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RECOMMENDATIONS

COUNCIL

EU Drugs Strategy (2013-20)

(2012/C 402/01)

PREFACE

1. This EU Drugs Strategy provides the overarching political framework and priorities for EU drugs policy identified by Member States and EU institutions, for the period 2013-20. The framework, aim and objectives of this Strategy will serve as a basis for two consecutive 4-year EU Drugs Action plans.

2. This Drugs Strategy is based first and foremost on the fundamental principles of EU law and, in every regard, upholds the founding values of the Union: respect for human dignity, liberty, democracy, equality, solidarity, the rule of law and human rights. It aims to protect and improve the well-being of society and of the individual, to protect public health, to offer a high level of security for the general public and to take a balanced, integrated and evidence-based approach to the drugs phenomenon.

3. The Strategy is also based on international law, the relevant UN Conventions [1] which provide the international legal framework for addressing the illicit drugs phenomenon and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. This EU Drugs Strategy takes into account relevant UN political documents, including the UN Political Declaration and Action Plan on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted in 2009, which states that drug demand reduction and drug supply reduction are mutually reinforcing elements in illicit drugs policy and the UN Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS. The Strategy has been drafted on the basis of the principles set out in the Lisbon Treaty and on the respective competences of the Union and individual Member States. Due regard is given to subsidiarity and proportionality, as this EU Strategy intends to add value to national strategies. The Strategy shall be implemented in accordance with these principles and competencies. Furthermore, the Strategy respects fully the European Convention on Human Rights and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

4. By 2020, the priorities and actions in the field of illicit drugs, encouraged and coordinated through this EU Drugs Strategy, should have achieved an overall impact on key aspects of the EU drug situation. They shall ensure a high level of human health protection, social stability and security, through a coherent, effective and efficient implementation of measures, interventions and approaches in drug demand and drug supply reduction at national, EU and international level, and by minimising potential unintended negative consequences associated with the implementation of these actions.

5. The drugs phenomenon is a national and international issue that needs to be addressed in a global context. In this regard, coordinated action carried out at EU level plays an important role. This EU Drugs

[1] The UN Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971) and the Convention against the Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988).

Strategy provides a common and evidence-based framework for responding to the drugs phenomenon within and outside the EU. By providing a framework for joint and complementary actions, the Strategy ensures that resources invested in this area are used effectively and efficiently, whilst taking into account the institutional and financial constraints and capacities of Member States and of the EU institutions.

6. The Strategy aims to contribute to a reduction in drug demand and drug supply within the EU, as well as a reduction as regards the health and social risks and harms caused by drugs through a strategic approach that supports and complements national policies, that provides a framework for coordinated and joint actions and that forms the basis and political framework for EU external cooperation in this field. This will be achieved through an integrated, balanced and evidence-based approach.

7. Finally, this Strategy builds on the lessons learned from the implementation of previous EU Drugs Strategies and associated Action Plans, including the findings and recommendations from the external evaluation of the EU Drugs Strategy 2005-12, while taking into account other relevant policy developments and actions at EU level and international level in the field of drugs.

I. **Introduction**

8. The Strategy takes on board new approaches and addresses new challenges which have been identified in recent years, including:

— the increasing trend towards poly-substance use, including the combination of licit substances, such as alcohol and prescribed controlled medication, and illicit substances;

— the trends towards non-opioid drug use as well as the emergence and spread of new psychoactive substances;

— the need to ensure and improve access to prescribed controlled medications;

— the need to improve the quality, coverage and diversification of drug demand reduction services;

— the continued high incidence of blood-borne diseases, especially hepatitis C virus, among injecting drug users and potential risks of new outbreaks of HIV infections and other blood-borne diseases related to injecting drugs use;

— the continuing high prevalence of numbers of drug-related deaths within the EU;

— the need to target drug use through an integrated health care approach addressing — inter alia — psychiatric co-morbidity;

— the dynamics in the illicit drug markets, including shifting drug trafficking routes, cross-border organised crime and the use of new communication technologies as a facilitator for the distribution of illicit drugs and new psychoactive substances;

— the need to prevent diversion of precursors, pre-precursors and other essential chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs from legal trade to the illicit market and the diversion of certain chemicals used as cutting agents.

9. The objectives of the EU Drugs Strategy are:

— to contribute to a measurable reduction of the demand for drugs, of drug dependence and of drug-related health and social risks and harms;

— to contribute to a disruption of the illicit drugs market and a measurable reduction of the availability of illicit drugs;

— to encourage coordination through active discourse and analysis of developments and challenges in the field of drugs at EU and international level;

— to further strengthen dialogue and cooperation between the EU and third countries and international organisations on drug issues;

— to contribute to a better dissemination of monitoring, research and evaluation results and a better understanding of all aspects of the drugs phenomenon and of the impact of interventions in order to provide sound and comprehensive evidence-base for policies and actions.

