tasks the apprentice volunteer will carry out as part of the learning process and resources to be put in place;
- (c) The objectives and results the apprentice volunteer is expected to achieve on completion of the apprenticeship period.

3. The following articles of this Regulation shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the apprenticeship placements with obligations for the sending organisations hosting the apprentice volunteers:

- (a) Article 19(4), (5), (6) and (9), Articles 21 and 22.
- (b) Article 24 except for paragraph 5. Candidate volunteers coming from EU countries or from third countries referred to in Article 23(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 under the conditions referred to in that Article who are covered by their national social security or insurance scheme in the country of their residence and who are undertaking apprenticeship placements in the above-mentioned countries shall receive only complementary coverage. This means that their insurance coverage shall be limited to costs over and above the coverage provided by the national social security or insurance scheme. In exceptionally justified cases, where the national social security or insurance scheme covers only part or none of the costs provided for in Article 24(5), 100 % of the costs incurred shall be covered.
- (c) Article 25 except for paragraph 6 Article 26 and Article 27(1), where relevant.
- (d) Article 28(1), (8) and (14) and Article 30(1), (4), (5), (6) and (7).

Article 14

Assessment of the candidate volunteers after apprenticeship

1. At the end of the apprenticeship, the apprentice volunteer shall complete a self-assessment based on the competence framework and the learning and development plan.

2. The line manager from the sending organisation, in consultation with the hosting organisation, shall review the self-assessment and assess the apprentice volunteer in particular to:

- (a) Assess performance of the apprentice volunteer against their objectives;
- (b) Review whether the results agreed have been achieved;
- (c) Identify the learning outcomes.

3. Candidate volunteers who display poor proficiency in any of the transversal or specific competences shall be disqualified and shall not be eligible to become an EU Aid Volunteer. The line manager from the sending organisation must be able to explain and justify, if necessary, any such assessment and decision.

Article 15

Additional pre-deployment training

Without prejudice to the participation of the candidate volunteer in the training programme or as an apprentice volunteer, the sending organisation may provide additional appropriate pre-deployment training, such as training related to adapting the technical competences of candidate volunteers to meet the needs of the hosting organisation, language training needed for the country of deployment, etc.

Article 16

Contract with the EU Aid Volunteer

1. Based on the outcomes from the pre-deployment induction and, where relevant, the apprenticeship placement and other pre-deployment training referred to in Articles 13-15, the sending organisation, in consultation with the hosting organisation, shall confirm the final assessment for eligibility of the candidate volunteer to be deployed as an EU Aid Volunteer.

2. The sending organisation and the successfully assessed EU Aid Volunteer shall sign a deployment contract as set out in Article 14(5) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014.

3. The contract, to be defined in close consultation with the hosting organisations, shall set out the specific terms of deployment and the rights and obligations of the EU Aid Volunteer. It shall also indicate the legislation applicable to the jurisdiction of the contract pursuant to the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 and include as a minimum the following elements:

- (a) Specification of the EU Aid Volunteer's role, title, duration and location of placement, and tasks to be performed as defined in the task assignment including the elements deriving from the communication plan referred to in Article 17 of the Regulation (EU) No 375/2014;
- (b) Duration of the contract, including start and end date;
- (c) Performance management, including:
 - Management arrangements, including the responsible line manager from the hosting organisation and contact point for ongoing support from the sending organisation;
 - Mentoring arrangements;
- (d) Working conditions, including working hours and leave;
- (e) The EU Aid Volunteer's financial rights and obligations, including the necessary arrangements for their provision:
 - Subsistence and resettlement allowance;
 - Information on applicable tax and social security rules;
 - Insurance coverage;
 - Accommodation;
 - Travel;
- (f) Practical arrangements:
 - Medical checks;
 - Visa and work permits;
- (g) Confidentiality;

- (h) Expected conduct from the EU Aid Volunteer, including integrity and code of conduct, and safeguarding children and vulnerable adults including zero tolerance towards sexual abuse, to be annexed to the contract;
- (i) Disciplinary policy and termination of volunteer status;
- (j) Mediation mechanism for problem-solving, grievance and dispute resolution;
- (k) Responsibilities and policies applicable to security management and health and safety;
- (l) Learning and development:
 - Training and induction;
 - Debriefing.

4. In the event of a dispute between the hosting or sending organisation and an EU Aid Volunteer, the EU Aid Volunteer shall have the right to an effective legal remedy, in accordance with the national provisions applicable to the sending organisation.

Article 17

Entry in the database

Upon receipt of the EU Aid Volunteer's explicit consent, the sending organisation shall enter the EU Aid Volunteer's data in the database referred to in Article 13 of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 ('the database'). Any processing of personal data in relation to this database must be done in accordance with data protection standard as provided for in the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014. For any processing of personal data in relation to this database by the Commission, Regulation (EC) No 45/2001⁽¹⁾ is applicable.

CHAPTER 5

PROCEDURES FOR DEPLOYMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF EU AID VOLUNTEERS

Article 18

In-country induction

1. Hosting organisations shall ensure that all EU Aid Volunteers receive a thorough and appropriate in-country induction upon their arrival in the country of deployment, covering as a minimum the following:
 - (a) Organisation and management structure and processes; teams involved in the project (including project management officer, operational and technical team, crisis management officer, support teams such as human resources and finance); project site(s); and organisational mission and objectives in relation to the EU Aid Volunteers initiative;
 - (b) Comprehensive information on the hosting organisation's mission, remit and projects; communities involved; operational context; and expectations on outputs and results from the EU Aid Volunteer's task assignment and the needs assessment that underpins it;
 - (c) Relevant local legal framework applicable to the EU Aid Volunteer;
 - (d) Mandatory context-specific security briefing and health and safety briefing as provided for in Articles 28 and 30;
 - (e) Supervision and performance management system and procedure and support mechanisms in place, including mentoring and other support as provided for in Articles 19, 20 and 21;
 - (f) Cultural briefing on the country, region and locality of deployment, including guidance on appropriate behaviour;
 - (g) In-country debriefing process as provided for in Article 23.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data; OJ L 8, 12.1.2001, p. 1

2. The hosting organisation shall ensure that all information provided during the in-country induction process is read and understood by the EU Aid Volunteer and remains easily accessible throughout their participation in the EU Aid Volunteers initiative.

Article 19

Supervision and performance management

1. Sending and hosting organisations shall jointly develop a performance management system, based on performance objectives, expected outputs and results, to measure the progress and quality of the EU Aid Volunteer's work according to the task assignment.

2. The performance management procedure shall specify the sending and hosting organisations' respective roles and responsibilities for the supervision of the EU Aid Volunteer.

3. During the induction, the sending and hosting organisations shall set, together with the EU Aid Volunteer, their performance objectives and provide them with the opportunity to comment on the flexible elements in the task assignment.

4. The hosting organisation shall designate a line manager who shall be responsible for supervising the EU Aid Volunteer, with whom the line manager shall have a reasonable and practical frequency of supervision meetings.

5. Where appropriate, depending on the length of the placement, the sending organisation and the line manager from the hosting organisation, together with the EU Aid Volunteer, shall carry out a joint mid-term performance review to formally evaluate the process of integration, progress on objectives, and to re-adjust the objectives and task assignment and the learning and development plan.

6. Where the conclusion of the mid-term review is that the EU Aid Volunteer displays poor proficiency in any of the transversal or specific competences, the hosting organisation in agreement with the sending organisation may take the decision to end the deployment prematurely. They must be able to explain and justify, if necessary, any such assessment and decision.

7. The sending organisation and the line manager from the hosting organisation, together with the EU Aid Volunteer, shall carry out a final performance review to evaluate at the end of the placement the achievements of the EU Aid Volunteer against the objectives for their task assignment and the learning and development plan.

8. The results from the performance review shall be integrated into the EU Aid Volunteer's learning and development plan.

9. The sending organisation shall retain the performance review records in accordance with the data protection standards as provided for in the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 and send confirmation to the database whether the placement has been successfully completed and, if not, the reason thereof.

Article 20

Ongoing support from sending organisations

1. Prior to deployment, the sending organisation shall designate a contact person who shall be available for the duration of the deployment and who shall have regular contacts with the EU Aid Volunteer to:

- (a) support the settlement and transition of the EU Aid Volunteer;
- (b) provide necessary additional support to the EU Aid Volunteer and the hosting organisation;
- (c) take part in the mid-term and final reviews and in other meetings, if necessary; and
- (d) provide mediation support in case of disagreement between the hosting organisation and the EU Aid Volunteer.

2. If the designated contact person is no longer able to fulfil this role during the deployment, a replacement shall be provided as promptly as possible to ensure continuity of support.

*Article 21***Mentoring**

1. The hosting organisation shall designate one or more mentors for the EU Aid Volunteer to provide support in areas such as:
 - (a) development of professional skills and improvement of performance and knowledge;
 - (b) cultural integration and acclimatisation;
 - (c) coaching related to the task assignment; and
 - (d) dealing with psychosocial issues.
2. The designated mentor(s) shall have access to, and base their support on, the EU Aid Volunteer's learning and development plan and task assignment. The mentor(s) shall meet regularly with the EU Aid Volunteer to reflect on their progress and help solve any placement-related and personal issues.
3. The mentoring shall take account of local realities and shall, where possible, be appropriate for local volunteers as well.
4. The sending organisation shall facilitate the provision of the mentoring by working in partnership with the hosting organisation to provide analytical, training and other capacity building support, and by identifying in their own structures and networks suitably and complementarily skilled designated individuals in case of low local skills availability.
5. Where appropriate, remote mentoring may be considered, in particular by using the network for the EU Aid Volunteers initiative.

*Article 22***Working conditions**

1. All EU Aid Volunteers shall have adequate working conditions to enable them to perform well during their placements and to ensure their well-being, motivation, health and safety. They shall be in accordance with relevant provisions of Directive 89/391/EC ⁽¹⁾ and Directive 2003/88/EC ⁽²⁾.
2. Sending and hosting organisations shall work jointly to define adequate working conditions based on the local and national operating contexts.
3. The hosting organisation shall provide the necessary information and propose the working conditions the suitability and appropriateness of which shall be assessed by the sending organisation to ensure consistency with their duty of care and the sending organisation's general policies and practices.
4. Sending and hosting organisations shall jointly ensure that security and health and safety risks are prevented, managed and mitigated and that the proposed working conditions follow the agreed security and health and safety procedures referred to in Articles 28, 29 and 30, and comply with the requirements for working hours, leave, minimum daily and weekly rest periods and working space referred to in point 3 of Annex I.

*Article 23***End of placement and post-deployment support**

1. Sending and hosting organisations shall jointly decide on the content and process of the debriefing that shall be envisaged for all EU Aid Volunteers, including those returning prematurely.
2. The hosting organisation shall provide the EU Aid Volunteer with personal or group debriefing, including the final performance review referred to in Article 19(7), and, where appropriate, a project handover to the team and counterparts that will continue the activities carried out by the EU Aid Volunteer with a view to ensuring sustainability and continuity.

⁽¹⁾ Directive 89/391/EC on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at work (OJ L 183, 29.6.1989, p. 1).

⁽²⁾ Directive 2003/88/EC of 4 November 2003 concerning certain aspects of the organisation of working time (OJ L 299, 18.11.2003, p. 9).

