

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(76) 522 final.

Brussels, 7 October 1976.

Proposal for a  
COUNCIL DECISION

setting up a Community action for the  
eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and leukosis in bovines

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(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(76) 522 final.



## Explanatory note

The attached proposals form part of those promised for the solution of the problems covered in the Commission's report to the Council concerning the derogations granted to Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom in the veterinary field. They also complete the Commission proposals concerning a premium system for the non-marketing of milk and milk products and for the conversion of dairy herds to meat production by directing removal of bovines, so that an overall beneficial effect is produced on the health of Community herds. The proposals provide for Community financial participation for the control and eradication of certain diseases in livestock.

The proposed scheme for brucellosis and tuberculosis would have the effect of accelerating current national eradication programmes, which would in turn produce major benefits for human and animal health, progress towards the elimination of derogations which now impede intra-Community trade and the removal of disease risks which impede the rationalisation of herd structure. In this way it contributes substantially to the improvement of conditions of production in agriculture in the Community.

Within the document it is proposed to provide a Community financial subvention for the slaughter of reactors to tests for tuberculosis and brucellosis (and their dangerous contacts in the case of brucellosis and leukosis). This subvention would be at the rate of 60 u.a. for each cow slaughtered and 30 u.a. for other bovines slaughtered, over a 3-year period.

According to information obtained from Member States there still remain 1.8 million animals to be slaughtered because of brucella infections and 400.000 because of tuberculosis. The objective is to slaughter those animals, the majority of which are cows, during the three years.

In the case of brucellosis and tuberculosis, provisions are included to ensure that Community payments are only made where the national schemes are actually accelerated. The proposals provide for Community inspections in order to verify from a veterinary aspect the control measures instituted by Member States.

In the case of bovine enzootic leukosis, the proposals provide for the introduction of harmonised Community procedures for the control and eradication of this disease. Experience has shown that in the absence of control programmes the disease may develop and become widespread, thus causing considerable economic losses.

The control procedures implemented by some Member States have already created non-tariff barriers. In the future these barriers could become more serious.

The Commission has therefore proposed that Community financial aid be made available for the eradication of this disease where it exists and that Community provisions be created to prove its non-existence in regions which are free.

Although it is very difficult to give a precise estimate of the number of animals infected with leukosis the cost of Community participation, at a subvention rate similar to that for brucellosis and tuberculosis, is not expected to exceed 18 million units of account, over three years.

A cost effectiveness analysis has been carried out under the auspices of the Commission in the Member States which have still got bovine brucellosis aiming at studying the consequences of accelerating the existing national brucellosis eradication programme. The result clearly demonstrates the economical advantage in adopting more intensive programmes and attaining eradication at an earlier date. The total costs and losses over a ten years period under the existing programme can be reduced about 16% by intensifying the eradication policy, costs going down by 73 m.u.a. from 445 m.u.a. to 372 m.u.a.

Council Decision  
of  
setting up a Community action for the  
eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and leukosis in bovines

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THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 43 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament

Having regard to the Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee

Whereas one of the tasks of the Community in the veterinary field is to improve the health status of livestock, granting in this way a better profitability of breeding, and at the same time protecting man against diseases which are transmittable to him;

Whereas, as regards trade, such an action will furthermore contribute to the abolishment of barriers still existing between Member States in respect of trade in meat and live animals, due to differences in health situations;

Whereas the initiatives undertaken in this respect by the Community must aim, initially, at certain bovine diseases for which it is possible to start immediate action; this is the case for brucellosis, tuberculosis and leukosis;

Whereas the Community intervention in this field for these diseases must be formed, not to substitute measures already taken by Member States, but to reinforce their efficiency;

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Whereas the proposed measures are in the Community's interest and are intended to achieve the objectives set out in Article 39 paragraph 1(a) of the Treaty; whereas they therefore constitute common measures within the meaning of Article 6 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 of 21 April 1970 on the financing of the common agricultural policy<sup>(1)</sup>;

Whereas, in as much as the Community contributes to the financing of the common measures, it must be in a position to ascertain that the provisions adopted by Member States for the implementation of those measures will contribute towards achievement of the objectives thereof; whereas, to this end, provision should be made for a procedure establishing close cooperation between Member States and the Commission within the Standing Veterinary Committee, set up by the Council Decision of 15 October 1968<sup>(2)</sup>;

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION :

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(1) O.J. No L 94 of 28. 4.1970, p.13  
(2) O.J. No L 255 of 28.10.1968, p.23.