10. The Strategy builds upon the achievements [1] made by the EU in the field of illicit drugs and is informed by an ongoing, comprehensive assessment of the current drug situation in particular that provided by the EMCDDA, while recognising the need to proactively respond to developments and challenges.

11. The Strategy is structured around two policy areas; drug demand reduction and drug supply reduction, and three cross-cutting themes: (a) coordination, (b) international cooperation and (c) research, information, monitoring and evaluation. Its two consecutive Action Plans, drafted by corresponding Presidencies in 2013 and 2017, will provide a list of specific actions with a timetable, responsible parties, indicators and assessment tools.

12. Taking due account of the current drugs situation and the implementation needs of the Strategy, a limited number of targeted actions will be selected on each of the two policy areas and three cross-cutting themes, for inclusion in the Action Plans based on criteria which include the following:

(a) actions must be evidence-based, scientifically sound and cost-effective, and aim for realistic and measurable results that can be evaluated;

(b) actions will be time-bound, have associated benchmarks, performance indicators and identify responsible parties for their implementation, reporting and evaluation;

(c) actions must have a clear EU relevance and added value.

13. To safeguard a continued focus on the implementation of the Strategy and of its accompanying Action Plans, each Presidency, with the support of the Commission and the technical input from EMCDDA and Europol shall address priorities and actions that require follow up in the HDG during its term and shall monitor progress. The Commission, taking into account information provided by the Member States, the European External Action Service (EEAS), and available from the EMCDDA, Europol and other EU bodies, as well as from the civil society, shall provide biannual progress reports, with the purpose of assessing the implementation of objectives and priorities of the EU Drugs Strategy and its Action Plan(s).

14. The Commission, taking into account information provided by the Member States and available from the EMCDDA, Europol, other relevant EU institutions and bodies and civil society, will initiate an external midterm assessment of the Strategy by 2016, in view of preparing a second Action Plan for the period 2017-20. Upon conclusion of the Drugs Strategy and its Action Plans by 2020, the Commission will initiate an overall external evaluation of their implementation. This evaluation should also take into account information gathered from the Member States, the EMCDDA, Europol, other relevant EU institutions and bodies, civil society, and previous evaluations in order to provide input and recommendations for the future development of EU drugs policy.

15. To reach its objectives and to ensure efficiency, the EU Drugs Strategy 2013-20 will use, wherever possible, existing instruments and bodies operating in the drug field, within the respective mandate, or that have relevance for key aspects of it, both within the EU (in particular the EMCDDA, Europol, Eurojust, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and collaboration with bodies outside the EU (such as UNODC, WCO, WHO and the Pompidou Group). The Commission, the High Representative, the Council, the European Parliament will ensure that the EU's activities in the field of illicit drugs are coordinated and that they complement each other.

[1] Report on the independent assessment of the EU Drugs Strategy 2005-12 and its action plans (http://ec.europa.eu/justice/anti-drugs/files/rand_final_report_eu_drug_strategy_2005-2012_en.pdf)

16. Appropriate and targeted resources should be allocated for the implementation of the objectives of this EU Drugs Strategy at both EU and national level.

II. **Policy field: drug demand reduction**

17. Drug demand reduction consists of a range of equally important and mutually reinforcing measures, including prevention (environmental, universal, selective and indicated), early detection and intervention, risk and harm reduction, treatment, rehabilitation, social reintegration and recovery.

18. In the field of drug demand reduction, the objective of the EU Drugs Strategy 2013-20 is to contribute to the measurable reduction of the use of illicit drugs, to delay the age of onset, to prevent and reduce problem drug use, drug dependence and drug-related health and social risks and harms through an integrated, multidisciplinary and evidence-based approach, and by promoting and safeguarding coherence between health, social and justice policies.

19. In the field of drug demand reduction, the following priorities (not listed in the order of priority) are identified.

19.1. Improve the availability, accessibility and coverage of effective and diversified drug demand reduction measures, promote the use and exchange of best practices and develop and implement quality standards in prevention (environmental, universal, selective and indicated), early detection and intervention, risk and harm reduction, treatment, rehabilitation, social reintegration and recovery.

19.2. Improve the availability and effectiveness of prevention programmes (from initial impact to long-term sustainability), and raise awareness about the risk of the use of illicit drugs and other psycho-active substances and related consequences. To this end, prevention measures should include early detection and intervention, promotion of healthy lifestyles and targeted prevention (i.e. selective and indicated) directed also at families and communities.

19.3. Scale up and develop effective demand reduction measures to respond to challenges such as: polydrug use including the combined use of licit and illicit substances, misuse of prescribed controlled medications and the use of new psychoactive substances.

19.4. Invest in and further research on effective risk and harm reduction measures aimed at substantially reducing the number of direct and indirect drug-related deaths and infectious blood-borne diseases, associated with drug use, but not limited to, HIV and viral hepatitis as well as sexually transmittable diseases and tuberculosis.