3. The sending organisation shall provide the returned EU Aid Volunteer with timely personal or group debriefing and operational or project debriefings based on feedback from the hosting organisation and finalisation of the learning and development plan.
4. The sending organisation shall facilitate a post-deployment medical check upon return of the EU Aid Volunteer and offer psychosocial debriefing session(s) and counselling support that the EU Aid Volunteer can attend on a voluntary basis.
5. The sending and hosting organisations shall guide the EU Aid Volunteer to opportunities to stay engaged in issues related to humanitarian aid and active European citizenship, including promotion of and engagement with the network for the EU Aid Volunteers initiative.
6. The sending organisation shall invite returned EU Aid Volunteers to provide constructive feedback on the EU Aid Volunteers initiative, including by explaining how their inputs can inform future placements.

CHAPTER 6

PROVISIONS FOR INSURANCE AND LIVING CONDITIONS

Article 24

Insurance coverage

1. All EU Aid Volunteers shall be covered by a complete insurance policy specifically designed to protect them during the entire duration of their deployment in the third countries and relevant periods before and after.
2. The insurance coverage shall be worldwide, 24 hours a day. It shall start from the day the EU Aid Volunteer leaves home on the way to the third country of deployment until the day the EU Aid Volunteer leaves the third country of deployment on the way to, and arrives back at, their home ('the first period of coverage').
3. For insurance coverage longer than 12 weeks, it shall be extended for a further 8 weeks in the insured's home country to cover follow-up medical treatment for illnesses and injuries that occurred during the first period of coverage.
4. The coverage shall be applicable to all activities linked to the EU Aid Volunteers initiative and also the private activities of EU Aid Volunteers during the first period of coverage.
5. All EU Aid Volunteers shall be covered at 100 % (total coverage) for the following:
 - (a) medical and dental care;
 - (b) pregnancy and childbirth;
 - (c) accident;
 - (d) repatriation;
 - (e) life insurance;
 - (f) permanent and temporary disability or incapacity;
 - (g) third party liability;
 - (h) loss or theft of documents, travel tickets and personal belongings;
 - (i) complementary assistance.
6. In order to ensure equal treatment and coverage of all EU Aid Volunteers, the Commission may contract one or several insurance providers through a procurement procedure.

Article 25

Subsistence and resettlement allowance

1. The sending organisation shall provide subsistence to EU Aid Volunteers in their capacity as non-employed individuals in the form of lump sum payments that shall be paid in good time and in regular instalments.

2. Subsistence lump sum payments shall be based on a consumption basket covering regular expenses of the EU Aid Volunteer for the following items:
 - (a) food;
 - (b) toiletries and household products;
 - (c) clothing;
 - (d) local transport and in-country transport;
 - (e) miscellaneous expenses deemed necessary to ensure an appropriate standard of living and participation in local society (a maximum of 20 % of the total amount for items listed in points (a) to (d) can be added to include other costs such as leisure activities, haircuts, newspapers and stationery).
 - (f) contingency amount for EU Aid Volunteers staying in areas with indexes above the country average (maximum 10 % for items listed in points (a) to (d)).
3. Accommodation costs shall not be part of the subsistence lump sums.
4. The Commission shall publish information on subsistence lump sums for countries of deployment on the basis of country indexes. Special needs linked to disability or other duly justified exceptional circumstances may be reimbursed in addition to the subsistence payment.
5. EU Aid Volunteers shall be informed in a timely manner about changes in the indexes and subsistence rates that affect them during a placement, in particular in countries with high inflation or deflation rates.
6. Upon successful completion of deployment, the sending organisation shall provide to returning EU Aid Volunteers a regularly indexed resettlement allowance of EUR 100 per month, according to the length of their deployment.

Article 26

Accommodation

1. The sending organisation shall ensure that the hosting organisation provides adequate accommodation to the EU Aid Volunteer at a reasonable cost in the local context.
2. Sending and hosting organisations shall jointly ensure that security and health and safety risks are prevented, managed and mitigated and that the proposed accommodation follows the agreed security and health and safety procedures referred to in Articles 28, 29 and 30 and complies with the requirements set out in point 4 of Annex I.
3. Costs for accommodation, heating and other directly related costs shall be borne directly by the hosting organisation, where possible. The hosting organisation shall undertake the contractual relations with landlords and take all necessary steps to brief hosts and landlords about the EU Aid Volunteers initiative.

Article 27

Travel and related costs

1. The sending organisation shall organise the travel of the EU Aid Volunteer to and from the place of deployment, including in cases of early return, and shall cover the travel costs.
2. At the request of the EU Aid Volunteer, the sending organisation shall organise and cover the costs of additional return travel for:
 - (a) Home leave of EU Aid Volunteers whose deployment period exceeds 18 months;
 - (b) Parental leave of EU Aid Volunteers who have one or more dependent children under the age of 12, if their deployment period exceeds 6 months;
 - (c) Special leave in case of funeral or medically certified serious illness of an ascending or descending direct relative, spouse or registered partner, sister or brother.
3. Travel costs may be based either on the actual costs of economy or second class tariffs or reimbursed in the form of lump sums based on a reasonable methodology for distance calculation.

4. The sending organisation shall provide information and logistical support in arranging the visa for the EU Aid Volunteer and the hosting organisation shall support the visa process, as required. The sending organisation shall cover the costs related to obtaining the visa, including necessary travel costs.

CHAPTER 7

PROCEDURES TO ENSURE DUTY OF CARE, SAFETY AND SECURITY

Article 28

Security management and risk assessment

1. The sending organisation shall have in place an organisational security policy and risk assessment procedures that shall be suitable and applicable for EU Aid Volunteers and, where necessary, adapted.
2. Based on the sending organisation's organisational security policy, sending and hosting organisations shall jointly develop a security management and evacuation plan for actions under the EU Aid Volunteers initiative. Such plans shall as a minimum comply with the requirements set out in point 5 of Annex I.
3. Sending and hosting organisations shall jointly develop a written assessment of security, travel and health risks for the country of deployment. Such assessments shall as a minimum comply with the requirements set out in point 6 of Annex I.
4. The risk assessment referred to in paragraph 3 shall be reviewed and updated as regularly as required by the context and, as a minimum, before the deployment of the EU Aid Volunteer. Where the risk assessment leads to the conclusion that deployment would take place in the theatre of international or non-international armed conflict, or threats thereof, deployment shall not be envisaged or shall be cancelled in case an EU Aid Volunteer has been already selected.
5. Requirements related to security awareness and appropriate behaviour in relation to risk and security management shall be included in the description of the task assignment and the recruitment process.
6. The sending organisation shall inform the relevant national authorities of Member States and other participating countries, in accordance with Article 23 of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014, before one of their citizens is deployed as an EU Aid Volunteer. Prior to deployment, the sending organisation deploying EU Aid Volunteers who are not citizens of the Union shall ascertain the rules for consular protection provided by the volunteer's country of nationality or another country.
7. Sending and hosting organisations shall ensure that all information on security and safety procedures is shared with and understood by the EU Aid Volunteer. During the induction, a context-specific security briefing shall be provided before departure and within 24 hours upon arrival in the country of deployment. This must include the results from the risk assessment, the evacuation and security management plan, including security incident reporting, procedures for evacuation and repatriation, communication tree, crisis management contact officer(s), and details of embassies, police and fire stations, and hospitals.
8. The sending organisation shall ensure that the EU Aid Volunteer is covered, as a minimum, by the insurance provided according to Article 24.
9. In addition to the mandatory security training in the context of the training programme, the sending organisation shall provide EU Aid Volunteers with any other relevant security training provided to its own international staff.
10. When signing the contract referred to in Article 16(2), the EU Aid Volunteers shall acknowledge awareness of and compliance with the security management procedures, including their duty to keep themselves informed and up-to-date with current security situations; their personal responsibility concerning security management for themselves, others and the organisation; and the duty to refrain from risk-taking behaviour. Sending and hosting organisations shall make the EU Aid Volunteer aware of the consequences of any breach of security procedures, in particular those resulting in a premature forced end of placement.
11. The sending organisation shall recommend to EU Aid Volunteers that they register with the embassy or consulate of their nationality upon arrival in the country of deployment, and inform them about the possibility of requesting consular assistance thereof. If the country of the EU Aid Volunteer's nationality does not have a consular representation

in the country of deployment, the sending organisation shall recommend to EU Aid Volunteers who are citizens of the Union to register with a consulate or embassy of another Member State, and inform them about the possibility of requesting consular assistance thereof.

12. Based on updates from the hosting organisation, sending and hosting organisations shall regularly update the evacuation plan to ensure it remains suitable for the operating environment at all times. The outcome of the risk assessment shall inform the frequency at which the plan is to be reviewed and the hosting organisation shall use past data and current updates to adjust it, as necessary. The evacuation plan shall be kept in a place that is easily accessible for the EU Aid Volunteer.

13. The hosting organisation shall ensure that the EU Aid Volunteer is updated about any change in the operating environment and the consequent amendment in any of the security procedures or protocols.

14. The hosting organisation shall be aware of the location of the EU Aid Volunteer, and the contact number to reach them at all times, including when on leave.

Article 29

Procedures to be followed in the event of an incident or evacuation

1. In case of a security incident, the EU Aid Volunteer shall be debriefed as soon as possible. Depending on the seriousness of the incident and the procedures in place in the sending and hosting organisations, this debriefing may be undertaken by the line manager or the mentor from the hosting organisation, or the crisis management officer in the sending organisation, and may include professional psychological support.

2. In case of evacuation, the evacuation plan shall be followed and the EU Aid Volunteer shall be taken care of at all times, following, where relevant, procedures in place in the consulates or embassies where the EU Aid Volunteer has been registered in accordance with Article 28(11).

3. The sending organisation shall contact EU Aid Volunteers upon their return and ensure that they receive adequate follow-up, including debriefing, psychosocial and medical support.

4. Security shall be included in the sending and hosting organisations' monitoring and evaluation framework and lessons learned from security incidents shall inform project review and improvement.

Article 30

Health and safety

1. The sending organisation shall have in place an organisational health and safety policy that shall be suitable and applicable for EU Aid Volunteers and, where necessary, adapted, including guidelines on:

- (a) personal health, such as physical health (disease preventions, eating and sleeping advice, risk awareness on climate and geographical hazards, access to treatment);
- (b) mental health (advice on work-life balance, stress management, coping mechanisms and relaxation methods, points of contact for psychosocial support).

2. Based on the sending organisation's organisational health and safety policy, sending and hosting organisations shall jointly develop a comprehensive set of health and safety policies and guidelines to meet their duty of care obligations and to ensure the physical and emotional well-being of EU Aid Volunteers.

3. As part of the risk assessment referred to in Article 28(3) and before defining the task assignment, sending and hosting organisations shall jointly assess whether the placement provides safe and secure working and living conditions for the EU Aid Volunteer based on the basis of the indicators set out in point 7 of Annex I.

4. The sending organisation shall ensure that the EU Aid Volunteer is covered, as a minimum, by comprehensive medical and travel insurance provisions in accordance with Article 24.

