

<u>Paziņojums Nr.</u>	Saturs	Lappuse
	II <i>Paziņojumi</i>	
	<p style="text-align: center;">EIROPAS SAVIENĪBAS IESTĀŽU UN STRUKTŪRU SNIEGTI PAZIŅOJUMI</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Komisija</p>	
2007/C 243/01	Iebildumu necelšana pret paziņoto koncentrāciju (Lieta COMP/M.4748 — T-Mobile/Orange) ⁽¹⁾	1
	IV <i>Informācija</i>	
	<p style="text-align: center;">EIROPAS SAVIENĪBAS IESTĀŽU UN STRUKTŪRU SNIEGTA INFORMĀCIJA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Komisija</p>	
2007/C 243/02	Euro maiņas kurss	2
	V <i>Atzinumi</i>	
	<p style="text-align: center;">ADMINISTRATĪVAS PROCEDŪRAS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Eiropas Personāla atlases birojs (EPSO)</p>	
2007/C 243/03	Paziņojums par atklāto konkursu EPSO/AST/43-44/07	3

PROCEDŪRAS, KAS SAISTĪTAS AR KONKURENCES POLITIKAS ĪSTENOŠANU

Komisija

2007/C 243/04

Valsts atbalsts — Apvienotā Karaliste — Valsts atbalsts C 23/07 (ex N 118/07) — Vauxhall Motors Ltd — Mācību atbalsts Ellesmere Port — Uzaicinājums iesniegt apsvērumus saskaņā ar EK līguma 88. panta 2. punktu ⁽¹⁾

4

CITI AKTI

Komisija

2007/C 243/05

Pieteikuma publikācija saskaņā ar 6. panta 2. punktu Padomes Regulā (EK) Nr. 510/2006 par lauksaimniecības produktu un pārtikas produktu ģeogrāfiskās izcelsmes norāžu un cilmes vietu nosaukumu aizsardzību

11



⁽¹⁾ Dokuments attiecas uz EEZ

II

(Paziņojumi)

EIROPAS SAVIENĪBAS IESTĀŽU UN STRUKTŪRU SNIEGTI PAZIŅOJUMI

KOMISIJA

Iebildumu necelšana pret paziņoto koncentrāciju**(Lieta COMP/M.4748 — T-Mobile/Orange)****(Dokuments attiecas uz EEZ)**

(2007/C 243/01)

2007. gada 20. augustā Komisija nolēma necelt iebildumus pret augstāk paziņoto koncentrāciju un paziņo, ka tā ir saderīga ar kopējo tirgu. Šis lēmums ir balstīts uz Padomes Regulas (EK) Nr. 139/2004 6. panta 1. punkta b) apakšpunktu. Lēmuma pilns teksts ir pieejams vienīgi angļu un tiks publicēts pēc tam, kad tiks noskaidrots, vai tas ietver jebkādus komercnoslēpumus. Tas būs pieejams:

- Eiropas konkurences tīmekļa vietnē (<http://ec.europa.eu/comm/competition/mergers/cases/>). Šī tīmekļa vietne nodrošina dažādas iespējas, lai palīdzētu ievietot individuālos apvienošanās lēmumus, norādot arī uzņēmuma nosaukumu, lietas numuru, datumu un sektorālo indeksu.
 - elektroniskā veidā EUR-Lex tīmekļa vietnē ar dokumenta numuru 32007M4748. EUR-Lex ir tiešsaite piekļūšanai Eiropas Kopienas likumdošanas datorizētai dokumentācijas sistēmai. (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu>)
-

IV

(Informācija)

EIROPAS SAVIENĪBAS IESTĀŽU UN STRUKTŪRU SNIEGTA
INFORMĀCIJA

KOMISIJA

Euro maiņas kurss ⁽¹⁾**2007. gada 16. oktobris**

(2007/C 243/02)

1 euro =

Valūta	Maiņas kurss	Valūta	Maiņas kurss	
USD	ASV dolārs	1,4150	RON Rumānijas leja	3,3513
JPY	Japānas jēna	165,17	SKK Slovērijas krona	33,687
DKK	Dānijas krona	7,4528	TRY Turcijas lira	1,7314
GBP	Lielbritānijas mārciņa	0,69650	AUD Austrālijas dolārs	1,5929
SEK	Zviedrijas krona	9,1538	CAD Kanādas dolārs	1,3878
CHF	Šveices franks	1,6753	HKD Hongkongas dolārs	10,9724
ISK	Islandes krona	86,25	NZD Jaunzēlandes dolārs	1,8930
NOK	Norvēģijas krona	7,6660	SGD Singapūras dolārs	2,0767
BGN	Bulgārijas leva	1,9558	KRW Dienvidkorejas vons	1 297,84
CYP	Kipras mārciņa	0,5842	ZAR Dienvidāfrikas rands	9,7399
CZK	Čehijas krona	27,526	CNY Ķīnas jauna renminbi	10,6380
EEK	Igaunijas krona	15,6466	HRK Horvātijas kuna	7,3235
HUF	Ungārijas forints	251,05	IDR Indonēzijas rūpija	12 819,90
LTL	Lietuvas lits	3,4528	MYR Malaizijas ringits	4,7862
LVL	Latvijas lats	0,7030	PHP Filipīnu peso	62,755
MTL	Maltas lira	0,4293	RUB Krievijas rublis	35,3050
PLN	Polijas zlots	3,7196	THB Taizemes bats	44,424

⁽¹⁾ Datu avots: atsaucies maiņas kursu publicējusi ECB.