19.5. Expand the availability, accessibility and coverage of effective and diversified drug treatment across the EU to problem and dependent drug users including non-opioids users, so that all those who wish to enter drug treatment can do so, according to relevant needs.

19.6. Scale up the development, availability and coverage of drug demand reduction measures in prison settings, as appropriate and based on a proper assessment of the health situation and the needs of prisoners, with the aim of achieving a quality of care equivalent to that provided in the community and in accordance with the right to health care and human dignity as enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. Continuity of care should be ensured at all stages of the criminal justice system and after release.

19.7. Develop and expand integrated models of care, covering needs related to mental and/or physical health-related problems, rehabilitation and social support in order to improve and increase the health and social situation, social reintegration and recovery of problem and dependent drug users, including those affected by co-morbidity.

19.8. Develop effective and differentiated drug demand reduction measures that aim to reduce and/or delay the onset of drug use and that are appropriate to the needs of specific groups, patterns of drug use and settings, with particular attention to be paid to vulnerable and marginalised groups.

19.9. Prevent local and regional drug use epidemics, which may threaten the public health within the EU by ensuring coordinated and effective common approaches.

19.10. Drug demand reduction priorities need to take into account the specific characteristics, needs and challenges posed by the drug phenomenon at national and EU level. It is imperative that an appropriate level of resources is provided for that purpose at local, national and EU level.

III. **Policy field: drug supply reduction**

20. Drug supply reduction includes the prevention and dissuasion and disruption of drug-related, in particular organised, crime, through judicial and law enforcement cooperation, interdiction, confiscation of criminal assets, investigations and border management.

21. In the field of drug supply reduction, the objective of the EU Drugs Strategy 2013-20 is to contribute to a measurable reduction of the availability of illicit drugs, through the disruption of illicit drug trafficking, the dismantling of organised crime groups that are involved in drug production and trafficking, efficient use of the criminal justice system, effective intelligence-led law enforcement and increased intelligence sharing. At EU level, emphasis will be placed on large-scale, cross-border and organised drug-related crime.

22. In the field of drug supply reduction, the following priorities (not listed in the order of priority) are identified.

22.1. Strengthen the cooperation and coordination between law enforcement agencies at strategic and operational level. This should include, but not be limited to, improving cross-border exchange of information (and intelligence) in real time, best practices and knowledge, as well as conducting joint operations and investigations. Cooperation with third countries as regards tackling drug-related organised crime operating towards and within the EU should be seen as important in this respect.

22.2. Reduce intra-EU and cross-border production, smuggling, trafficking, distribution and sale of illicit drugs and the facilitation of such activities, as well as reduce the diversion of drug precursors, pre-precursors and other essential chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs.

22.3. Respond effectively to the evolving trends, such as the diversion of certain chemicals utilised as cutting agents for illicit drugs and the supply of drugs through the use of new technology.

22.4. Special attention must be given to new communication technologies as having a significant role as a facilitation for the production, marketing, trafficking and distribution of drugs (including controlled new psychoactive substances).

22.5. Member States shall continue to cooperate, and coordinate — where appropriate — their actions at EU level, together with relevant EU and international bodies and agencies, such as Europol, Eurojust, EMCDDA and fully exploit existing instruments and methods provided in the field of judicial and law enforcement cooperation, such as intelligence-led policing, drug profiling, Joint Investigation Teams, Joint Customs and Police Operations and relevant initiatives such as the EMPACT projects, Liaison Officer Platforms and through the use of regional platforms.

22.6. At EU level, emphasis shall be placed on intelligence-led law enforcement aimed at targeting large-scale drug production and trafficking. Closer coordination and cooperation between law enforcement agencies within and between Member States as well as with Europol should be further strengthened.

22.7. Where necessary, when such tasks are not initiated or implemented through Europol, ad hoc regional collaboration initiatives or platforms may be created within the EU, to counter emerging threats from shifting drug trafficking routes and emerging organised crime hubs. This shall be done by means of coordinated operation responses. Such actions need to be compatible with and complementary to existing legal and operational arrangements at EU level and shall be based on threat assessments and analysis. Such cooperation structures should be flexible, may have a temporary lifespan depending on the future development of the specific threat that they address and work in close cooperation with all relevant EU agencies and platforms, in particular with Europol.

22.8. Strengthen, where deemed necessary, the EU drug-related judicial and law enforcement cooperation and the use of existing practices by establishing faster and more accurate responses. Support judicial and law enforcement cooperation activities and exchange of information and intelligence.

22.9. Reinforce the European Union's legislative framework in a targeted way as deemed necessary so as to strengthen the EU response in dealing with new trends, ensure that collaborative efforts complement each other with a view to dismantle cross-border organised crime groups, confiscate the proceeds of drug-related crime by fully utilising the EU network of asset recovery offices and thus ensure a more effective response to drug trafficking. The further development of relevant law enforcement instruments can be explored.