5. During the induction, the sending organisation shall brief the EU Aid Volunteer on the health and safety policies and guidelines referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2, including diseases, first aid support, maintenance for all locations, maintenance of vehicle and equipment, workstations, work-life balance, health and security incidents, procedure for medical evacuation.

6. The sending organisation shall ensure that the EU Aid Volunteer completes a thorough medical check-up prior to departure, and provide the recommended medication and vaccinations for the risks in the country of deployment and equipment, such as first aid and mosquito kits, where necessary.
7. The hosting organisation shall ensure that duty of care is integrated in the day-to-day volunteer management and, during the induction, provide the EU Aid Volunteer with:
 - (a) up-to-date information on local resources concerning health and safety such as contact details of doctors, hospitals, paramedical services;
 - (b) guidance on local customs and norms as part of their in-country briefing in order to limit risks to safety and to facilitate integration.
8. The sending organisation shall facilitate a post-deployment medical check upon the return of the EU Aid Volunteer and offer psychosocial debriefing session(s) or counselling support as part of the debriefing process. The sending and hosting organisations shall promote the network for the EU Aid Volunteers initiative as an alternative support mechanism before, during and after the deployment.

CHAPTER 8

PROCEDURES FOR MONITORING AND ASSESSING THE INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE OF EU AID VOLUNTEERS

Article 31

Monitoring and assessing the individual performance of EU Aid Volunteers

1. Based on the supervision and performance management procedure referred to in Article 19, sending and hosting organisations shall monitor and assess the individual performance of EU Aid Volunteers, measuring progress, outputs and results with reference to the EU Aid Volunteer's task assignment and its objectives.
2. The monitoring and assessment of the individual performance of EU Aid Volunteers shall be an ongoing process throughout the entire placement with specific reviews, as a minimum, at the following stages:
 - (a) where relevant, at the end of the apprenticeship placement referred to in Article 14;
 - (b) during the final performance review referred to in Article 19 and in case a mid-term review is considered appropriate to be carried out;
 - (c) during the debriefing referred to in Article 23.
3. The sending and hosting organisations shall provide data that demonstrates to what extent the individual performance of the EU Aid Volunteer contributes — at outcome and impact level — to the objectives of the project and the overall initiative, taking into account the indicators referred to in Article 7 of the Regulation (EU) No 375/2014. The data shall contain records of the quality of the outputs and results of the EU Aid Volunteer's work that are to be anonymised and available for evaluation purposes. These data shall be processed in accordance with the data protection standards provided for in the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014.
4. Sending organisations shall provide support to build capacities of the hosting organisations for measuring progress, outputs and results with reference to the EU Aid Volunteer's task assignment and its objectives.

CHAPTER 9

CERTIFICATION MECHANISM FOR SENDING AND HOSTING ORGANISATIONS

Article 32

Certification mechanism for hosting organisations

1. Hosting organisations aspiring for certification shall provide an objective and truthful self-assessment in accordance with the requirements referred to in point 1 of Annex III, assessing their existing policies and practices against the requirements of the standards and procedures regarding candidate volunteers and EU Aid Volunteers set out in this Regulation and in the Commission Delegated Regulation to be adopted on the basis of Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014.

2. In the self-assessment, the hosting organisation shall disclose any gaps and areas of need for improvement that may require capacity building in order to reach a full level of compliance.
3. The hosting organisation shall provide with the self-assessment three references in accordance with the requirements set out in point 1 of Annex III to provide comprehensive information on all requirements of the standards and procedures regarding candidate volunteers and EU Aid Volunteers. The references shall be from a minimum of two of the following groups of stakeholders:
 - (a) A certified sending or hosting organisation with which the applicant hosting organisation has already had, or envisages to set up, a partnership for participation in the EU Aid Volunteers initiative;
 - (b) A humanitarian aid partner of the Commission with a framework (partnership) agreement in force, with whom the applicant hosting organisation has successfully worked on a humanitarian aid project;
 - (c) A relevant international organisation or not-for-profit organisation or public law body of a civilian character with which the applicant hosting organisation has successfully worked on a humanitarian aid project;
 - (d) An accreditation or auditing organisation that has certified the applicant hosting organisation in areas relevant for the EU Aid Volunteers initiative, in which case the relevant accreditation or auditing documents should also be provided.
4. The completed self-assessment shall be signed by the person empowered to represent and legally bind the hosting organisation and sent, together with the references referred to in paragraph 3, to the Commission.
5. Based on the self-assessment and the references, the Commission shall assess the application and may take one of the following decisions:
 - (a) To award certification in cases where the applicant hosting organisation is assessed as fully compliant with the requirements of the standards and procedures;
 - (b) Not to award certification in cases where the applicant hosting organisation does not fully comply with the requirements of the standards and procedures.
6. Within six months of receipt of the application, the Commission shall inform the applicant hosting organisation about the outcome of the certification, specifying also opportunities for capacity building support, if needed, with a view to re-submitting an application. In case there are any identified needs to be met based on a strategy for capacity building to be provided by the applicant hosting organisation, the latter shall be eligible and have priority for capacity building support.

Article 33

Certification mechanism for sending organisations

1. Sending organisations aspiring for certification shall provide an objective and truthful evidence-based self-assessment in accordance with the requirements referred to in point 2 of Annex III, assessing their existing policies and practices against the requirements of the standards and procedures regarding candidate and EU Aid Volunteers.
2. In the evidence-based self-assessment, the sending organisation shall disclose any gaps and areas of need for improvement that may require technical assistance in order to reach a full level of compliance. It shall also enclose sample evidence and means of verification that the policies and practices referred to in each of the requirements of the standards and procedures are implemented, particularly in relation to volunteers.
3. The completed evidence-based self-assessment shall be signed by the person empowered to represent and legally bind the sending organisation and sent, together with the accompanying documents referred to in paragraph 2, to the Commission.
4. Based on the evidence-based self-assessment and the accompanying documents provided, the Commission shall assess the application and may take one of the following decisions:
 - (a) To award certification in cases where the applicant sending organisation is assessed as fully compliant with the requirements of the standards and procedures;
 - (b) Not to award certification in cases where the applicant sending organisation does not fully comply with the requirements of the standards and procedures.

5. Within six months of receipt of the application, the Commission shall inform the applicant sending organisation about the outcome of the certification, specifying also opportunities for technical assistance, if needed, with a view to re-submitting an application. In case there are any identified needs to be met based on a strategy for technical assistance to be provided by the sending organisation, the latter shall be eligible and have priority for technical assistance.

Article 34

Legal remedies

1. A decision of the Commission not to award certification and reject the application shall indicate that the rejected applicant organisation may only re-apply after a twelve-month period, starting from the date of receipt by the applicant of the decision of rejection. The decision shall specify also the available legal remedies against the decision.

2. In pursuance of Articles 256 and 263 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), the General Court has jurisdiction over acts of the European Commission intended to produce legal effects vis-à-vis third parties. Likewise, in pursuance of Article 256, 268 and 340 TFEU, the General Court has jurisdiction in disputes relating to compensation for damages caused by the European Commission in the case of non-contractual liability.

Article 35

Financial viability and organisational capacity of the organisations

The assessment of the financial viability and organisational capacity of the certified sending and hosting organisations is outside the scope of the certification procedure. As a pre-condition for receiving financial assistance from the Union, this viability and capacity shall be assessed at the stage of the application process following a call for proposals.

Article 36

Validity of the certification and regular checks

1. The certified sending and hosting organisations shall undergo re-certification after three years upon receipt of the decision of the Commission awarding the certification or at any time in the event of substantial amendments to the standards or procedures for the issues concerned.

2. Within the period of validity of the certification, the certified sending and hosting organisations may be required, where necessary, to undergo regular checks to be undertaken by the Commission.

3. Certified sending and hosting organisations shall immediately inform the Commission of any change in their legal, financial, technical or organisational situation that may put into question their compliance with the standards and procedures, or may create conflicts of interests. They shall also inform the Commission of any change in their name, address or legal representative.

Article 37

Suspension and termination of certification

1. Based on the information obtained from the certified sending or hosting organisation, including from the regular checks referred to in Article 36(2) or information obtained through any other means, the Commission may consider that the certified sending or hosting organisation no longer complies with one or more of the standards or procedures. In such cases, the Commission may take appropriate action, including suspending or terminating the certification, in accordance with the procedure set out in point 3 of Annex III.

2. The sending or hosting organisation subject to a suspended or terminated certification shall not deploy or host EU Aid Volunteers as from the date of the suspension or termination and shall not be eligible to receive financial assistance from the Union to that end.

3. In light of the reasons for the suspension or termination of the certification, in particular the safety and security of EU Aid Volunteers, the Commission may require the repatriation of EU Aid Volunteers who are deployed at the time of the suspension or termination.

4. The sending or hosting organisation shall not be entitled to claim compensation on account of a suspension or termination of certification.

Article 38

Liability for damages

The Commission shall not be held liable for any loss or damage caused or sustained by the sending or hosting organisation, or third parties, as a consequence of the certified status of the sending or hosting organisation.

CHAPTER 10

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 39

Entry into force

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 20 November 2014.

For the Commission
The President
Jean-Claude JUNCKER

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ANNEX I

1. Requirements for the task assignment

The task assignment shall include as a minimum the following:

- (a) specification of role, title, description of the team and line management, duration of placement, location(s);
- (b) detailed description of the relevant needs-based activities as validated by the hosting organisation(s) and well-defined tasks to be undertaken by the EU Aid Volunteer, including the elements based on the communication plan for the initiative;
- (c) specification of required competences for the tasks on the basis of the competence framework;
- (d) definition of performance objectives, taking into consideration the duration and specificities of the EU Aid Volunteer's placement, and roles appropriate for a volunteer position;
- (e) indicators on expected outputs, results and, where possible, outcomes, from the assignment to be used for the EU Aid Volunteer's performance management;
- (f) flexible elements to allow, to a realistic extent, for the EU Aid Volunteer to influence and shape the tasks according to their individual profile and interests;
- (g) details of working hours, leave, place of work and mentoring support;
- (h) clear allocation of management and security management responsibilities between the sending and hosting organisations; and
- (i) information on security awareness and appropriate behaviour in relation to risk and security management, where relevant.

2. Requirements for the announcement

The announcement shall include as a minimum the following information:

- (a) clear and accurate information about the EU Aid Volunteers initiative, its humanitarian nature and the purposes of volunteering;
- (b) project description, including details of the operational and security context and/or information as to whether the sending and/or hosting organisations are faith-based organisations;
- (c) description of the tasks to be performed by the EU Aid Volunteer;
- (d) description of the competences and motivation required to match the profile;
- (e) eligibility and exception criteria (if any) as regards the equal opportunities and non-discrimination principles;
- (f) selection criteria and minimum requirements to serve as exclusion criteria, if applicable (such as level of competences, motivation and other relevant criteria such as experience, language skills, medical aptitude to travel and work in developing countries, availability) and an indication as to whether junior or senior professional profiles are sought;
- (g) indications as to whether the position is expected to be combined with an apprenticeship placement;
- (h) conditions of service, including details on the length of deployment, learning opportunities, working and living conditions, including accommodation and subsistence payments, flights, insurance coverage, medical and necessary vaccinations, etc.;
- (i) closing date and time for submission of applications;
- (j) timing of shortlisting and interview(s);
- (k) interview process;
- (l) expected date of decision on outcome; and
- (m) expected timetable (date of training, where relevant, apprenticeship placement, pre-deployment preparation and induction, deployment and post-deployment activities).