V

(Atzinumi)

ADMINISTRATĪVAS PROCEDŪRAS

EIROPAS PERSONĀLA ATLASES BIROJS (EPSO)

PAZIŅOJUMS PAR ATKLĀTO KONKURSU EPSO/AST/43-44/07

(2007/C 243/03)

Eiropas Personāla atlases birojs (EPSO) organizē šādus atklātos konkursus: EPSO/AST/43/07 un EPSO/AST/44/07 — asistenti (AST3) ar Bulgārijas un Rumānijas pilsonību šādās jomās:

1. Eiropas publiskā administrācija
2. Finanšu vadība

Paziņojums par konkursu ir publicēts tikai angļu, franču un vācu valodā 2007. gada 17. oktobra Oficiālajā Vēstnesī C 243 A.

Pilnīga informācija atrodama EPSO tīmekļa vietnē <http://europa.eu/epso>.

PROCEDŪRAS, KAS SAISTĪTAS AR KONKURENCES POLITIKAS ĪSTENOŠANU

KOMISIJA

VALSTS ATBALSTS — APVIENOTĀ KARALISTE

Valsts atbalsts C 23/07 (ex N 118/07) — Vauxhall Motors Ltd — Mācību atbalsts Ellesmere Port

Uzaicinājums iesniegt apsvērumus saskaņā ar EK līguma 88. panta 2. punktu

(Dokuments attiecas uz EEZ)

(2007/C 243/04)

Komisija ar 2007. gada 10. jūlija vēstuli, kas autentiskā valodā pievienota šim kopsavilkumam, paziņoja Apvienotajai Karalistei par savu lēmumu uzsākt EK līguma 88. panta 2. punktā noteikto procedūru attiecībā uz iepriekšminētā atbalsta vienu daļu.

Viena mēneša laikā pēc šā kopsavilkuma un tam pievienotās vēstules publicēšanas ieinteresētās personas var iesniegt savus apsvērumus par atbalstu, attiecībā uz kuru Komisija uzsāk procedūru, nosūtot tos uz šādu adresi:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
State aid registry
SPA -3, 6/5
B-1049 Brussels
Faksa Nr.: (32-2) 296 12 42

Šos apsvērumus paziņos Apvienotajai Karalistei. Ieinteresētā persona, kas iesniedz apsvērumus, var rakstveidā pieprasīt, lai tās identitāte netiktu atklāta, norādot šādas prasības iemeslus.

KOPSAVILKUMS

2007. gada 5. martā Apvienotā Karaliste paziņoja Komisijai par savu nodomu piešķirt atbalstu *Vauxhall Motors Ltd, Ellesmere Port* ("Vauxhall"), automašīnu ražošanas rūpnīcai, kas ir uzņēmuma *Vauxhall Motors Ltd* daļa un pieder *General Motors Ltd*. Paziņojums tika sniegts saskaņā ar Komisijas Regulas par mācību atbalstu (EK) Nr. 68/2001 5. pantu, kas nosaka, ka atsevišķi jāpaziņo par mācību atbalstu, kas pārsniedz 1 miljonu euro.

Atbalsta mērķis ir veicināt mācību programmas, lai ar to palīdzību uzlabotu *Vauxhall* darbību. Atbalstu paredzēts apgūt sešu gadu laikā (no 2007. gada līdz 2012. gadam ieskaitot). Mācību kopējās attaisnotās izmaksas ir GBP 16 583 461. Atbalstu piešķirtu *North-West Development Agency* kā tiešu piešķirumu GBP 8 584 767 apmērā, kas maksājams sešu ikgadēju iemaksu veidā.

Komisija uzskata, ka šis pasākums ir valsts atbalsts EK līguma 87. panta nozīmē. Komisija novērtēs atbalsta atbilstību kopējam tirgum uz EK līguma 87. panta 3. punkta c) apakšpunkta pamata. To darot, Komisija ņems vērā Regulas par mācību atbalstu pamatprincipus. Komisija arī izvērtēs, vai atbalsts radīs vajadzīgo stimulu mācību projektam, t.i., vai arī atbalsta nesniegšanas gadījumā mācību projekts tiktu uzsākts. Šis "stimulējošās ietekmes" kritērijs ir vispārējs nosacījums valsts atbalsta saderībai.