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Article One

In order to improve the health status of Community bovine livestock, the present Decision introduces a programme aiming at the acceleration of the eradication of brucellosis and tuberculosis, and eradication of leukosis. By acceleration is understood any substantial reduction in time of the accomplishment of existing eradication programmes.

CHAPTER ONE

TECHNICAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO  
BRUCELLOSIS, TUBERCULOSIS AND LEUKOSIS

Article 2

1. Member States affected by bovine brucellosis shall for the purpose of this Decision draw up a plan to ensure the acceleration of the eradication of bovine brucellosis from their national territory, satisfying the conditions laid down in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4.
2. a) The plan for acceleration of eradication of brucellosis must be formed in such a way that it will lead to the herds achieving the status of "officially brucellosis free" or "brucellosis free" in accordance with Community provisions in this field, in particular Council Directive 64/432/EEC<sup>(1)</sup>
- b) The plan shall enumerate the measures taken to accelerate the eradication of bovine brucellosis and specify the measures to combat and prevent brucellosis, in particular by:
  - the control of movement of animals;
  - the identification of animals, and marking of those identified as infected and which are required to be slaughtered;
  - vaccination
  - the establishment and maintenance of disease-free regions;
  - obligatory slaughter of infected animals or of the herd if it comprises a certain percentage of infected animals.

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(1) Council Directive 64/432/EEC of 26. June 1964 on animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals and swine, O.J. no 121 of 29. June 1964 p.1977, as last amended by Council Directive 75/379/EEC of 24.6.1975. O.J. L 172 of 3. June 1975 p.17.

3. The Member States shall report to the Commission:
- a) - the percentage and total number of herds subject to control measures,  
- the percentage and total number of herds determined to be infected with bovine brucellosis,
  - b) - the total number of animals subject to control measures,  
- the total number of animals determined to be infected,  
- the total number of infected animals and in-contact animals slaughtered,
  - c) - the duration of the initial eradication programme and of the accelerated plan,
  - d) - the method applied to control the application of the accelerated plan,
  - e) - the national budgetary allocation for the eradication of bovine brucellosis and the breakdown by items of this budget.

The specifications mentioned under a), b), e), shall be indicated in respect of the three years preceding the application of acceleration measures and annually thereafter.

4. The plan shall ensure that animals determined to be infected with brucellosis are slaughtered without delay which shall not exceed 30 days from the date of the diagnosis.
5. Member States not affected by brucellosis inform the Commission of the measures taken in order to prevent reintroduction of the disease.

### Article 3

1. Member States shall for the purpose of this Regulation draw up a plan to ensure the acceleration of the eradication of bovine tuberculosis from their national territory, satisfying the conditions laid down in paragraph 2, 3 and 4.
2. a) The plan for acceleration of eradication of tuberculosis shall ensure that herds achieve the status of "officially tuberculosis free" in accordance with the provisions of Council Directive 64/432/EEC.  
b) The plan shall specify the measures taken to ensure acceleration of eradication of bovine tuberculosis and the method of assessing the results achieved, and shall include measures related to:



- the control of movement of animals,
- the marking of infected animals to be slaughtered,
- the establishment and maintenance of disease-free regions,
- obligatory slaughter of infected animals.

3. The Member States shall report to the Commission:

- a) - the percentage and total number of herds subject to control measures,
  - the percentage and total number of herds determined to be infected with bovine tuberculosis,
- b) - the total number of animals subject to control measures,
  - the total number of animals determined to be infected,
  - the total number of infected animals and in-contact animals slaughtered,
- c) - the duration of the initial eradication programme and of the accelerated plan,
- d) the method applied to control the application of the accelerated plan,
- e) the national budgetary allocation for the eradication of bovine brucellosis and the breakdown by items of this budget.

The specifications mentioned under a), b), e), shall be indicated in respect of the three years preceding the application of acceleration measures and annually thereafter.

- 4. The plan shall ensure that animals determined to be infected with tuberculosis are slaughtered without delay which shall not exceed 30 days from the date of the diagnosis.
- 5. Member States not affected by tuberculosis inform the Commission of the measures taken in order to prevent reintroduction of the disease.

Article 4

- 1. Member States establish for bovine animals within their territory the existence or freedom from bovine enzootic leukosis. according to conditions forwarded to the Commission not later than 3 months after the decision mentioned in the following subparagraph.