22.10. The EU shall work towards more effective policies in the field of drug supply reduction, by reinforcing policy evaluation and analysis to improve the understanding of drug-markets, drug-related crimes and the effectiveness of drug-related law enforcement responses.

22.11. In order to prevent crime, avoid recidivism and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system while ensuring proportionality, the EU shall encourage, where appropriate, the use, monitoring and effective implementation of drug policies and programmes including arrest referral and appropriate alternatives to coercive sanctions (such as education, treatment, rehabilitation, aftercare and social reintegration) for drug-using offenders.

IV. **Cross-cutting theme: coordination**

23. In the field of EU drugs policy, the objective of coordination is twofold, namely to ensure synergies, communication and an effective exchange of information and views in support of the policy objectives, while at the same time encouraging an active political discourse and analysis of developments and challenges in the field of drugs at EU and international levels.

Coordination is required within and among EU institutions, Member States, other relevant European bodies and civil society on the one hand, and between the EU, international bodies and third countries on the other hand.

24. In the field of coordination, the following priorities (not listed in the order of priority) are identified.

24.1. Ensure synergies, coherence and effective working practices among relevant Member States, EU institutions, bodies and initiatives, based on the principle of sincere cooperation ([1]), avoiding duplication of efforts, securing efficient exchange of information, using resources effectively and guaranteeing continuity of actions across Presidencies.

24.2. Given the role of the HDG as the main drugs coordinating body within the Council, its coordinating efforts need to be further strengthened to take account of the work of the various bodies, that include a drugs component such as the Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security (COSI) and the Working Party on Public Health. In addition, the balanced approach to the drugs

([1]) TEU article 4.

problem, targeting with equal vigour the demand for and the supply of drugs, requires close cooperation, interaction and information exchange with relevant other Council preparatory bodies including those in the area of external action and other relevant EU initiatives, in the areas of judicial and criminal matters, law enforcement, public health, social affairs.

24.3. Ensure that the EU and Member States further develop and implement working methods and best practices for multidisciplinary cooperation in support of the objectives of the Strategy and that these are promoted at national level.

24.4. Provide opportunities under each Presidency to discuss, monitor and evaluate issues of coordination, cooperation, emerging trends, effective interventions and other policy developments of added value to the EU Drugs Strategy for instance during the National Drugs Coordinators' Meetings.

24.5. Promote and encourage the active and meaningful participation and involvement of civil society, including non-governmental organisations as well as young people, drug users and clients of drug-related services, in the development and implementation of drug policies, at national, EU and international level. Also to ensure the engagement with the EU Civil Society Forum on Drugs at EU and international level.

24.6. Ensure that the EU speaks with one strong voice in international forums such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and in dialogues with third countries, promoting the integrated, balanced and evidence-based EU approach to drugs. In this framework, the EU Delegations can play a useful role in promoting such approach in the field of drugs and in facilitating a coherent discourse on drugs policy.

V. **Cross-cutting theme: international cooperation**

25. International cooperation is a key area where the EU adds value to Member States efforts in coordinating drug policies and addressing challenges. The EU external relations in the field of drugs are based on the principles of shared responsibility, multilateralism, an integrated, balanced and evidence-based approach, the mainstreaming of development, respect for human rights and human dignity and respect for international conventions.

26. The objective of the EU Drugs Strategy 2013-20 in the field of international cooperation, is to further strengthen dialogue and cooperation between the EU and third countries and international organisations on drug issues in a comprehensive and balanced manner.

27. The EU Drugs Strategy is part of an overall approach that enables the EU to speak with one voice in the international arena and with the partner countries. The EU will remain committed to international cooperation and debate on the fundamentals of drug policy, and actively share the achievements of the EU approach in drug policy that is balanced between drug demand reduction and drug supply reduction, based on scientific evidence and intelligence as well as respecting human rights.

This requires coherence between policies and actions at the EU level, including external cooperation on drug demand reduction, including risk and harm reduction, drug supply reduction, alternative development, the exchange and transfer of knowledge and the involvement of both state and non-state actors.

28. The EU and its Member States should guarantee the integration of the EU Drugs Strategy and its objectives within the EU's overall foreign policy framework as part of a comprehensive approach that makes full use of the variety of policies and diplomatic, political and financial instruments at the EU's disposal in a coherent and coordinated manner. The High Representative supported by the EEAS should facilitate this process.

29. The EU external action approach in the field of drugs aims to further strengthen and support third countries' efforts to deal with the challenges to public health, safety and security. This will be done through the implementation of initiatives set out in this Strategy and subsequent action plans, including alternative development, drug demand reduction, drug supply reduction, the promotion and protection of human rights and also taking into account regional initiatives. Given the impact of drug production and trafficking on the internal stability and security situation in source and transit countries, actions will also target corruption, money laundering and the proceeds of drug-related crime.