Šajā posmā Komisijai ir šaubas par atbalsta saderību šādu iemeslu dēļ. Pirmkārt, Komisija apšaubā atbalsta stimulējošo ietekmi saistībā ar trim mācību programmas daļām (attiecībā uz mācībām par ražošanas sistēmu, mācībām par *General Motors Global Manufacturing* sistēmu, kā arī attiecībā uz praktisku un teorētisku mācību programmām pēdējā kursa studentiem), kuras pēc Komisijas uzskata, iespējams, īstenotu arī atbalsta nesniegšanas gadījumā.

Otrkārt, Komisija apšaubā Apvienotās Karalistes viedokli, ka četrās programmas nozarēs (ražošanas sistēmas mācības, *Global Manufacturing System*, pārmaiņas kultūras jomā un efektīva ražošana) paredzētās mācības atbilst vispārējām mācībām Regulas par mācību atbalstu nozīmē, t.i., tādām mācībām, kurās iegūst kvalifikāciju, kuru var izmantot citos uzņēmumos vai citās nozarēs, un šīm mācībām var piešķirt atbalstu līdz 50 % no attaisnotām izmaksām. Komisija uzskata, ka šīs mācību daļas atbilst speciālām mācībām Regulas nozīmē (atbalsta maksimālā intensitāte ir 25 %).

VĒSTULES TEKSTS

“The Commission wishes to inform the United Kingdom that, having examined the information supplied by the UK authorities on the measure referred to above, it has decided to initiate the procedure laid down in Article 88(2) of the EC Treaty.

1. THE PROCEDURE

- (1) By letter dated 28 February 2007, registered with the Commission on 6 March 2007, the UK authorities notified the Commission of the above-mentioned measure for General Motor's Vauxhall assembly plant at Ellesmere Port. The Commission requested complementary information by letter of 4 April 2007 (ref. D/51586), to which the UK authorities replied on 22 May 2007.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE AID

2.1. The beneficiary

- (2) The aid recipient is Vauxhall Motors Ltd, Ellesmere Port, UK (“Vauxhall”), a car manufacturing plant which is an operating unit of Vauxhall Motors Ltd and part of General Motors Inc. (“GM”). It manufactures cars from the Opel model range (which are sold in the UK under the Vauxhall badge), currently the Astra which will terminate in 2009. Vauxhall is located in Ellesmere Port in Cheshire in the North-West region of England ⁽¹⁾ and employs close to 2 200 workers.
- (3) Vauxhall has suffered from a long record of underperformance. Initiatives taken since 2002 have considerably improved the plant's performance. However, according to the UK, the improvements represent only the changes needed to meet the basic standards for a GM plant. In order to survive in the long term, Vauxhall needs to implement a more comprehensive change and staff development programme in order to improve productivity and build quality and make Vauxhall a class leading plant.
- (4) On 17 April 2007, GM announced that Vauxhall was amongst the European GM sites that had been selected to produce the Global Compact Vehicle, the model that will replace the Astra.

2.2. The training programme

- (5) Vauxhall intends to implement a wide-ranging training plan which breaks down into 8 individual training areas, 6 of which are considered by the UK to be eligible for training aid:
 - (a) Production System Training: This concerns training in all elements of Vauxhall's production and quality control systems. The objective is to give staff a better understanding of the build process and thus generate better standard, reduce defects and improve problem solving.
 - (b) Integrated Training Plan: This part of the training concerns the implementation of the “Global Manufacturing System” (GMS) which incorporates best practices and technologies into a common manufacturing system for GM operations. Through a series of objectives (“People Involvement”, “Standardisation”, “Built-in Quality”, “Short Lead Time”, “Continuous Improvement”) the training will allow the staff of Vauxhall to build future generations of cars in a better way.
 - (c) Cultural Change: The objective of this training is to instil a sense of common purpose and collective responsibility in the workforce and to create a team culture based on excellence in production.

⁽¹⁾ Vauxhall is located in an area which until 31 December 2006 qualified for regional aid under Article 87(3)(c) of the EC Treaty. Since 1 January 2007, the region is an unassisted area.

- (d) Dual Skilling: The purpose of this training is to develop a flexible workforce by allowing staff with a primary skill in mechanical engineering to develop electrical skills and, conversely, those with primary skills in electrical engineering to acquire mechanical skills.
- (e) Lean Manufacturing: This is a project to ensure that the principles and techniques of lean manufacturing are embedded in the workforce and that employees are fully aware of the benefits of applying these to the manufacturing process at Vauxhall. A central part of training under this heading will be the secondment of staff to another GM plant outside the UK.
- (f) Undergraduates: This is a programme whereby Vauxhall organises 12-month courses for young University students. The various programmes (e.g. "Body Planning Engineer", "Finance Analyst", "General Assembly Planning Engineer") combine learning and work experience under the supervision of a mentor. There is no contractual obligation on either party to maintain the working relationship at the end of the training.
- (6) Outside the training intended to benefit from the notified State aid are the training areas "Apprentices" (an apprenticeship scheme for young people), "Model Change" (the training needed to adapt to the production of the Global Model Vehicle) and activities related to "Training & Performance Appraisal". In addition, the UK authorities have informed the Commission that Vauxhall undertakes "routine training" in the skills necessary to the plant's normal operations.
- (7) According to the information provided by the UK, the training would consist mainly in general training, with some elements of specific training ⁽²⁾. The training plan will be implemented over six years (2007 to 2012 included) and will concern all employees at Vauxhall.