The tests, methods and parameters used to determine the existence of or freedom from disease of individual animals, herds and regions are adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 11, within three months from the entry into force of the present Decision.

2. The Member States having established the existence of bovine enzootic leukosis on their territory draw up a plan for the eradication of this disease.

This plan shall specify:

- the control measures adopted to ensure the eradication of the disease;
- that animals determined to be infected with the disease and in-contact animals are slaughtered without delay.

The test used to declare a herd free of leukosis is the test laid down in Commission Decision 73/30/EEC (1) or any other test or method recognised by the procedure laid down in Article 11.

## CHAPTER 2

### COMMON AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

#### Article 5

The measures provided for by this Decision constitute common measures within the meaning of Article 6, paragraph 1 of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70.

#### Article 6

1. The time for carrying out the common measures is three years.
2. The total contribution by the EAGGF to the cost of the common measures is estimated at 130 million units of account, for the three years.

#### Article 7

1. Expenditure by Member States in respect of measures taken under Articles 2, 3 and 4 paragraph 2 shall be eligible for assistance from the Guidance Section of the EAGGF within the limit indicated in Article 6. paragraph 1.

(1) Commission Decision of 23.1.73 authorising the Federal Republic of Germany to apply special health guaranties for the prevention of leukosis in the case of bovine animals imported for breeding or production O.J. L 77 of 26.3.73, p.40 as last amended by Commission Decision 75/64/EEC of 20.12.74 - O.J. L 21 of 28.1.75, p.20.

2. The Guidance Section of the EAGGF shall pay to Member States 60 units of account per cow and 30 units of account per bovine animal other than cows slaughtered in relation to the actions mentioned in Chapter 1.
3. Detailed rules for applying this Article shall be adopted according to the procedure laid down in Article 13 of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70.
4. Measures taken by Member States shall not be eligible to benefit from financial contribution of the Community unless a favourable decision according to Article 9 has been given in respect of the provisions relating thereto.

#### Article 8

1. Application for payment shall relate to slaughterings carried out by Member States in the course of a calendar year and shall be submitted to the Commission before 1 July of the following year.
2. The granting of aid from the Fund is decided according to the Article 7 paragraph 1 of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70.
3. Detailed rules for applying this Article shall be adopted according to the procedure laid down in Article 13 of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70.

#### Article 9

1. Member States shall forward the plans provided for in Articles 2, 3 to the Commission prior to their implementation, not later than 3 months after the entry into force of this Decision, and annually thereafter. As regards the plans provided for in Article 4 paragraph 2 they shall be forwarded to the Commission by Member States prior to their implementation and annually thereafter.
2. The Commission shall examine the plans forwarded in accordance with paragraph one for the purpose of determining whether, in terms of conformity with this Decision and having regard to the objectives thereof, the conditions for financial contribution by the Community are met. Within two months following receipt of any plan, the Commission shall submit a draft decision to the Standing Veterinary Committee. The Committee shall issue its opinion in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 11, within a time limit set by the Chairman. The Funds Committee shall be consulted on the financial aspects.

Article 10

The Commission shall make regular on-the-spot checks to verify from a veterinary aspect the application of the control measures instituted in accordance with this Decision.

Member States shall take the necessary steps to facilitate these inspections and in particular ensure that the experts are supplied on request with all information, including documents and accounts, needed for the evaluation of the accomplishment of the plans.

Article 11

1. Where the procedure laid down in this Article is to be followed, the matter shall without delay be referred to the Standing Veterinary Committee (hereinafter called the "Committee"), set up by the Council Decision of 15 October 1968, by its Chairman; either on his own initiative or at the request of a Member State.
2. Within the Committee the votes of the Member States shall be weighted as provided in Article 148(2) of the Treaty. The Chairman shall not vote.
3. The Commission representative shall submit a draft of the measures to be adopted. The Committee shall deliver its opinion on the measures within a time limit set by the Chairman, having regard to the urgency of the questions under examination. Opinions shall be delivered by a majority of forty-one votes.
4. The Commission shall adopt the measures and shall implement them immediately, where they are in accordance with the Opinion of the Committee. Where the measures envisaged are not in accordance with the Opinion of the Committee, or if no Opinion is delivered, the Commission shall without delay submit to the Council a proposal on the measures to be taken. The Council shall adopt the measures by a qualified majority.