30. In the field of international cooperation, the following priorities (not listed in the order of priority) are identified.

30.1. Improve coherence between the internal and external aspects of the EU drugs policies and responses towards third countries in the field of drugs.

30.2. Increase the EU's engagement and coordination in the international drug policy discourse, both in respect of negotiations with international organisations and structures including the UN, G8 and the Council of Europe and relations with third countries by achieving common EU positions, and ensure an effective role within the UN drug policy process.

30.3. Ensure that international cooperation in the field of drugs is integrated within the overall political relations and framework agreements between the EU and its partners, both at national and/or regional level. It should reflect the integrated, balanced and evidence-based EU approach and include: political dialogue, drug coordination, demand reduction (including risk and harm reduction), supply reduction including alternative development and law enforcement, integration of drug policies within the broader development cooperation agenda, information, research, monitoring and evaluation.

30.4. Ensure that the EU international response and actions in priority third countries and regions around the world are comprehensive taking into account every dimension of the drug phenomenon, and address the development, stability and security of these countries and regions through enhanced partnership.

30.5. Ensure that the EU international drug response is evidence-based and includes a monitoring process on the situation and progress involving different information tools from the Commission, EEAS, including the EU Delegations, Member States, EMCDDA, Europol, Eurojust and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control in close cooperation with UNODC.

30.6. Ensure that support to the candidate and potential candidate countries, and the countries of the European Neighbourhood Policy, focuses on capacity-building on both supply and demand reduction and evidence-based, effective and balanced drug policies, through strengthened cooperation including sharing of EU best practices and participation, where appropriate, in EU agencies, such as the EMCDDA, Europol and Eurojust.

30.7. Ensure a sustainable level of policy dialogue and information sharing on the strategies, aims and relevant initiatives through the dialogues on drugs with international partners, both at regional and bilateral level. Key partners are identified on the basis of their status of cooperation with the EU and their relevance in addressing the global illicit drug phenomenon while taking account of partners emerging as a result of developments in the drug situation. The Political Dialogues should be complementary to and coherent with other external cooperation structures and their impact and, where appropriate, provide a forum for discussing priorities on cooperation and progress on EU-funded projects.

30.8. Ensure an appropriate level of funding and expertise (provided for by the EU and its Member States) including by reinforcing coordination, monitoring and evaluation of financial and technical support,

while striving for synergies and by continuously balancing the transparent allocation of cooperation, resources, financial and technical assistance, between drug demand and drug supply reduction measures reflecting the EU approach. The EU should work towards providing relevant expertise in EU Delegations to support the implementation of measures targeting third countries in the field of drugs. The midterm review and final assessment of this EU Drugs Strategy should reflect on the impact of EU spending in third countries and the Commission and the EEAS should provide updates on priorities and progress on the EU spending overseas to Member States when appropriate.

30.9. When providing financial and technical support to source countries, the EU and Member States shall ensure, in particular, that alternative development programmes:

— are non-conditional, non-discriminating and, if eradication is scheduled, properly sequenced,

— set realistic rural development-related objectives and indicators for success, ensuring ownership among target communities and

— support local development, while considering interactions with factors such as human security, governance, violence, human rights, development and food security.

30.10. Ensure that the protection of human rights is fully integrated in political dialogues and in the implementation and delivery of relevant programs and projects in the field of drugs.

VI. **Cross-cutting theme: information, research, monitoring and evaluation**

31. The objective of the EU Drugs Strategy 2013-20 in the field of information, research, monitoring and evaluation is to contribute to a better understanding of all aspects of the drugs phenomenon and of the impact of measures in order to provide sound and comprehensive evidence for policies and actions. Furthermore, the EU Drugs Strategy 2013-20 aims to contribute to a better dissemination of monitoring, research and evaluation results at EU and national level ensuring the strengthening of synergies, a balanced allocation of financial resources and avoiding duplication of efforts. This can be achieved through harmonisation of methodologies, networking and closer cooperation.

32. In the field of information, research, monitoring and evaluation the following priorities (not listed in the order of priority) are identified.

32.1. The EU and its Member States should continue to invest in information exchange, data collection and monitoring, and in research and evaluation of the drug situation and responses to it at national and EU level. This should cover all relevant aspects of the drug phenomenon, including drug demand and drug supply. Particular emphasis should be placed on maintaining and further enhancing data collection and reporting through the EMCDDA key indicators in drug demand reduction.

32.2. The EMCDDA should, within its mandate, further enhance the knowledge infrastructure and should continue to play a key role as the central facilitator, supporter and provider of information, research, monitoring and evaluation of illicit drugs across the EU. It should continue to provide a timely, holistic and comprehensive analysis of the European drugs situation and of responses to it, and collaborate with other relevant agencies, including, when relevant and appropriate, the European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC) and the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and WHO.