2.3. The aid

- (8) The aid would be given in the form of a direct grant of GBP 8 584 767 payable in six yearly instalments over the running time of the training programme. The aid would be implemented as an individual aid from the North West Development Agency.
- (9) According to the information provided by the UK, the eligible costs for the training and the aid break down as follows (the costs for the projects "Apprenticeships", "Model Change" and "Routine Training Budget" are not considered eligible by the UK) ⁽³⁾ (*):

Projects	General training Eligible costs in GBP	Specific training Eligible costs in GBP	Wage compensation in GBP	Total eligible costs in GBP	Aid in GBP	Intensity in %
Product System Training	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]
Integrated Training Progr.	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]
Cultural Change	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]
Dual Skilling	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]
Lean Manufacturing	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]
Undergraduates	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]
TOTAL	9 870 316	464 808	6 248 338	16 583 461	8 584 767	51,78

⁽²⁾ The notions of general and specific training are used as defined in Commission Regulation (EC) No 68/2001 of 12 January 2001 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to training aid (OJ L 10, 13.1.2001, p. 20), referred to in this decision as "the Training Aid Regulation".

⁽³⁾ These amounts in the table are those indicated in the UK's letter of 22 May 2007. However, the Commission notes a discrepancy as regards the figures provided in the notification, at least as concerns the eligible costs for the Integrated Training Programme. The Commission expects the UK authorities to clarify this issue and provide definitive amounts for the eligible costs and the aid.

(*) [...]: Confidential information.

Projects	General training Eligible costs in GBP	Specific training Eligible costs in GBP	Wage compensation in GBP	Total eligible costs in GBP	Aid in GBP	Intensity in %
Apprenticeships	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]
Model Changes	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]
Routine Training Budge	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]

- (10) According to the UK, the planned aid amounts respect the aid intensities of the Training Aid Regulation, i.e. 50 % for general training and 25 % for specific training, with an increase of 3,7 percentage points for training to disadvantaged workers within the meaning of Article 2(g) of the Training Aid Regulation ⁽⁴⁾.

3. ASSESSMENT

3.1. Qualification as State aid

- (11) According to Article 87 of the EC Treaty, any aid granted by a Member State or through State resources in any form whatsoever which distorts or threatens to distort competition by favouring certain undertakings or the production of certain goods, in so far as it affects trade between Member States, constitutes incompatible State aid unless it can be justified under Article 87(2) or (3) of the EC Treaty.
- (12) The Commission considers that the measure constitutes State aid within the meaning of Article 87(1) of the EC Treaty. The funding takes the form of a grant from the general budget of the North West region, and is thus funded from State resources. The measures are selective as they are limited to Vauxhall. They are likely to distort competition within the Community since, by relieving it of a significant part of the costs of the training, the measure will provide Vauxhall with an advantage over other competitors not receiving the aid. Finally, the market for motor vehicles is characterised by extensive trade between Member States.

3.2. Legal basis for the assessment

- (13) The UK authorities have notified the aid as individual aid under Article 5 of the Training Aid Regulation which provides that when the amount of aid granted to one enterprise for a single training project exceeds EUR 1 million, the aid is not exempted from the notification requirement of Article 88(3) EC Treaty. The Commission notes that the proposed aid in this case amounts to GBP 8 584 767, i.e. about EUR 13 million, to be paid to one enterprise, and that the training project is a single project. The Commission therefore considers that the notification requirement applies to the proposed aid, and that it has been respected by the UK.
- (14) When assessing an individual training aid which does not qualify for the exemption laid down in the Training Aid Regulation, the Commission will, in line with previous decisions ⁽⁵⁾ make an individual assessment of the aid on the basis of Article 87(3)(c) of the EC Treaty. However, for the purposes of this individual assessment the Commission will by analogy rely on the guiding principles of the Training Aid Regulation and in particular the exemption criteria laid down in its Article 4.
- (15) Moreover, the Commission will, in line with its established practice, assess whether the training aid measure is necessary to undertake the training in question. The necessity of the aid is a general condition for finding the aid compatible with the common market ⁽⁶⁾. If the aid does not lead to additional training, it cannot be considered to “*promote*” the economic development within the meaning of Article 87(3)(c) EC of the EC Treaty nor to correct the market imperfections that lead companies to underinvest in the training, as mentioned in recital 10 of the Training Aid Regulation.