3. Requirements for working hours, leave allowance and working space

Factors	General requirements	Minimum requirements
Working hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Appropriate working hours shall be agreed between the sending and hosting organisation on the basis of the latter's policies and then discussed and agreed with the EU Aid Volunteer. — The agreed working hours shall leave room for the EU Aid Volunteer's development time as established in their task assignment and performance objectives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Regular working hours shall not exceed 40 hours per week on average, calculated over a four-month period. — Overtime and emergency work hours shall be negotiated with the EU Aid Volunteer, taking account of their psychological and physical well-being. — Overtime and emergency working hours and rest shall comply with minimum requirements provided for in Directive 2003/88/EC ⁽¹⁾ and relevant national law.
Leave allowance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Appropriate leave allowance shall be agreed between the sending and hosting organisation on the basis of the latter's policies and then discussed and agreed with the EU Aid Volunteer. — If leave allowances vary between role categories, the leave allowance shall match that for local staff in the same or similar roles. — The leave allowance shall include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Monthly leave allowance; — Sick leave; — Home leave, if the deployment period exceeds 18 months; — Parental leave, including maternity and paternity leave. At the request of an EU Aid Volunteer whose deployment period exceeds six months, the parental leave may also include days off work to go back to the country of residence of (a) dependent child(ren) under the age of 12; — Special leave in the event of the funeral or medically certified serious illness of an ascending or descending direct relative, spouse or registered partner, or sibling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Where local provision is very low, the sending organisation shall ensure that International Staff provision is used as a minimum benchmark to determine the EU Aid Volunteer's leave allowance. — In any case, the monthly leave allowance shall consist of two days per month, which the EU Aid Volunteer shall take in the course of his/her deployment.
Timing of leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Annual monthly leave shall be discouraged at the beginning or end of the placement. — Home leave may be used at the request of the EU Aid Volunteer nine months after the beginning of the placement and sufficiently in advance of its end. 	
Working space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The hosting organisation shall provide a dedicated working space for the EU Aid Volunteer in accordance with their task assignment and the agreed secure, safe and healthy working conditions based on the indicators set out in point 7 of Annex I. 	

⁽¹⁾ Directive 2003/88/EC of 4 November 2003 concerning certain aspects of the organisation of working time (OJ L 299, 18.11.2003, p. 9).

4. Requirements for accommodation

1. Each EU Aid Volunteer shall have a clean lockable room with access to clean water and sanitation facilities. The room shall be located at a reasonable distance from the EU Aid Volunteer's main working location.
2. Accommodation for EU Aid Volunteers may take the form inter alia of a room with a host family, individual housing or housing with other EU Aid Volunteers.
3. To the extent possible, the accommodation shall facilitate integration of EU Aid Volunteers in the local community and enable them to interact with the expatriate community.
4. Language considerations shall be taken into account when assessing accommodation options.
5. The EU Aid Volunteers shall have access to means of communication enabling them to contact the hosting and sending organisations as well as their relatives.

5. Requirements for the security management and evacuation plan

The security management and evacuation plan shall include as a minimum the following:

- (a) information on the crisis management officer/team in the sending organisation and relevant contact details to be shared with the hosting organisation and the EU Aid Volunteer;
- (b) the organisational chart of any staff holding responsibilities for security risk management in both the sending and the hosting organisation, including current contact details;
- (c) clear procedures, roles and responsibilities in the event of an emergency;
- (d) a security incident reporting mechanism for the sending and hosting organisations;
- (e) an evacuation plan;
- (f) provisions for medical evacuation in line with the provisions for insurance referred to in Article 24;
- (g) context-specific information, guidelines and rules provided by the hosting organisation;
- (h) a mechanism for regular review by the sending organisation, with updates provided by the hosting organisation (as required by the country-specific environment);
- (i) scenario planning organised by the sending organisation with the hosting organisation to assess potential security situations and test the security management and evacuation plan; where possible, drill exercises shall be organised in order to ensure smooth cooperation between the sending and hosting organisations in an emergency scenario; and
- (j) the support available in the sending and hosting organisations for the physical, material and psychological security and safety of the EU Aid Volunteers.

6. Requirements for the risk assessment

The risk assessment shall cover as a minimum the following:

- (a) general situation in the country of deployment (such as economic situation, recent history and anticipated changes to establish levels of risk and insecurity regarding political instability and complexity, conflicts, civil unrest, ethnic and religious dynamics, etc. to establish a map of threats, the likelihood of each threat occurring and their likely impacts);
- (b) natural-disaster risk-mapping;
- (c) local attitude and level of local communities' and authorities' acceptance of the EU Aid Volunteer/the initiative;
- (d) other agencies operating at the same location;
- (e) contingencies and evacuation plans;
- (f) facilities (offices and accommodation);

- (g) reporting mechanisms and monitoring for security incidents;
- (h) connectivity and communications available and communication equipment (including accessibility and level of reliability); and
- (i) availability of transport and current maps, including freedom of movement and ease of access.

7. Indicators for safe and healthy working and living conditions

The following indicators for safe and healthy working and living conditions shall be used:

- (a) mapping of diseases prevalent in the area (water-, mosquito-, human-borne, seasonal, etc.), including the level of likelihood and impacts;
 - (b) availability and accessibility of first-aid support (internally and externally), fire wardens and services, medical facilities and professionals (e.g. hospitals, nurses, access to medication);
 - (c) the level of maintenance for all locations (offices and accommodation); availability of electricity points, lighting, ventilation, sanitation and hygiene facilities;
 - (d) the level of vehicle maintenance, regular inspection and servicing, appropriate equipment (such as radio, first-aid kit, seat belts, water, blanket);
 - (e) availability and quality of desk space, chairs, computer equipment;
 - (f) provisions for leave and working hours; access to recreational activities and sports facilities, libraries, markets, etc.; degree of remoteness; access to private space, religious buildings; and
 - (g) health-and-safety incident reporting mechanisms and monitoring.
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ANNEX II

Training curriculum

Module title	Days of face-to-face training	Target group/status	Key learning outcomes: the participants shall ...	Main competences addressed
1) General introduction to the Union, its external relations and crisis response system	0.5	All groups/mandatory	Understand and describe the EU and its basic functioning and principles; Understand and explain EU external action, including Common Foreign and Security Policy and crisis response system as well as the EU's comprehensive approach to external crises; Understand and explain the role of the Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection in humanitarian aid and civil protection, including its field network;	Understanding humanitarian contexts and applying humanitarian principles
2) Introduction to humanitarian action, the Union humanitarian aid policy and the EU Aid Volunteers initiative	1.5	All groups/mandatory	Understand the EU Aid Volunteers initiative including its communication plan, how it works and what they can do to stay part of it; Face their placement with realistic expectations; Act autonomously and create their own 'volunteering experience'; Understand how their public action and behaviour affect the image of the EU Aid Volunteer initiative and the mission they will join; and Be aware of the 'do's and don'ts' during deployment concerning issues such as communication with media, publishing information on social media, participation in demonstrations, etc.	Understanding humanitarian contexts and applying humanitarian principles Autonomy Demonstrating leadership Managing one's own expectations Volunteering mind-set Communication
The Union humanitarian aid policy and the EU Aid Volunteers initiative				
General framework of humanitarian action			Provide definitions of humanitarian aid; Name three humanitarian principles; Understand and describe the key elements of the international system of disaster risk reduction, response and humanitarian aid and recovery; Understand and describe the roles and responsibilities of key international stakeholders in disaster, pre- and post-disaster areas; Understand and explain the UN's central and overall coordination role in promoting a coherent international response to humanitarian crises;	Understanding humanitarian contexts and applying humanitarian principles Accountability Achieves and transmits results of action and capacity building Working with others

Module title	Days of face-to-face training	Target group/status	Key learning outcomes: the participants shall ...	Main competences addressed
International humanitarian law			<p>Know about regional mechanisms for co-operation in disaster management;</p> <p>Understand and explain the requirements, constraints and objectives of the various stakeholders and the challenges of coordinating stakeholders in humanitarian action, linking disaster relief and rehabilitation and building resilience;</p> <p>Understand changing aid and development paradigms, resilience approach; and</p> <p>Post-2015 international agenda.</p>	<p>Understanding humanitarian contexts and applying humanitarian principles</p> <p>Accountability</p>
Introduction to the sectors of humanitarian aid			<p>Know and describe the specific needs of the following sectors of humanitarian aid:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Food and nutrition; — Health; — WASH; — Disaster risk reduction; — Protection; — Shelter; — Refugees and IDPs; — Livelihoods; — Linking relief, rehabilitation and development (LRRD); — Resilience; — Gender; and — Conflict prevention. 	<p>Understanding humanitarian contexts and applying humanitarian principles</p> <p>Demonstrating leadership</p>
Codes of conduct and standards			<p>Know and apply Sphere core standards and protection principles;</p> <p>Know and apply People in Aid Code;</p> <p>Know and apply the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP) Standard in Accountability and Quality Management;</p> <p>Know and apply International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGO) Accountability Charter;</p>	<p>Understanding humanitarian contexts and applying humanitarian principles</p> <p>Accountability</p> <p>Demonstrating leadership</p>

Module title	Days of face-to-face training	Target group/status	Key learning outcomes: the participants shall ...	Main competences addressed
			<p>Know and interpret the definition of accountability according to HAP;</p> <p>Name the six HAP benchmarks;</p> <p>Name the nine principles of INGO Charter; and</p> <p>Understand and exercise accountability towards the final beneficiaries of humanitarian aid.</p>	
3) Managing personal safety, health and security	1.5	All volunteers/mandatory	<p>Know and follow security strategies and procedures;</p> <p>Understand the importance of following organisations' safety procedures when deployed;</p> <p>Know how to prepare before deployment;</p> <p>Be able to identify, prevent and mitigate risks during a mission;</p> <p>Be able to act in situations where threat occurs;</p> <p>Have basic first-aid skills; and</p> <p>Have basic stress management and psychological first-aid skills.</p>	<p>Managing personal safety, health and security</p> <p>Self-awareness and resilience</p> <p>Autonomy</p>
4) Project management, Introduction Level 1 (Introduction to the lifecycle of humanitarian aid missions/projects)	1.5	Junior professionals	<p>Describe the main stages of the project cycle and the specific principles applied to these in the context of humanitarian aid;</p> <p>Develop an outline for a basic project application;</p> <p>Carry out a basic needs assessment under the supervision of a more senior colleague;</p> <p>Draw up an implementation plan for a simple project in their area of expertise, in consultation with more senior colleagues;</p> <p>Develop basic tools for financial management of a project;</p> <p>Identify the main roles and tasks for other persons needed in the project;</p> <p>Develop an approach to monitoring of a simple project; and</p> <p>Outline an evaluation approach for a simple project.</p>	<p>Managing projects in humanitarian contexts</p> <p>Accountability</p> <p>Demonstrating leadership</p> <p>Achieves and transmits results of action and capacity building</p>
5) Project management, Advanced Level 2 (Introduction to the lifecycle of humanitarian aid missions/projects and programmes)	1.5	Senior professionals	<p>Apply their experience of project cycle to the sector of humanitarian aid in which they will be active;</p> <p>Understand and be capable of applying the principles of humanitarian aid to the project cycle when it comes to involvement of local communities, accountability, specific attention being paid to gender issues and vulnerable groups;</p>	<p>Managing projects in humanitarian contexts</p> <p>Accountability</p> <p>Demonstrating leadership</p> <p>Achieves and transmits results of action and capacity building</p>