32.3. Europol should continue its efforts as regards information gathering and analysis in the area of drug-related organised crime, while Member States should deliver relevant information to the Agency. The Agency should continue the regular delivery of threat assessment reports (e.g. EU SOCTA) on EU drug-related organised crime.

32.4. Member States, EU institutions and agencies should enhance information and data collection on all aspects of drug supply, including on drug markets, drug-related crimes and drug supply reduction with the aim to improve analysis and informed decision making. Member States, the Commission, EMCDDA, Europol and — where appropriate — other EU agencies should work together to improve data collection and the development of policy-relevant and scientifically sound indicators.

32.5. The EU institutions, bodies and Member States should improve the capacity to detect, assess and respond rapidly and effectively to the emergence of new psychoactive substances, to behavioural changes in drugs consumption and epidemic outbreaks and to other emerging trends that pose risks to public health and safety. This can be achieved, inter alia, through the strengthening of existing EU legislation, the exchange of information, intelligence, knowledge and best practices.

32.6. Member States, EU institutions and agencies should promote and support research, including applied research, into new psychoactive substances and ensure cooperation and coordination between networks at national and EU level in order to strengthen the understanding of the phenomenon. Monitoring in this area should be scaled up in close coordination with the EMCDDA. In particular, emphasis should be placed on developing forensic and toxicological capacity as well as on improving the availability of epidemiological information.

32.7. Member States should continue efforts to maintain the achievements made within the EU in terms of monitoring and information exchange, including through the Reitox Network of National Focal Points, while supporting the further development of EU standardised data collection and analysis in the areas of drug demand and drug supply.

32.8. Ensure adequate financing for drug-related research and development projects at EU and national level, according to financial resources including through the EU financial programmes covering the period 2014-20. Projects supported at EU level should take into account the priorities of the Strategy and its Action Plans and deliver a clear EU added value, ensuring coherence and synergies while avoiding duplication within programmes and with EU bodies.

32.9. EU institutions, bodies and Member States should recognise the role of scientific evaluation of policies and interventions (with a focus on outcomes achieved) as a key element in strengthening of the EU approach to drugs, and should promote its use both at national, EU and international level.

32.10. Ensure and reinforce training of professionals involved with drug-related issues, both in the drug demand as well as the drug supply reduction field.

II

(Information)

INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Non-opposition to a notified concentration

(Case COMP/M.6785 — General Motors France/SSPF/Auto Distribution Provence)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2012/C 402/02)

On 20 December 2012, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

— in the merger section of the Competition website of the Commission (http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,

— in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm) under document number 32012M6785. EUR-Lex is the on-line access to the European law.

Non-opposition to a notified concentration

(Case COMP/M.6793 — AEA/OTPP/Dematic)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2012/C 402/03)

On 20 December 2012, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

— in the merger section of the Competition website of the Commission (http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,

— in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm) under document number 32012M6793. EUR-Lex is the on-line access to the European law.

IV

(Notices)

NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates [1]

28 December 2012

(2012/C 402/04)

1 euro =

	Currency	Exchange rate		Currency	Exchange rate
USD	US dollar	1,3183	AUD	Australian dollar	1,2692
JPY	Japanese yen	113,50	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,3122
DKK	Danish krone	7,4604	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	10,2191
GBP	Pound sterling	0,81695	NZD	New Zealand dollar	1,6053
SEK	Swedish krona	8,5615	SGD	Singapore dollar	1,6124
CHF	Swiss franc	1,2080	KRW	South Korean won	1 407,37
ISK	Iceland króna		ZAR	South African rand	11,2211
NOK	Norwegian krone	7,3375	CNY	Chinese yuan renminbi	8,2172
BGN	Bulgarian lev	1,9558	HRK	Croatian kuna	7,5500
CZK	Czech koruna	25,140	IDR	Indonesian rupiah	12 705,29
HUF	Hungarian forint	290,79	MYR	Malaysian ringgit	4,0357
LTL	Lithuanian litas	3,4528	PHP	Philippine peso	54,098
LVL	Latvian lats	0,6978	RUB	Russian rouble	40,2300
PLN	Polish zloty	4,0809	THB	Thai baht	40,353
RON	Romanian leu	4,4385	BRL	Brazilian real	2,6928
TRY	Turkish lira	2,3584	MXN	Mexican peso	17,1386
			INR	Indian rupee	72,1835

[1] *Source*: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

Rules of Procedure of the Management Committee of the Publications Office of the European Union

(2012/C 402/05)

THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE PUBLICATIONS OFFICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION (hereinafter referred to as 'the Management Committee'),

Having regard to Article 6(4) of Decision 2009/496/EC, Euratom of 26 June 2009 on the organisation and operation of the Publications Office of the European Union [1] (hereinafter referred to as 'the Office'), as amended by Decision 2012/368/EU, Euratom [2],

HEREBY ESTABLISHES ITS RULES OF PROCEDURE AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Composition

1. The Management Committee shall comprise full members, one of whom shall be appointed by each of the institutions defined in Article 2(7) of Decision 2009/496/EC, Euratom which have signed the Decision on the organisation and operation of the Publications Office (hereinafter referred to as 'the institutions').