⁽⁴⁾ At present, 37 % of workers of the company are considered to be disadvantaged. They fall mainly into the category of persons older than 45 who have not attained an upper secondary education. However, as the training will run over 6 years and as the exact number of disadvantaged workers benefiting from the training will be known only at the time the training is delivered, the UK authorities intend to apply a general increase of aid intensity of 3,7 % across the board. The UK authorities have committed to verifying the actual number of disadvantaged workers in each training project ex post and to correct the applied aid intensities accordingly.

⁽⁵⁾ See Commission Decision 2006/938/EC of 4 July 2006 on State aid C 40/2005 ... Ford Genk (OJ C 366, 21.12.2006, p. 32) and Commission Decision of 4 April 2007 on State aid C 14/06 ... General Motors Belgium, not yet published. This follows also from paragraph 16 of the preamble of the Training Aid Regulation.

⁽⁶⁾ This is reiterated in point 11 of the Regulation which clarifies that it must be “*ensure[d] that State aid is limited to the minimum necessary to obtain the Community objective which market forces alone would not make possible [...]*”.

3.3. Compatibility with the common market

- (16) In view of the information submitted by the UK, the Commission has doubts on the compatibility of the aid with the common market for the reasons indicated below.

3.3.1. Incentive effect of the aid

- (17) As indicated above, the Commission takes the view that training aid can be compatible with the common market only if it creates a necessary incentive for the funded training, in the absence of which the training would not take place. Training which is part of the normal operations of an undertaking and for which market forces alone should provide sufficient incentive will not qualify for training aid.
- (18) The UK has indicated that all training which is necessary for Vauxhall's normal operations is provided as part of "routine training", the cost of which is not included in the eligible costs of the notified aid (the same is claimed for the training necessary to adapt to the production of the Global Concept Vehicle, covered by the heading "Model Change").
- (19) According to the UK, the training covered by the notification is significantly in excess of the work required to maintain its current business and would, because of its prohibitive cost, not be undertaken by Vauxhall without the aid. The aid would thus be a necessary condition for the training.
- (20) The Commission nevertheless doubts the incentive effect of the aid on parts of the training programme:

Production System Training

- (21) In the Commission's view, this training appears to be necessary to ensure Vauxhall's normal operations. This should provide Vauxhall with sufficient incentive to undertake the training without aid.
- (22) The UK has indicated that the training in production systems which is indispensable to Vauxhall's operations is provided through "routine training" which is distinct from the Production System Training. However, the UK has not provided sufficient information to allow the Commission to verify the contents of the "routine training" and to compare it to the Production System Training to satisfy itself that the latter provides additional qualifications.
- (23) The Commission consequently doubts that the aid is necessary for Vauxhall to undertake the Production System Training.
- (24) Concerning a particular item of the Production System Training, namely lines A25.1.1 to A25.1.6 "Statutory Inspection Training", the Commission observes that any training which is required by statute will necessarily be undertaken even in the absence of State aid. The Commission would require specific explanations regarding this point.

Integrated Training Plan

- (25) The Commission understands that GMS is an integrated manufacturing system which has been developed by GM and which is common to all GM car manufacturing facilities. Training the workforce in GMS would therefore appear indispensable to Vauxhall's normal operations and should be undertaken even in the absence of the notified State aid.
- (26) The UK has indicated that GMS training has been undertaken at Vauxhall before, but that the Integrated Training Plan aims at the refreshment and extension of the skills initially learnt and that this expenditure is discretionary and would not be brought about by the simple operation of market forces.
- (27) However, the Commission considers that training in the manufacturing systems applied at Vauxhall, including appropriate refreshment courses, are essential to operations. The Commission considers that the UK authorities have failed to provide concrete information to substantiate the claim that the Integrated Training Plan goes beyond what is necessary for Vauxhall's normal operations and would not be undertaken in the absence of the aid. The Commission consequently doubts that the notified aid, in this respect, is compatible with the common market.

Undergraduates

- (28) The UK has indicated that the programme is nonessential to Vauxhall's operations and could be curtailed without business unduly suffering. The costs of the training cannot be considered part of operating costs. Expenditure on the Undergraduate programme is discretionary and up for review every year. It is liable to budget cuts. The State aid would guarantee its continuation.
- (29) At this stage, the Commission observes that the Undergraduate programme has been in place for a number of years without State aid, which would indicate that the aid is not necessary for this training. The UK, which has stated that the Undergraduate training brings new talent into the company and is a key element of the training to be undertaken by Vauxhall, has not provided any concrete evidence that the programme will be discontinued in the absence of aid. The Commission is consequently not satisfied that the aid is compatible with the common market in this respect.