Module title	Days of face-to-face training	Target group/status	Key learning outcomes: the participants shall ...	Main competences addressed
6) Inter-cultural awareness (and transversal issues)	1	All volunteers/mandatory	<p>Carry out needs assessment for a project in his/her area of expertise;</p> <p>Develop a project application;</p> <p>Draw up an implementation plan for a project in their area of expertise;</p> <p>Develop tools for financial management of a project;</p> <p>Identify the main roles and tasks for other persons needed in the project;</p> <p>Identify the briefing and guidance needs;</p> <p>Carry out a risk assessment for the project;</p> <p>Develop an approach to monitoring the project;</p> <p>Outline an evaluation approach for the project;</p> <p>Understand the key principles for successful reporting; and</p> <p>Identify the main requirements for financial and administrative reporting.</p>	<p>Inter-cultural awareness</p> <p>Working with others</p> <p>Communication</p> <p>Managing one's own expectations</p>
7) Scenario-based exercise	3	All volunteers/mandatory	<p>This component is aimed at testing how the participants have acquired the key learning outcomes of previous modules and test their ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Analyse the context of an imaginary humanitarian intervention and identify the main security risks for the organisation and its staff; — Establish procedures to mitigate security risks; 	

Module title	Days of face-to-face training	Target group/status	Key learning outcomes: the participants shall ...	Main competences addressed
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Implement security guidelines; — Gather, analyse and communicate information in a rapid assessment; — Coordinate with other stakeholders; — Set up project logframe and identify funding for projects to facilitate recovery or to mitigate disaster risks; — Work in a team, implement and evaluate a simple project plan; and — Communicate project progress and outcomes to stakeholders. 	
8) Communication and advocacy	1	All groups/optional	<p>Understand the importance of ethical considerations in the context of humanitarian aid advocacy;</p> <p>Apply cultural sensitivity to communication and advocacy;</p> <p>Carry out a mapping of stakeholders/beneficiaries in the context of humanitarian aid and identify what communication channels are best suited to reaching them;</p> <p>Draw up a communication strategy; and</p> <p>Critically review communication strategies and identify improvements.</p>	<p>Communication</p> <p>Demonstrating leadership</p> <p>Inter-cultural awareness</p>
9) Psychological first aid (PFA)	1	All groups/optional	<p>Identify the four domains where human emotions are expressed through the stress cycle in the aftermath of a disaster, emergency or other traumatic event;</p> <p>Define two different types and scope of disaster and emergency;</p> <p>Describe two disaster behavioural health response principles;</p> <p>Demonstrate competency in at least three of the PFA skills taught in the training;</p> <p>Identify the modalities by which PFA can be delivered; and</p> <p>Identify the populations for which PFA is appropriate.</p>	<p>Managing personal safety, health and security</p> <p>Self-awareness and resilience</p>
10) Training of multipliers	2	Senior professional volunteers/optional	<p>Name the principles of adult learning and apply them;</p> <p>Name the stages of the training cycle and the key requirements for each stage;</p> <p>Formulate aims and learning outcomes of training courses;</p> <p>Know and practise learner-centred approach to delivery of training;</p> <p>Apply various training skills and techniques;</p>	<p>Achieves and transmits results of action and capacity building</p> <p>Communication</p>

Module title	Days of face-to-face training	Target group/status	Key learning outcomes: the participants shall ...	Main competences addressed
			Select appropriate methods, reading materials and resources for training related to humanitarian work; and Develop tools for evaluation after the training.	
11) Volunteer management	1	Senior professional volunteers/optional	Understand and implement legal frameworks for volunteer management; Plan the work of local volunteers in the receiving country; Organise recruitment and selection of volunteers; Set up and implement systems for the regular supervision, support and management of volunteers; Plan induction and short training sessions for volunteers, as relevant; Set up systems that ensure the safety and security of local volunteers; Ensure that management in the local organisation has taken formal responsibility for the volunteers, with an appropriate line-management and reporting system; and Set up and monitor systems.	Achieves and transmits results of action and capacity building Demonstrating leadership Working with others Inter-cultural awareness
12) Organisational development	2	Senior professional volunteers/optional	Name some key characteristics of capacity building; Name and describe a range of different organisation development interventions; Describe different elements of organisational assessment (OA); Assess a local organisation's strengths and weaknesses; Be able to carry out needs assessment for capacity building; Assist local organisations in developing new policies; and Develop capacity indicators for monitoring organisational development.	Achieves and transmits results of action and capacity building Demonstrating leadership

ANNEX III

1. Self-assessment and references for hosting organisations

1. The self-assessment by hosting organisations shall cover all the standards and procedures, where an applicant hosting organisation must have a policy or practice in place, to fulfil the necessary requirements regarding candidate volunteers and EU Aid Volunteers. The organisation shall state, for each requirement of each standard and procedure, whether:
 - (a) the minimum requirement is covered in its policy/practice and/or it commits itself to implementing it;
 - (b) relevant staff are aware of this and put it into practice; and
 - (c) there are any specific needs for further work/action to address gaps.
2. The self-assessment shall also include answers to the following questions in relation to safety and security and to volunteer management:
 - (a) How does the hosting organisation ensure the safety and security of the international volunteers it hosts?;
 - (b) How are the volunteers managed and supported during their stay?; and
 - (c) In what areas (if any) of the standards and procedures is the hosting organisation presently strengthening its capacity?
3. The reference shall cover what is required from a hosting organisation during an EU Aid Volunteer's deployment and seek the experience of the referee in relation to the necessary requirements of each standard and procedure where they are in a position to provide information. In particular, it shall:
 - (a) specify the experience of their organisation in relation to the minimum requirements of the relevant standards and procedures to be applied by the hosting organisation (compliant/non-compliant);
 - (b) justify/explain each of their assessments; and
 - (c) specify needs, if any, for further work/action to address gaps.
4. To promote simplification, the Commission shall identify the standards and procedures where the applicant hosting organisation needs to take no action if the latter is a humanitarian aid partner of the Commission which has signed a framework (partnership) agreement in force.

2. Evidence-based self-assessment for sending organisations

1. The evidence-based self-assessment by sending organisations shall cover all the standards and procedures, where the organisation must have a policy or practice in place, to fulfil the necessary requirements regarding candidate volunteers and EU Aid Volunteers. The sending organisation shall state, for each requirement of each standard and procedure, whether:
 - (a) the minimum requirement is covered in its policy/practice and/or it commits itself to implementing it;
 - (b) relevant staff are aware of this and put it into practice;
 - (c) there are any specific needs for further work/action to address gaps; and
 - (d) the requirement is addressed in certification/accreditation through another approved mechanism (e.g. national, European or international schemes).
2. To justify the statements in the self-assessment, the applicant sending organisation shall prove compliance and enclose sample evidence and means of verification that the policies and practices referred to in each of the requirements of the standards and the procedures are implemented, particularly in relation to volunteers.
3. To promote simplification, the Commission shall identify the standards and procedures where the applicant sending organisation needs to take no action if the latter is a humanitarian aid partner of the Commission which has signed a framework (partnership) agreement in force.
4. At any point of the certification process, the Commission may ask the applicant sending organisation to provide additional evidence, if necessary.

3. Procedure for suspension or termination of the certification

1. If the Commission intends to suspend or terminate the certification, it shall formally notify the sending or hosting organisation in advance, specifying the reasons and inviting it to submit observations within 45 calendar days of receipt of the notification.
 2. If, after examination of observations submitted by the sending or hosting organisation, the Commission decides to stop the suspension or termination procedure, it shall formally notify it of the decision.
 3. If no observations are submitted or if, despite the observations submitted, the Commission decides to pursue the suspension or termination procedure, it shall respectively:
 - (a) suspend the certification by formally notifying the organisation of the suspension, specifying the reasons and the indicative date of completion of the necessary verifications; or
 - (b) formally notify the organisation of the termination, specifying the reasons and the date on which the termination takes effect.
 4. Suspension shall take effect on the day of the receipt by the sending or hosting organisation of the notification referred to in point 3(a) or on a later date where the notification so provides.
 5. Unless the certification has been terminated in accordance with point 3(b), the Commission shall, as soon as it considers that the grounds for suspension no longer apply or the necessary verifications have been carried out, formally notify the sending or hosting organisation of the lifting of the suspension.
-

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) No 1245/2014**of 20 November 2014****establishing the standard import values for determining the entry price of certain fruit and vegetables**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007 ⁽¹⁾,

Having regard to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 543/2011 of 7 June 2011 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 in respect of the fruit and vegetables and processed fruit and vegetables sectors ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 136(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Implementing Regulation (EU) No 543/2011 lays down, pursuant to the outcome of the Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations, the criteria whereby the Commission fixes the standard values for imports from third countries, in respect of the products and periods stipulated in Annex XVI, Part A thereto.
- (2) The standard import value is calculated each working day, in accordance with Article 136(1) of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 543/2011, taking into account variable daily data. Therefore this Regulation should enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The standard import values referred to in Article 136 of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 543/2011 are fixed in the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 20 November 2014.

*For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,
Jerzy PLEWA*

Director-General for Agriculture and Rural Development

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 671.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 157, 15.6.2011, p. 1.

ANNEX

Standard import values for determining the entry price of certain fruit and vegetables

(EUR/100 kg)			
CN code	Third country code ⁽¹⁾	Standard import value	
0702 00 00	AL	76,3	
	MA	76,7	
	MK	78,8	
	ZZ	77,3	
0707 00 05	AL	68,7	
	JO	194,1	
	TR	137,4	
	ZZ	133,4	
0709 93 10	MA	40,4	
	TR	132,7	
	ZZ	86,6	
0805 20 10	MA	113,2	
	ZZ	113,2	
0805 20 30, 0805 20 50, 0805 20 70, 0805 20 90	PE	74,4	
	TR	70,6	
	ZZ	72,5	
0805 50 10	TR	79,2	
	ZZ	79,2	
0808 10 80	AU	203,7	
	BR	53,1	
	CA	133,4	
	CL	87,9	
	MD	29,7	
	NZ	155,4	
	US	135,6	
	ZA	138,6	
	ZZ	117,2	
	0808 30 90	CN	73,0
		US	201,1
ZZ		137,1	

⁽¹⁾ Nomenclature of countries laid down by Commission Regulation (EU) No 1106/2012 of 27 November 2012 implementing Regulation (EC) No 471/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics relating to external trade with non-member countries, as regards the update of the nomenclature of countries and territories (OJ L 328, 28.11.2012, p. 7). Code 'ZZ' stands for 'of other origin'.