2. Each full member may appoint its own representative(s) and shall communicate their name(s) in writing to the Publications Office, which shall act as the secretariat for the Management Committee.

3. The European Central Bank shall participate in the work of the Management Committee as an observer. It shall communicate the name(s) of its representative(s) in writing to the Publications Office.

Article 2

Chairperson

1. The Management Committee shall be chaired by a representative of the following institutions:

— the European Parliament,

— the European Council,

— the Council of the European Union,

— the European Commission,

— the Court of Justice of the European Union,

— the European Court of Auditors,

— the European Economic and Social Committee,

— the Committee of the Regions.

2. The institutions represented on the Management Committee shall appoint a full member to chair the Committee for a period of two years. The Chairperson's mandate shall take effect on 1 August.

Article 3

Invitation to meetings

1. The Management Committee shall meet at least four times a year. Members shall be invited to attend by or on the initiative of the Chairperson, or at the request of one of the members or of the Director of the Publications Office.

2. Meetings shall be held at the Office's headquarters, unless the Management Committee decides otherwise.

3. The meetings of the Management Committee shall not be open to the public.

Article 4

Agenda

1. The Chairperson shall draw up the draft agenda upon a proposal of the Director. Any matter which a member of the Management Committee would like to see discussed shall be included as an agenda item.

2. The agenda shall make a distinction between draft measures to be taken for which the opinion/approval of the Management Committee is required and points submitted for information or simply for discussion.

3. The agenda shall be approved by the Management Committee at the start of the meeting, by a simple majority of its members.

4. A matter may be added to the agenda at the meeting, subject to the agreement of all the members of the Management Committee present at the meeting.

Article 5

Transmission of documents

1. The Director of the Office shall send the invitation, the draft agenda and any working documents to the members of the Management Committee.

2. The documents mentioned in the previous paragraph shall, as a rule, be received by the members of the Management Committee two weeks before the date of the meeting.

3. In urgent cases and if the measures to be adopted have to be applied quickly, the Chairperson may, at the request of a member of the Committee or of the Director of the Office or on his own initiative, shorten the period mentioned in the above paragraph to no fewer than three calendar days before the date of the meeting.

4. In cases of extreme urgency, the Director may ignore the periods laid down in paragraphs 2 and 3 above.

[1] OJ L 168, 30.6.2009, p. 41.
[2] OJ L 179, 11.7.2012, p. 15.

Article 6

Representation and quorum

1. In order for the Committee to be able to make decisions, each institution shall be represented by its full member or, failing this, by another representative or representatives duly appointed pursuant to Article 1(2).

2. However, the Committee may, with the prior consent of the members, hold a meeting exceptionally even if the full members or representatives of no more than two institutions are unable to attend. In such a case, the absent members shall be required to give the Chairperson advance written notice of the Committee member to whom they have granted their proxy. A member present at the meeting may not act as proxy for more than one absent member.

3. A majority shall be obtained if five members of the Management Committee have approved a decision submitted to the Committee.

4. Abstentions shall not prevent the adoption of decisions requiring unanimity.

Article 7

Working groups

1. In order to examine specific issues, the Management Committee may, unless the Committee decides otherwise, create working groups in which the Director of the Office or his or her representative participates.

2. The working groups shall report to the Management Committee, to which end they may appoint a rapporteur.

Article 8

Admission of third parties to meetings

1. Unless the Management Committee decides otherwise, the Director of the Office shall attend the meetings.

2. The Chairperson of the Management Committee may invite a representative of the Commission's Directorate-General for Human Resources and Security to attend meetings of the Management Committee in order to answer any questions falling within its remit.

3. The Management Committee may, at the request of a member or the Director of the Office or on the initiative of the Chairperson, decide to invite experts to address it concerning specific issues.

4. Such experts shall not participate in the discussions of the Management Committee.

Article 9

Written procedure

1. The Management Committee shall, as a rule, adopt decisions at its meetings. However, the agreement of the members of the Management Committee on a proposal made by one of them or by the Director of the Office may, alternatively, be obtained by way of a written procedure.

2. In order to do this, the Director of the Office shall, in agreement with the Chairperson, send the proposal to the members of the Management Committee. Any member who does not raise an objection or suggest changes to the proposal by a deadline set out in the communication shall be considered to have given their tacit agreement. The deadline shall be 10 working days, which may be extended once at the request of a member of the Management Committee up to a maximum of 10 working days. For urgent issues, this deadline shall be reduced to five working days.