3.3.2. *The distinction between general and specific training*

- (30) The notions of general and specific training are defined in Article 2(e) of the Training Aid Regulation. Specific training is directly and principally applicable to the employee's present or future position in the assisted undertaking and provides qualifications which are not or only to a limited extent transferable to other firms or fields of work. General training, on the other hand, provides qualifications which are transferable to other firms or fields of work and therefore substantially improve the employability of the employee. The essential distinction between the two forms of training is thus the transferability of the acquired skills.
- (31) For the different parts of the Vauxhall training programme the UK authorities have indicated whether they consider the training to be general or specific (and, consequently, which maximum aid intensity should apply in accordance with Article 4 of the Training Aid Regulation). The Commission nevertheless questions the UK's qualifications as regards the following training projects:

Production System Training

- (32) As indicated above, this training concerns all manufacturing and quality control systems at Vauxhall. The UK has indicated that all training will be given by external trainers and concerns third party equipment which is used in other undertakings and sectors, thus providing trainees with transferable qualifications.
- (33) The Commission nevertheless considers that the UK has not provided it with sufficient information to allow it to ensure that all training provided under this heading is indeed transferable. The UK would need to provide the Commission with details on the basic "routine" training at Vauxhall so that the Commission can compare the nature of this training and assess to which extent it concerns skills which are specific to Vauxhall or GM.

Integrated Production System

- (34) As indicated above, this is, to the Commission's understanding, training in the Global Manufacturing System which was developed by GM and is applied at GM facilities.
- (35) The UK argues that GMS is based on a set of principles applicable to any business situation which involves a regular process. The underlying principles are applied both within and outside the automotive sector. The employees would thus acquire a set of skills which will make them capable of performing more efficiently with any employer. In addition, some specific elements of training have been identified and notified as specific training.
- (36) The Commission nevertheless questions whether training into a proprietary manufacturing system can be considered to provide transferable qualifications. Although certain underlying notions may be widely shared, the Commission considers that the training, insofar as it concerns the application of these notions to a concrete production process, is likely to be specific. The Commission would therefore require more detailed information on this training and how closely linked it is to practical applications in the GM manufacturing process.

Cultural Change

- (37) The Commission notes that the UK authorities have not submitted any details on the content and expected output of the training under this heading as, on their own account, this information is not yet available. In spite of this, the UK authorities claim that all training provided under this heading is general training within the meaning of the Training Aid Regulation.
- (38) However, the Commission has doubts about the transferability of skills acquired as part of a “cultural change” which — in the words of the UK authorities — is specifically focused on “jointly improving the key production metrics of the plant relating to cost and quality”. In view of this objective and the notification’s statements that “individual cultures widely vary between different organisations” and that “there is no optimal culture which can be easily and quickly adopted” the Commission doubts that this part of the training programme provides skills which are transferable by individual employees to other firms or fields of work. The Commission consequently doubts that training fitting the description given by the UK authorities constitutes general training.

Lean Manufacturing

- (39) The UK has argued that the principles of lean manufacturing are generally applied across the manufacturing industry and that, once acquired by the trainee, provide qualifications which are widely transferable.
- (40) Although the notion of lean manufacturing may rest on a body of generally applicable principles and techniques, the Commission nevertheless doubts whether this training can be dissociated from its practical application at Vauxhall or within the GM group at large, and thus whether the qualifications it provides are largely transferable by individual employees to other firms or fields of work. The Commission consequently doubts that this constitutes general training (?).

4. CONCLUSION

In the light of the foregoing considerations, the Commission, acting under the procedure laid down in Article 88(2) of the EC Treaty, requests the United Kingdom to submit its comments and to provide all such information as may help to assess the aid, within one month of the date of receipt of this letter.

It requests your authorities to forward a copy of this letter to the potential recipient of the aid immediately.

The Commission wishes to remind the United Kingdom that Article 88(3) of the EC Treaty has suspensory effect, and would draw your attention to Article 14 of Council Regulation (EC) No 659/1999, which provides that all unlawful aid may be recovered from the recipient.

The Commission warns the United Kingdom that it will inform interested parties by publishing this letter and a meaningful summary of it in the *Official Journal of the European Union*. It will also inform the EFTA Surveillance Authority by sending a copy of this letter. All such interested parties will be invited to submit their comments within one month of the date of such publication.”

(?) The Commission points out that in the above-mentioned decision in *Ford Genk*, training on “Lean organisation” was considered to be specific training.

CITI AKTI

KOMISIJA

Pieteikuma publikācija saskaņā ar 6. panta 2. punktu Padomes Regulā (EK) Nr. 510/2006 par lauksaimniecības produktu un pārtikas produktu ģeogrāfiskās izcelsmes norāžu un cilmes vietu nosaukumu aizsardzību

(2007/C 243/05)

Šī publikācija dod tiesības izteikt iebildumus pret pieteikumu atbilstīgi Padomes Regulas (EK) Nr. 510/2006 7. pantam ⁽¹⁾. Komisijai jāsaņem paziņojumi par iebildumiem sešu mēnešu laikā no šīs publikācijas dienas.

KOPSAVILKUMS

PADOMES REGULA (EK) Nr. 510/2006

“CHAMOMILLA BOHEMICA”

EK Nr. CZ/PDO/005/0411/28.10.2004

ACVN (X) AĢIN ()

Šis kopsavilkums nosaka galvenos produkta specifikācijas elementus informācijas nolūkā.