If the Council has not adopted any measures within three months of the date on which the matter is referred to it, the Commission shall adopt the proposed measures and shall implement them immediately.

Article 12

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at

For the Council

The President

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

DATE :

1. BUDGET LINE CONCERNED : 8370

2. ACTION : Proposed Decision for a common measure relating to the eradication of certain animal diseases

3. LEGAL BASIS : Article 6 of Council Regulation 729/70/EEC of 21 April 1970

4. OBJECTIVES : To accelerate the Member State eradication programmes of certain animal diseases by giving Community aid towards the costs of the programmes for a 3 year period

5. FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCE	FOR THE MARKETING YEAR	CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR (76)	FOLLOWING FINANCIAL YEAR (77)
5.0 EXPENDITURE			
-CHARGED TO THE EC BUDGET (REFUNDS/INTERVENTIONS)		-	-
-CHARGED TO NATIONAL ADMINSTR.			
-CHARGED TO OTHER NATIONAL GROUPS			
5.1 RECEIPTS			
-OWN RESOURCES OF THE EC (LEVIES/CUSTOMS DUTIES)			
-NATIONAL			

	YEAR ..... 1978 .....	YEAR ..... 1979 .....	YEAR ..... 1980 .....
5.0.1 PLURIANNUAL PATTERN OF EXPENDITURE	39 MUA	45,5 MUA	45,5 MUA
5.1.1 PLURIANNUAL PATTERN OF RECEIPTS			

5.2 METHOD OF CALCULATION

The calculation of costs is given under "Comments".

6.0 FINANCING POSSIBLE WITH CREDITS INSCRIBED IN RELEVANT CHAPTER OF CURRENT BUDGET ? YES/NO

6.1 FINANCING POSSIBLE BY TRANSFER BETWEEN CHAPTERS OF CURRENT BUDGET ? YES/NO

6.2 NECESSITY FOR A SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ? YES/NO

6.3 CREDITS TO BE WRITTEN INTO FUTURE BUDGETS ? YES/NO

COMMENTS :

1. Payment is made to Member States based on the number of slaughterings the previous year.
2. The estimate on the animals to be slaughtered within the 3 year programme is as follows:

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Brucellosis

Cows	1,180.000 at 60 u.a. each	70,8 M.U.A.
Other cattle	620.000 at 30 u.a. each	18,6 M.U.A.
Total:	1,800.000 animals	<u>89,4 M.U.A.</u>

Tuberculosis

Cows	350.000 at 60 u.a. each	21 M.U.A.
Other bovins	50.000 at 30 u.a. each	<u>1,5 M.U.A.</u>
Total:	400.000 animals	22,5 M.U.A.

Leukosis

Cows	300.000 at 60 u.a. each	18 M.U.A.
Overall total:	2,500.000 animals	130 M.U.A.

3. It is estimated that the slaughterings will be subdivided in the 3 year period as follows:

	No. of Animals Slaughtered	Cost to EAGGF
1977	750.000	39 M.U.A.
1978	875.000	45,5 M.U.A.
1979	875.000	45,5 M.U.A.
1980		

4. In relation to current national programmes and according to the study carried out by Mr Peter R. Ellis, Mr Andrew D. James and Mrs Alexandra P.M. Shaw, milk production would be reduced as a result of the application of this measure by approximately:

- 230,000 tonnes the first year;
- 300,000 tonnes the second year;
- 280,000 tonnes the third year;
- 90,000 tonnes the fourth year.

Any reduction of milk output involves limiting stocks of butter and skimmed milk powder and therefore has the same effect as a disposal of stocks via special measures. On the basis of the present cost of disposing of marginal quantities, the cost of applying special measures for the quantities of butter and skimmed milk powder equivalent to 1 tonne of milk can be estimated at 137 u.a.<sup>1</sup>

The saving to be expected for the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF would therefore be of the order of:

- 31.5 m.u.a. the first year;
- 41.1 m.u.a. the second year;
- 38.4 m.u.a. the third year;
- 12.3 m.u.a. the fourth year.

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<sup>1</sup> 1 tonne of milk yields on average approximately 44.9 kg of butter and 85.9 kg of powder.

Cost per tonne of milk:  $44.9 \times 1.6 \text{ u.a./kg} + 85.9 \times 0.76 \text{ u.a./kg} = 137 \text{ u.a.}$