DIRECTIVES

COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 2014/102/EU

of 7 November 2014

adapting Directive 2013/34/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on the annual financial statements, consolidated financial statements and related reports of certain types of undertakings, by reason of the accession of the Republic of Croatia

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

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

Having regard to the Act of Accession of Croatia, and in particular Article 50 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 50 of the Act of Accession of Croatia, where acts of the institutions adopted prior to accession require adaptation by reason of accession, and the necessary adaptations have not been provided for in the Act of Accession or its Annexes, the Council, acting by qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, shall, to that end, adopt the necessary acts if the original act was not adopted by the Commission.
- (2) The relevant types of Croatian undertakings should be inserted in Annexes I and II to Directive 2013/34/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾ in order to provide for the relevant scope of application of the co-ordination measures provided for by that Directive in Croatia. The scope of amendments should be limited to technical adaptations required by reason of the accession of Croatia.
- (3) Directive 2013/34/EU should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

Directive 2013/34/EU is amended as set out in the Annex to this Directive.

Article 2

1. Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive by 20 July 2015. They shall immediately inform the Commission thereof.

Member States may provide that the measures referred to in the first subparagraph are first to apply to financial statements for the financial years beginning on 1 January 2016 or during the calendar year 2016.

⁽¹⁾ Directive 2013/34/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 on the annual financial statements, consolidated financial statements and related reports of certain types of undertakings, amending Directive 2006/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Council Directives 78/660/EEC and 83/349/EEC (OJ L 182, 29.6.2013, p. 19).

When Member States adopt those measures, they shall contain a reference to this Directive or be accompanied by such a reference on the occasion of their official publication. The methods of making such reference shall be laid down by Member States.

2. Member States shall communicate to the Commission the text of the main measures of national law which they adopt in the field covered by this Directive.

Article 3

This Directive shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Article 4

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 7 November 2014.

For the Council
The President
P. C. PADOAN

ANNEX

Directive 2013/34/EU is amended as follows:

(1) in Annex I, the following is inserted after the entry for France:

— in Croatia:

dioničko društvo, društvo s ograničenom odgovornošću;'

(2) in Annex II, the following is inserted after the entry for France:

— in Croatia:

javno trgovačko društvo, komanditno društvo, gospodarsko interesno udruženje;'

DECISIONS

DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

of 23 October 2014

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications for the financial year 2012

(2014/822/EU)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT,

- having regard to the final annual accounts of the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications for the financial year 2012,
 - having regard to the Court of Auditors' report on the annual accounts of the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications for the financial year 2012, together with the Office's replies ⁽¹⁾,
 - having regard to the Council's recommendation of 18 February 2014 (05849/2014 — C7-0054/2014),
 - having regard to its decision of 3 April 2014 ⁽²⁾ postponing its decision on granting discharge for the financial year 2012, and the accompanying resolution,
 - having regard to Article 319 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽³⁾, and in particular Article 185 thereof,
 - 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 ⁽⁴⁾, and in particular Article 208 thereof,
 - having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1211/2009 of the European Parliament and the Council of 25 November 2009 establishing the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) and the Office ⁽⁵⁾, and in particular Article 13 thereof,
 - having regard to Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2343/2002 of 19 November 2002 on the framework Financial Regulation for the bodies referred to in Article 185 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁶⁾,
 - having regard to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1271/2013 of 30 September 2013 on the framework financial regulation for the bodies referred to in Article 208 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽⁷⁾, and in particular Article 108 thereof,
 - having regard to Rule 94 of, and Annex V to, its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the second report of the Committee on Budgetary Control (A8-0011/2014),
1. Grants the Management Committee of the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications discharge for implementation of the Office's budget for the financial year 2012;
 2. Sets out its observations in the resolution below;

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 365, 13.12.2013, p. 9.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 266, 5.9.2014, p. 353.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 337, 18.12.2009, p. 1.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 72.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ L 328, 7.12.2013, p. 42.

3. Instructs its President to forward this decision and the resolution that forms an integral part of it to the Management Committee of the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications, the Council, the Commission and the Court of Auditors, and to arrange for their publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union* (L series).

The President

Martin SCHULZ

The Secretary-General

Klaus WELLE

RESOLUTION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**of 23 October 2014****with observations forming an integral part of its Decision on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications for the financial year 2012**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT,

- having regard to the final annual accounts of the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications for the financial year 2012,
- having regard to the Court of Auditors' report on the annual accounts of the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications for the financial year 2012, together with the Office's replies ⁽¹⁾,
- having regard to the Council's recommendation of 18 February 2014 (05849/2014 — C7-0054/2014),
- having regard to its decision of 3 April 2014 ⁽²⁾ postponing its decision on granting discharge for the financial year 2012, and the accompanying resolution,
- having regard to Article 319 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽³⁾, and in particular Article 185 thereof,
- 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 ⁽⁴⁾, and in particular Article 208 thereof,
- having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1211/2009 of the European Parliament and the Council of 25 November 2009 establishing the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) and the Office ⁽⁵⁾, and in particular Article 13 thereof,
- having regard to Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2343/2002 of 19 November 2002 on the framework Financial Regulation for the bodies referred to in Article 185 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁶⁾,
- having regard to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1271/2013 of 30 September 2013 on the framework financial regulation for the bodies referred to in Article 208 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽⁷⁾, and in particular Article 108 thereof,
- having regard to Rule 94 of, and Annex V to, its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the second report of the Committee on Budgetary Control (A8-0011/2014),

Comments on the legality and regularity of transactions

1. Takes note that in order to address the shortcomings related to the legality and regularity of transactions, the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications ('the Office') has included in its Financial and Accounting Manuals clear procedures, detailed steps and workflows to be used by all financial actors; welcomes the fact that processes relating to the carry forward exercise were under particular focus;

Budget and financial management

2. Ascertains from the Office's final annual accounts that both the budget implementation rate of 89,55 % and payment appropriations execution rate of 76,57 % show improvements over the results from 2012; acknowledges the steps taken to improve the rates of budget implementation; considers, however, that there is still room for improvement and calls on the Office to further improve its budget monitoring efforts in the future;

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 365, 13.12.2013, p. 9.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 266, 5.9.2014, p. 353.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 337, 18.12.2009, p. 1.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 72.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ L 328, 7.12.2013, p. 42.

Commitments and carryovers

3. Welcomes the measures taken by the Office in order to address the issues relating to commitments and carryovers, such as improved budgetary planning and strict monitoring of monthly and end of year payments; acknowledges from the Office that it has ensured the recruitment of key positions with direct impact on financial circuit and has improved its policy on timely presentation and reimbursement of missions costs claimed by experts;
4. Notes with concern that the rate of cancelled committed appropriations carried forward to financial year 2013 is still high at 28 %, although it represents a significant decrease from the previous year's rate of 45 %; acknowledges from the Court of Auditors' report that those carryovers mostly related to contracts signed in the second half of 2013 for planned activities in 2013 and 2014;
5. Takes note that the rate of unused appropriations decreased from 17 % in 2012 to 14,6 % in 2013, as well as the rate of carryovers to 2014, which decreased from EUR 611 223 (19 %) to EUR 461 983 (13 %); calls on the Office to continue to improve the planning and implementation of its activities and to further reduce carryover rates;

Procurement and recruitment procedures

6. Acknowledges the inclusion of a mandatory and detailed procurement checklist in the Office's Financial Manual, as well as the appointment of a Procurement Officer and general procurement training for all staff; welcomes the fact that these measures resulted in the improved preparation, execution, documentation and coordination of the Office's procurement procedures;
7. Welcomes the changes and improvements made to the existing recruitment procedures in order to respond to the discharge authority's requests and to increase transparency of the recruitment process and, in particular, the following:
 - determination of written tests and interview questions, as well as threshold scores, prior to the examination of applications,
 - approval of nomination and changes in the composition of the selection board by the appointing authority,
 - revision of the recruitment guidelines implemented in 2013;
8. Welcomes the Office's revised communication policy, which ensures that mobile phones are given to staff based on professional needs, and the internal controls made for monitoring compliance with that policy;
9. Takes note of the conclusion of a new banking contract for the Office's cash operations with a bank of 'A+/A-1' rating; acknowledges the inclusion of treasury management guidelines in the Office's Accounting Manual;

Prevention and management of conflicts of interest and transparency

10. Acknowledges that the annual conflicts of interests declarations from the Office's Board of Regulators, Management Committee and Administrative Manager have been made available through special sections of the Office's public register of documents; notes that the conflicts of interests policy concerning the Office's staff members follows the same principles, and that the staff members' conflicts of interests declarations are also available through the Office's public register;
11. Takes note that the Office has not planned a review of its conflicts of interest policy in place, and that it considers all relevant policies on conflicts of interest as being in line with the Commission's Guidelines on the Prevention and Management of Conflicts of Interest in EU Decentralised Agencies from December 2013; acknowledges that the Office aims at raising awareness of its policy on conflicts of interest, as well as that of its Board, and that it will closely follow-up all relevant changes in this field;

Internal audit

12. Notes that the Office has met all formal requirements for the Internal Control Standard (ICS) on Information and Communication (ICS 12);

13. Acknowledges that the Office is adapting its planning and reporting to include measurable targets in order to implement the ICS on Objectives and Performance Indicators (ICS 5); notes that the Office completed its own procedure manuals and adopted a detailed internal procedure for registration of all non-compliant events in order to implement the ICS on Process and Procedures (ICS 8); takes note that the Office has updated its internal procedures on documents management in order to comply with the ICS on Document Management (ICS 11);
14. Takes note that the Office established an inventory procedure regarding the registration and disposal of fixed assets which was adopted as part of its Financial Manual; notes that a physical inventory was carried out in August 2013; welcomes the fact that, according to the Office's procedures, an asset inventory is to be completed each year;
15. Notes that a review of the ICS is scheduled by the Internal Audit Service; calls on the Office to report to the discharge authority on the results of that review as soon as they are available;

Performance

16. Welcomes the steps recently taken by the Office towards an improved communication with the European citizens about the impact its work has on them, in particular focusing on measurable and clearly defined objectives which allow for a better assessment of its activities;
17. Notes that the Office has begun to increase its profile as a Union body by uploading the Union logo on some pages on its website, and looks forward to this being extended to the BEREC's home page and systematically to all communications, thereby ensuring visibility of the contribution from the Union budget to the Office;
18. Refers, in respect of the other observations accompanying its Decision on discharge, which are of a horizontal nature, to its resolution of 3 April 2014 ⁽¹⁾ on the performance, financial management and control of the agencies.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 266, 5.9.2014, p. 359.

DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**of 23 October 2014****on the closure of the accounts of the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications for the financial year 2012**

(2014/823/EU)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT,

- having regard to the final annual accounts of the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications for the financial year 2012,
 - having regard to the Court of Auditors' report on the annual accounts of the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications for the financial year 2012, together with the Office's replies ⁽¹⁾,
 - having regard to the Council's recommendation of 18 February 2014 (05849/2014 — C7-0054/2014),
 - having regard to its decision of 3 April 2014 ⁽²⁾ postponing its decision on granting discharge for the financial year 2012, and the accompanying resolution,
 - having regard to Article 319 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽³⁾, and in particular Article 185 thereof,
 - 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 ⁽⁴⁾, and in particular Article 208 thereof,
 - having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1211/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 establishing the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) and the Office ⁽⁵⁾, and in particular Article 13 thereof,
 - having regard to Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2343/2002 of 19 November 2002 on the framework Financial Regulation for the bodies referred to in Article 185 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁶⁾,
 - having regard to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1271/2013 of 30 September 2013 on the framework financial regulation for the bodies referred to in Article 208 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽⁷⁾, and in particular Article 108 thereof,
 - having regard to Rule 94 of, and Annex V to, its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the second report of the Committee on Budgetary Control (A8-0011/2014),
1. Approves the closure of the accounts of the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications for the financial year 2012;
 2. Instructs its President to forward this decision to the Management Committee of the Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications, the Council, the Commission and the Court of Auditors, and to arrange for its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union* (L series).