1. *Atbildīgais departaments dalībvalstī:*

Nosaukums: Úřad průmyslového vlastnictví
Adrese: Antonína Čermáka 2a
CZ-160 68 Praha 6
Tālr.: (420) 220 383 111
Fakss: (420) 224 324 718
E-pasts: posta@upv.cz

2. *Grupa:*

Nosaukums: LEROS, s.r.o., zastupující skupinu producentů
Adrese: U Národní galerie 470
CZ-150 00 Praha 5-Zbraslav
Tālr.: (420) 257 898 111
Fakss: (420) 257 921 328
E-pasts: leros@leros.cz
Sastāvs: ražotāji/pārstrādātāji (X) citi ()

3. *Produkta veids:*

1.8. grupa. Citi Līguma I pielikumā minētie produkti.

(¹) OVL 93, 31.3.2006., 12. lpp.

4. Specifikācija:

(Regulas (EK) Nr. 510/2006 4. panta 2. punkta prasību kopsavilkums)

4.1. Nosaukums: “*Chamomilla Bohemica*”

“*Chamomilla Bohemica*” ir tradicionāls Bohēmijā sastopamo kumelišu ziedu nosaukums.

4.2. Apraksts: Žāvēti parastās kumelītes ziedi (*flos Chamomilla vulgaris*) — *Matricariae flos*, *Matricaria recutita* (L.) Rauschert, *Chamomilla recutita* (L.) Rauschert.

Bohēmijas kumelītes “*Chamomilla Bohemica*” satur līdz 1 % ēteriskās eļļas, un galvenā aktīvā viela ir hamazulēns, kura saturs drogā ir no 0,06 līdz 0,07 %. “*Chamomilla Bohemica*” kumelītēm tām piemītošo īpašību dēļ ir augstāka kvalitāte salīdzinājumā ar citos ģeogrāfiskajos apgabalos audzētām kumelītēm, un tā atbilst kritērijiem, kuri parasto kumelišu ziediem noteikti 1997. un 2002. gadā izdotajās Čehijas farmakopejās. Saskaņā ar 2004. gadā izdoto 2002. gada farmakopejas pielikumu “vienā kilogramā sausās drogas ir vismaz 4 ml zilās ēteriskās eļļas un kopumā vismaz 0,25 % apigenīna-7glikozīda sausā drogā. Ēteriskās eļļas galvenās sastāvdaļas ir seskviterpēni (aptuveni 50 % no ēteriskās eļļas sastāva, (-)-a-bisabolons, A bisabolola oksīds, B bisabolola oksīds, (-)-A bisabolonoksīds). Ēteriskā eļļa satur arī hamazulēnu (minimālais saturs: 0,035 %). Bez ēteriskās eļļas droga satur kumarīnus (umbeliferons, herniarīns), flavonoīdus (apigenīna -7glikozīds un tā atvasinājumi, luteolīns, kvercetinīns, izoramnetīns), to minimālais saturs ir 0,01 %, kā arī azulēnus (minimālais saturs: 0,02 %). Flavonoīdiem, kuru saturs drogā ir 0,015 %, piemīt spazmolītiska iedarbība. Spiroēteriem (0,03 %) piemīt antibakteriāla un pret-sēnīšu iedarbība”. Veicot plānslāņa hromatogrāfiju, “*Chamomilla Bohemica*” nedrīkst uzrādīt brūno ēterisko eļļu, un hamazulēna saturam jābūt vidēji 0,06–0,07 %. Kumelītes tirgo iepakotas tējas maisiņos, sabērtas 50 g paciņās un 14 kg iepakojumā vairumtirdzniecībai.

4.3. Ģeogrāfiskais apgabals: Bohēmija, t.i., Prāgas, Centrālbohēmijas, Dienvidbohēmijas, Plzeņas, Karlovi Varu, Ústí pie Labas, Liberecas, Hradec Králové un Pardubices rajoni, kā arī Visočinas apgabala Havlíčkůvobrodas, Jihlavy un Pelhřimovas rajoni saskaņā ar likumu Nr. 347/1997 par pašvaldību organizāciju, ar kuru grozīja Čehijas Valsts padomes likumu Nr. 1/1993, t.i., Čehijas Republikas konstitūciju, ar tā jaunākajiem grozījumiem.

Vietām, kurās audzē “*Chamomilla Bohemica*” Bohēmijas teritorijā, raksturīgi šādi klimatiskie un augsnes apstākļi: mālaina un smilšaina augsne (atbilstīgi klasifikācijai — velēnu karbonātaugsnes, brūnaugsnes, podzolaugsnes) ar pH līmeni no 7,3 līdz 8,1; klimatiskie apstākļi — gada nokrišņu daudzums 500–700 mm/m², augstums virs jūras līmeņa 230–480 m.