The President
Martin SCHULZ

The Secretary-General
Klaus WELLE

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 365, 13.12.2013, p. 9.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 266, 5.9.2014, p. 353.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 337, 18.12.2009, p. 1.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 72.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ L 328, 7.12.2013, p. 42.

DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**of 23 October 2014****on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2012, Section II — European Council and Council**

(2014/824/EU)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT,

- having regard to the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2012 ⁽¹⁾,
 - having regard to the consolidated annual accounts of the European Union for the financial year 2012 (COM(2013) 570 — C7-0275/2013) ⁽²⁾,
 - having regard to the Annual Report of the Court of Auditors on the implementation of the budget concerning the financial year 2012, together with the institutions' replies ⁽³⁾,
 - having regard to the statement of assurance ⁽⁴⁾ as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2012, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to its decision of 3 April 2014 ⁽⁵⁾ postponing its decision on granting discharge for the financial year 2012, and the accompanying resolution,
 - having regard to Article 314(10) and Articles 317, 318 and 319 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁶⁾, and in particular Articles 50, 86, 145, 146 and 147 thereof,
 - 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 ⁽⁷⁾, and in particular Articles 164, 165 and 166 thereof,
 - having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management ⁽⁸⁾,
 - having regard to Rule 94 of, and Annex V to, its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the second report of the Committee on Budgetary Control (A8-0010/2014),
1. Refuses to grant the Secretary-General of the Council discharge in respect of the implementation of the European Council's and the Council's budget for the financial year 2012;
 2. Sets out its observations in the resolution below;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this Decision and the resolution that forms an integral part of it to the European Council, the Council, the Commission, the Court of Justice of the European Union, the Court of Auditors, the European Ombudsman, the European Data Protection Supervisor and the European External Action Service, and to arrange for their publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union* (L series).

The President
Martin SCHULZ

The Secretary-General
Klaus WELLE

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 56, 29.2.2012.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 334, 15.11.2013, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ OJ C 331, 14.11.2013, p. 1.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ C 334, 15.11.2013, p. 122.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 266, 5.9.2014, p. 24.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

⁽⁸⁾ OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

RESOLUTION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**of 23 October 2014****with observations forming an integral part of the Decision on discharge for implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2012, Section II — European Council and Council**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT,

- having regard to the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2012 ⁽¹⁾,
- having regard to the consolidated annual accounts of the European Union for the financial year 2012 (COM(2013) 570 — C7-0275/2013) ⁽²⁾,
- having regard to the Annual Report of the Court of Auditors on the implementation of the budget concerning the financial year 2012, together with the institutions' replies ⁽³⁾,
- having regard to the statement of assurance ⁽⁴⁾ as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2012, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to its decision of 3 April 2014 ⁽⁵⁾ postponing its decision on granting discharge for the financial year 2012, and the accompanying resolution,
- having regard to Article 314(10) and Articles 317, 318 and 319 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁶⁾, and in particular Articles 50, 86, 145, 146 and 147 thereof,
- 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 ⁽⁷⁾, and in particular Articles 164, 165 and 166 thereof,
- having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management ⁽⁸⁾,
- having regard to Rule 94 of, and Annex V to, its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the second report of the Committee on Budgetary Control (A8-0010/2014),

A.

Whereas all Union institutions ought to be transparent and fully accountable to the citizens of the Union for the funds entrusted to them as Union institutions;

B.

Whereas the European Council and the Council, as Union institutions, should be subject to democratic accountability towards the citizens of the Union as far as they are beneficiaries of the general budget of the European Union;

C.

Whereas Parliament is the sole directly elected body among the Union institutions and has responsibility to grant discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union;

1.

Emphasises Parliament's role specified in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) in respect of the budget discharge;

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 56, 29.2.2012.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 334, 15.11.2013, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ OJ C 331, 14.11.2013, p. 1.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ C 334, 15.11.2013, p. 122.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 266, 5.9.2014, p. 24.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

⁽⁸⁾ OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

2.

Points out that under Article 335 TFEU, 'the Union shall be represented by each of the institutions, by virtue of their administrative autonomy, in matters relating to their respective operation' and that accordingly, taking into account Article 55 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (the Financial Regulation), the institutions are individually responsible for the implementation of their budgets;

3.

Emphasises the role of Parliament and of other institutions within the discharge procedure as governed by the provisions of the Financial Regulation, in particular Articles 164 to 166 thereof;

4.

Notes that under Rule 94 of its Rules of Procedure, 'the provisions governing the procedure for granting discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the budget shall likewise apply to the procedure for granting discharge to [...] the persons responsible for the implementation of the budgets of other institutions and bodies of the European Union such as the Council (as regards its activity as executive)';

Opinion of the Court of Auditors on the European Council and the Council in its statement of assurance for the financial year 2012

5. Emphasises the fact that in the annual report concerning the financial year 2012, the Court of Auditors included observations on the European Council and the Council concerning errors in the design of procurement procedures; notes that one error relates to the performance of a negotiated procedure and that another relates to the application of a selection criterion;
6. Notes the Council's reply that 'the Council and European Council have a solid centralised procurement framework in place that was recently adapted to the new Financial Regulation and rules of application and will be reinforced with the design of new templates of contracts and invitations to tender as well as the development of specific training courses on how to define and apply selection and award criteria';
7. Shares the Court of Auditors' recommendations that the authorising officers of the European Council and the Council should improve the design, coordination and performance of procurement procedures by means of appropriate checks and better guidance;
8. Notes that the Council did not provide any further replies to the Court of Auditors' recommendations;

Pending issues

9. Reiterates its call on the Council to inform Parliament about the progress of construction and the final costs projection of the 'Europa' building;
10. Invites the Council to explain all the measures implemented throughout the construction of the 'Europa' building in order to improve the execution of the project;
11. Reminds the Council of Parliament's call for a progress report on the 'Residence Palace' building project and a detailed breakdown of the costs incurred to date;
12. Urges the Council to provide a thorough written explanation detailing the total amount of appropriations used in the purchase of the 'Residence Palace' building, the budget items from which these appropriations were drawn, the instalments that have been paid thus far, the instalments that remain to be paid and the purpose that the building will serve;
13. Reiterates its call on the Council to provide information on its process of administrative modernisation, in particular on the concrete implementing measures of that process and on the anticipated impact on the Council's budget;
14. Regrets the difficulties repeatedly encountered in the discharge procedures to date, which were due to a lack of co-operation from the Council; points out that Parliament refused to grant discharge to the Secretary-General of the Council in relation to the financial years 2009, 2010 and 2011 for the reasons set out in its resolutions of 10 May 2011 ⁽¹⁾, 25 October 2011 ⁽²⁾, 10 May 2012 ⁽³⁾, 23 October 2012 ⁽⁴⁾, 17 April 2013 ⁽⁵⁾ and 9 October 2013 ⁽⁶⁾, and postponed its decision on granting the Secretary-General of the Council discharge in relation to the financial year 2012 for the reasons set out in its resolution of 3 April 2014;

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 250, 27.9.2011, p. 25.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 313, 26.11.2011, p. 13.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 286, 17.10.2012, p. 23.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 350, 20.12.2012, p. 71.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 308, 16.11.2013, p. 22.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 328, 7.12.2013, p. 97.

15. Insists that an effective budgetary control exercise requires the cooperation of Parliament and the Council, as set out in its resolution of 3 April 2014; confirms that Parliament is unable to make an informed decision on granting discharge;
 16. Recalls that as a result of its discharge decision adopted on 17 April 2013, Parliament sent the Council's questions to the Commission and the Commission replied by letter of 23 January 2014; reminds the Council of the Commission's view that all institutions are fully part of the follow-up process to the observations made by Parliament in the discharge exercise and that all institutions should cooperate to ensure the smooth functioning of the discharge procedure;
 17. Notes that the Commission stated in the abovementioned letter that it will not oversee the implementation of the budget of the other institutions and that giving a response to questions addressed to another institution would infringe the autonomy of that institution to implement its own section of the budget;
 18. Regrets that the Council continues to fail to provide answers to Parliament's questions; recalls the conclusions of the Parliament workshop on Parliament's Right to Grant Discharge to the Council held on 27 September 2012 at which the legal and academic experts largely agreed on Parliament's right to information; in this respect refers to the third subparagraph of Article 15(3) TFEU which stipulates that each institution, body, office or agency shall ensure that its proceedings are transparent;
 19. Insists that the expenditure of the Council must be scrutinised in the same way as that of other institutions and that the fundamental elements of such scrutiny have been laid down in its discharge resolutions of the past years, in particular the discharge resolution of 23 October 2012;
 20. Emphasises Parliament's prerogative to grant discharge pursuant to Article 316, 317 and 319 TFEU, in line with current interpretation and practice, namely to grant discharge to each heading of the budget individually in order to maintain transparency and democratic accountability towards Union taxpayers;
 21. Takes the view that failure to submit the requested documents to Parliament above all undermines the right of citizens of the Union to information and transparency and is becoming a cause for concern, reflecting as it does a certain democratic deficit within the Union institutions; urges the Council, therefore, not to treat Parliament's requests for access to information as a bid for institutional supremacy but to give priority to the right of the public to be fully informed;
 22. Believes that it is necessary to consider different possibilities to update the rules on granting discharge laid down in the TFEU;
 23. Finds that Parliament and the Council could make some progress by setting up a *modus vivendi* procedure together with a list of documents to be exchanged in order to fulfil their respective roles in the discharge process; encourages, in this respect, the Council to seek a political solution to the Council discharge regardless the different legal views which Parliament and the Council continue to hold;
 24. Considers that satisfactory cooperation between Parliament, the European Council and the Council as a result of an open and formal dialogue procedure can be a positive sign to be sent to the citizens of the Union.
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**of 20 November 2014****setting up the organisational structure and operation for the European network for rural development and for the European Innovation Partnership network and repealing Decision 2008/168/EC**

(2014/825/EU)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Articles 52(4) and 53(4) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) A European network for rural development was put in place in accordance with Article 52(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 for the networking of national networks, organisations, and administrations active in the field of rural development at Union level.
- (2) A European Innovation Partnership ('EIP') network was put in place in accordance with Article 53(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 to support the EIP for agricultural productivity and sustainability referred to in Article 55 of that Regulation and to enable the networking of operational groups, advisory services and researchers.
- (3) It is therefore necessary to adopt rules setting out the organisational structure and operation of both the European network for rural development ('the ENRD') and the EIP network.
- (4) With a view to achieve the objectives of rural networking at the European level set up in Articles 52(2) and 53(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, and to carry out the tasks provided for in Articles 52(3) and 53(3) of that Regulation for the ENRD and the EIP network respectively, it is necessary to set up a Rural Networks' Assembly and to define its tasks and its structure, in accordance with the White Paper from the Commission entitled European governance ⁽²⁾, and in accordance with the Communication from the President to the Commission entitled Framework for Commission expert groups: horizontal rules and public register ⁽³⁾ ('Framework for Commission expert groups').
- (5) The Assembly should notably promote exchange and networking among public and private entities active in rural development and innovation for agricultural productivity and sustainability. It should ensure coordination between the ENRD and the EIP network, provide the strategic framework for their activity, including the thematic work, and ensure appropriate monitoring and assessment of the same activity. It should propose the members of the Steering Group.
- (6) The Assembly should be composed of national rural networks, managing authorities, paying agencies, organisations active in the field of rural development at Union level, LEADER local action groups, agricultural advisory service providers active in innovation support services linked to operational groups and research institutes active in innovation activities linked to operational groups.
- (7) In order to guarantee an open, transparent and balanced representation, the members of the Assembly who are organisations active in the field of rural development at Union level should be those appointed within the civil dialogue group on rural development in accordance with Commission Decision 2013/767/EU ⁽⁴⁾ (hereinafter 'civil dialogue group on rural development').

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 487.

⁽²⁾ White Paper of the Commission — European governance, 25 July 2001, COM(2001) 428 final.

⁽³⁾ Communication from the President to the Commission — Framework for Commission expert groups: horizontal rules and public register, 10 November 2012, C(2010) 7649 final.

⁽⁴⁾ Commission Decision 2013/767/EU of 16 December 2013 setting up a framework for civil dialogue in matters covered by the common agricultural policy and repealing Decision 2004/391/EC (OJ L 338, 17.12.2013, p. 115).

- (8) With a view to ensure an effective and efficient organisation of the activity of the ENRD and of the EIP network, in accordance with the opinions of the Assembly, it is necessary to set up a Rural Networks' Steering Group and to define its tasks and its structure.
- (9) The Steering Group should notably prepare, implement and follow-up the activities of the ENRD and of the EIP network. It should coordinate the thematic work of the networks and ensure coordination of the work of the Assembly with that of other expert groups and committees established in the context of rural development and of the European Structural and Investment Funds.
- (10) The Steering Group should be composed of managing authorities and/or national rural networks, EU-wide organisations active in the field of rural development, national authorities in charge of the evaluation of rural development programmes, agricultural advisory service providers and/or agricultural research institutes.
- (11) With a view to maintain an open and regular exchange between the ENRD, the EIP network and the civil dialogue group on rural development, the chairperson and the vice-chairpersons of the civil dialogue group should be enabled to take part in the meetings of the Steering Group as observers.
- (12) Rules on disclosure of information by members of the Assembly and of the Steering Group should be laid down.
- (13) Personal data should be processed in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾.
- (14) Commission Decision 2008/168/EC ⁽²⁾ provides for the organisational structure of the European Network for Rural Development for the period 2007-2013. That Decision should therefore be repealed.
- (15) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Rural Development Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

CHAPTER I

SUBJECT MATTER

Article 1

Subject matter

This Decision sets out the organisational structure and operation of the European network for rural development ('the ENRD') and of the European Innovation Partnership network for agricultural productivity and sustainability ('the EIP network') by setting up an Assembly and a Steering Group, providing for their composition and their tasks and laying down rules for their operation.

CHAPTER II

RURAL NETWORKS' ASSEMBLY

Article 2

Rural Networks' Assembly

The Assembly of the ENRD and of the EIP network, hereinafter referred to as 'the Assembly', is hereby set up.

Article 3

Assembly's tasks

The tasks of the Assembly shall be in particular:

- (a) to promote exchange and networking among public and private entities active in rural development and innovation for agricultural productivity and sustainability;
- (b) to ensure coordination between the ENRD and the EIP network;

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data (OJ L 8, 12.1.2001, p. 1).

⁽²⁾ Commission Decision 2008/168/EC of 20 February 2008 setting up the organisational structure for the European Network for Rural Development (OJ L 56, 29.2.2008, p. 31).

- (c) to provide the strategic framework for the activities of the ENRD and of the EIP network, including the thematic work;
- (d) to ensure appropriate monitoring and assessment of the activities of the ENRD and of the EIP network with regard to the objectives set up in Articles 52(2) and 53(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 and the tasks listed in Articles 52(3) and 53(3) of that Regulation;
- (e) to propose to the Director-General for Agriculture and Rural Development ('the Director-General') the members of the Steering Group.

Article 4

Assembly membership

1. The Assembly shall be composed of the following members:
 - (a) national rural networks referred to in Article 54 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (one member from each Member State);
 - (b) managing authorities referred to in Article 66 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (one member from each Member State);
 - (c) paying agencies referred to in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾ (one member from each Member State);
 - (d) EU-wide non-governmental organisations, registered in the joint European Transparency Register, who have been appointed members of the civil dialogue group on rural development pursuant to Decision 2013/767/EU (hereinafter 'civil dialogue group on rural development') and who have expressed their interest in participating in the Assembly (maximum 29 members);
 - (e) EU-wide organisations representing regional and/or local authorities active in rural development, including the connections between rural and urban areas (maximum three members);
 - (f) LEADER local action groups referred to in Article 42 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (one member from each Member State);
 - (g) agricultural advisory service providers active in innovation support services linked to operational groups (one member from each Member State);
 - (h) agricultural research institutes active in innovation activities linked to operational groups (one member from each Member State).
2. Members referred to in paragraph 1(a), (b), (c), (f), (g) and (h) shall be designated by the respective Member State.

Members referred to in paragraph 1(e) shall be appointed by the Director-General on the basis of a call for applications.

3. Members States' authorities shall nominate the permanent representatives for each of the categories referred to in paragraph 1(a), (b), (c), (f), (g) and (h).

The organisations referred to in paragraph 1(d) and (e) shall nominate their permanent representatives.

4. The members of the Assembly shall be published in the Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities ('the Register') and on the websites of the ENRD and of the EIP network.

5. Personal data shall be collected, processed and published in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 45/2001.

Article 5

Assembly's operation

1. The Assembly shall be chaired by a representative of the Commission. The chair shall convene a meeting at least once a year.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 352/78, (EC) No 165/94, (EC) No 2799/98, (EC) No 814/2000, (EC) No 1290/2005 and (EC) No 485/2008 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 549).

2. In agreement with the Commission, the Assembly may set up sub-groups on specific topics related to the objectives and the tasks of the ENRD and of the EIP network, including permanent sub-groups on:

- (a) innovation for agricultural productivity and sustainability;
- (b) LEADER and community led local development; and
- (c) the evaluation of rural development programmes.

Sub-groups shall carry out thematic work on the basis of a mandate defined by the Assembly.

Non-permanent sub-groups shall be disbanded as soon as their mandate is fulfilled.

3. The Commission's representative may invite experts and observers from outside the Assembly with specific competence in a subject on the agenda to participate in the work of the Assembly or sub-groups on an ad hoc basis.

4. Members of the Assembly, as well as invited experts and observers, shall comply with the obligations of professional secrecy laid down by the Treaties and their implementing rules, as well as with the Commission's rules on security regarding the protection of EU classified information, laid down in the Annex to Commission Decision 2001/844/EC, ECSC, Euratom ⁽¹⁾. Should they fail to respect these obligations, the Commission shall take all appropriate measures.

5. The meetings of the Assembly and its sub-groups shall be held on Commission premises, unless the chair decides otherwise. The Commission shall provide secretarial services. Commission officials with an interest in the proceedings may attend meetings of the Assembly and its sub-groups.

6. The Assembly shall adopt its rules of procedure on the basis of the standard rules of procedure for expert groups adopted by the Commission.

7. The Commission publishes all relevant documents on the activities carried out by the Assembly (such as agendas, minutes and participants' submissions) either by including it in the Register or via a link from the Register to a dedicated website.

8. The work of the Assembly shall be coordinated with that of other expert groups and committees established in the context of the civil dialogue on rural development as well as in the context of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽²⁾ and the Fund-specific Regulations within the meaning of that Regulation.

Article 6

Reimbursement of expenses

1. Members of the Assembly shall not be remunerated for the services they render.
2. Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by the members of the Assembly for their participation in the Assembly's meetings, including the sub-groups, shall be reimbursed by the Commission in accordance with the provisions in force within the Commission.
3. The expenses referred to in paragraph 2 shall be reimbursed within the limits of the available appropriations allocated under the annual procedure for the allocation of resources.

CHAPTER III

RURAL NETWORKS' STEERING GROUP

Article 7

Rural Networks' Steering Group

The Steering Group of the ENRD and of the EIP network, hereinafter referred to as 'the Steering Group', is hereby set up.

⁽¹⁾ Commission Decision 2001/844/EC, ECSC, Euratom of 29 November 2001 amending its internal Rules of Procedure (OJ L 317, 3.12.2001, p. 1).

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 320).

*Article 8***Steering Group's tasks**

The tasks of the Steering Group shall be in particular:

- (a) preparing, implementing and following-up the activities of the ENRD and of the EIP network, in accordance with the strategic framework provided by the Assembly;
- (b) coordinating the thematic work in accordance with the framework provided by the Assembly and following-up its implementation;
- (c) assessing on an ongoing basis the effectiveness and efficiency of the activities of the ENRD and of the EIP network;
- (d) ensuring the coordination of the work of the Assembly with that of other expert groups and committees established in the context of the civil dialogue on rural development as well as in the context of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and the Fund-specific Regulations within the meaning of that Regulation;
- (e) reporting to the Assembly as regards its activities.

*Article 9***Steering Group's membership**

1. The Steering Group shall be composed of the following members of the Assembly:

- (a) managing authorities and/or national rural networks (one member from each Member State);
- (b) EU-wide organisations referred to in Article 4(1)(d) and (e) (maximum 12 members);
- (c) national authorities in charge of the evaluation of rural development programmes (maximum four members);
- (d) agricultural advisory service providers and/or agricultural research institutes referred to in Article 4(1)(g) and (h) (maximum four members).

2. The members of the Steering Group shall be appointed by the Director-General following a proposal of the Assembly reflecting the geographic and thematic diversity of the members of the ENRD and of the EIP network and based on the voluntary commitment of the proposed members.

For each of the categories referred to in paragraph 1, the Assembly may propose a rotation of the members of the Steering Group.

3. A member of the Steering Group may be replaced by the Director-General following a proposal of the Assembly where:

- (a) it withdraws from the Steering Group;
- (b) it does not regularly designate representatives for the meetings of the Steering Group;
- (c) it is no longer able to contribute effectively to the tasks of the Steering Group;
- (d) it does not comply with the non-disclosure requirement relating to information covered by the obligation of professional secrecy laid down in Article 339 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

4. The chairperson and the vice-chairpersons of the civil dialogue group on rural development may take part in the Steering Group's meetings as observers.

*Article 10***Steering Group's operation and meeting expenses**

Articles 5 and 6 shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to the operation and the meeting expenses of the Steering Group.

CHAPTER IV

FINAL PROVISIONS*Article 11***Repeal**

Decision 2008/168/EC is repealed.

*Article 12***Entry into force**

This Decision shall enter into force on the third day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, 20 November 2014.

For the Commission
The President
Jean-Claude JUNCKER

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