4.4. Izcelsmes apliecinājums: Ražotājiem ir piegādātāju reģistrs; piegādātāju pārbaudes tiek veiktas katrā kumelišu ziedu iegūšanas procesa posmā; minētie posmi ir stādīšana, augšana, ievākšana, žāvēšana, uzglabāšana un apstrāde. Tiek uzturēts arī galaprodukta pircēju reģistrs.

Produkta specifikācijas prasību ievērošanu uzrauga Valsts lauksaimniecības un pārtikas inspekcijas vietējā kompetentā iestāde.

4.5. Ražošanas metode: Kumelītei piemīt lielas adaptācijas spējas, taču tās sastāvā esošās vielas ir ļoti atkarīgas no vides apstākļiem, tāpēc jāievēro turpmāk minētie nosacījumi.

— Augsnes sagatavošana: kumelīte nav prasīga kultūra, tās audzēšanai nepieciešama aršana, ecēšana un ravēšana.

— Sēšana: jāizmanto precīzas izsējas sējmašīnas, pēc izsējas augsne jānolīdzina, sēklu daudzums — 20 g uz 100 kvadrātmetriem.

— Augšana: šajā posmā jāveic mēslošana ar rūpnieciski ražotiem kompleksiem mēslošanas līdzekļiem (piemēram, NPK vai “Cererit”).

— Vākšana un turpmākie posmi: kumelišu ziedus plūc ar rokām vai ar automātiskām ierīcēm “Neset” un “Unag” ziedēšanas sākumā; ieteicams ziedus žāvēt ne vairāk kā 40 °C temperatūrā, tad tos liek uz konveijera lentes, uz kuras tos šķiro.

Lai nodrošinātu 4.2. punktā minēto vielu īpašību saglabāšanos, nepieciešams visas darbības veikt noteiktajā apgabalā.

— Uzglabāšana un iepakšana: pirms kumelītes tiek iepakotas attiecīgā izmēra papīra maisīšos vai maisos, kurus marķē ar etiķeti, tās tiek uzglabātas sausās, tumšās un labi ventilējamās vietās. Šīs darbības, tostarp iepakšana galaprodukta iepakojumā, nav obligāti jāveic noteiktajā apgabalā, taču tās jāveic saskaņā ar spēkā esošajiem noteikumiem.

- 4.6. Saikne: Bohēmijas rajonos jau sen tika audzētas izcilas kvalitātes kumelītes, taču no 20. gadsimta 50. gadiem, kad pieauga ārvalstu pieprasījums pēc kumelītēm, kļuva nepieciešams nošķirt šīs kumelītes no citviet audzētām kumelītēm, tāpēc arvien biežāk sāka izmantot nosaukumu "*Chamomilla Bohemica*". Kopš tiem laikiem šis nosaukums apzīmē kumelītes, kurām piemīt noteiktas īpašības (skatīt 4.2. punktu), ko rada attiecīgā apgabala dabas apstākļi. Šo kumelīšu īpašo kvalitāti veicina vairāki ģeogrāfiskā apgabala faktori, proti, klimatiskie apstākļi, augsne un ievākšanas veids (nokrišņu vidējais daudzums gadā no 500 līdz 700 mm/m²; augsnes pH līmenis no 7,3 līdz 8,1; augsnes tips: smilšmāls). Ražas apjoms ir ļoti atkarīgs no augsnes tipa un nokrišņu daudzuma. Ēteriskās eļļas un hamazulēna daudzumu kumelītēs lielā mērā ietekmē augstums virs jūras līmeņa un saules dienu skaits. Bohēmijas kumelītes "*Chamomilla Bohemica*" kā kvalitatīvs produkts tika reklamētas dažādās izstādēs un gadatirgos, tādās kā "SALIMA" un "Země živitelka", kur šis produkts ieguva Augstas kvalitātes produkta nosaukumu. "Neset" un "Unag" markas ierīču ražotāji ir ieviešuši īpašas ierīces ziedkurvīšu novākšanai, nebojājot auga pārējās daļas.

Cilmes vietas nosaukums "*Chamomilla Bohemica*" kopš 1975. gada 21. janvāra ir reģistrēts Čehijas Republikas Aizsargāto cilmes vietas nosaukumu reģistrā ar Nr. 84 un ir aizsargāts saskaņā ar divpusējo nolīgumu, kas noslēgts ar Portugāli.

- 4.7. Pārbaudes struktūra:

Nosaukums: Státní zemědělská a potravinářská inspekce — inspektorát v Praze

Adrese: Za opravnou 4
CZ-150 00 Praha 5

Tālr.: (420) 257 199 511

Fakss: (420) 257 199 529

E-pasts: praha@szpi.gov.cz

un valsts inspekcijas vietējās iestādes, kas atrodas audzēšanas un apstrādes apgabalos.

- 4.8. Marķējums: Iepakojuma priekšpusē ar lieliem burtiem jābūt skaidri norādītam nosaukumam "*Chamomilla Bohemica*".
-