3. However, if a member of the Management Committee requests that the proposal be examined at a meeting, the written procedure shall be concluded without a result, and the Chairperson shall invite the members of the Management Committee to a meeting as soon as possible.

4. Any proposal with regard to which no member of the Management Committee has raised or maintained an objection by the original or extended deadline shall be deemed to have been approved by the Committee.

Article 10

Secretariat

The secretariat of the Management Committee and, if relevant, of the working groups created pursuant to Article 7 above shall be provided by the management of the Office.

Article 11

Minutes of meetings

1. Draft minutes of each meeting containing, in particular, opinions expressed on proposals and decisions made by the Management Committee shall be drawn up under the responsibility of the Chairperson. The minutes of any discussions relating to personnel issues or other subjects of a confidential nature shall be in a separate annex.

2. The draft minutes shall be submitted to the members of the Committee for approval at a subsequent meeting or by means of the written procedure referred to in Article 9 above. The members shall send any comments to the Chairperson in writing. The Committee shall be informed and, in the event of any disagreement, the proposed amendment shall be discussed by the Committee. If the disagreement persists, this amendment shall be annexed to the minutes.

Article 12

Transparency

1. The principles and conditions concerning public access to documents shall be those already applicable to Commission documents.

2. If a request concerns a document of the Management Committee, the request shall be referred to the members of the Committee.

Article 13

Implementation of the decisions of the Management Committee

1. Decisions made by the Management Committee shall be communicated either by the Chairperson or by the Director of the Office, acting on behalf of the Committee, to the institutions or persons concerned.

2. A unanimous decision shall be required for the Management Committee to delegate powers to the Director of the Office. Where necessary, the Director of the Office shall seek the opinion of relevant officials in the institutions and shall report back to the Committee on the decisions made.

Article 14

Annual management report

1. The Director of the Office shall propose to the Management Committee, by no later than 31 March of each year, a draft annual management report under the conditions provided for in Article 7(1)(c) of the Decision on the organisation and operation of the Publications Office.

2. The draft annual management report shall contain detailed information on:

— the work of the Management Committee,

— relations with the institutions and other organisations,

— the activities of the Office,

— staffing,

— budgetary and financial management,

— infrastructure,

— risk analysis,

— a summary of internal audit work,

— a summary of evaluation work.

A foreword by the Chairperson, an executive summary and a summary of the main indicators shall be placed at the beginning of the document.

Article 15

These Rules of Procedure shall take effect on the day following their publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Commission notice on current State aid recovery interest rates and reference/discount rates for 27 Member States applicable as from 1 January 2013

(Published in accordance with Article 10 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 794/2004 of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 140, 30.4.2004, p. 1))

(2012/C 402/06)

Base rates calculated in accordance with the Communication from the Commission on the revision of the method for setting the reference and discount rates (OJ C 14, 19.1.2008, p. 6). Depending on the use of the reference rate, the appropriate margins have still to be added as defined in this Communication. For the discount rate this means that a margin of 100 basis points has to be added. The Commission Regulation (EC) No 271/2008 of 30 January 2008 amending the Implementing Regulation (EC) No 794/2004 foresees that, unless otherwise provided for in a specific decision, the recovery rate will also be calculated by adding 100 basis points to the base rate.

Modified rates are indicated in bold.

Previous table published in OJ C 365, 24.11.2012, p. 3.

From	To	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK	UK
1.1.2013	…	**0,66**	**0,66**	**1,53**	**0,66**	**1,09**	**0,66**	**0,85**	**0,66**	**0,66**	**0,66**	**0,66**	**0,66**	**6,65**	**0,66**	**0,66**	**1,37**	**0,66**	**1,58**	**0,66**	**0,66**	**4,80**	**0,66**	**6,18**	**1,91**	**0,66**	**0,66**	**1,19**

Commission communication in the framework of the implementation of Commission Regulation (EU) No 547/2012 implementing Directive 2009/125/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to ecodesign requirements for water pumps

(Text with EEA relevance)

(Publication of titles and references of transitional methods of measurement [1] for the implementation of Commission Regulation (EU) No 547/2012 and, in particular, Annex III and IV thereof)

(2012/C 402/07)

For the purposes of verification of compliance with the requirements of Commission Regulation (EU) No 547/2012 pump efficiency tests shall be carried out as follows.

1. All measurement shall be done according to ISO EN 9906 Class 2b. The exception specified in that standard for total tolerance of pump efficiency for pump power input of 10kW and below shall not be considered.

2. The duration of the test shall be sufficient to obtain repeatable results; especially run-in effects shall be considered. Run-in effects may take up to 1 day operating time.

3. All measurements shall be made under steady state conditions.

4. The tests should be conducted under conditions where cavitation does not affect the performance of the pump.

5. Pump efficiency is measured at the head and flow corresponding to the best efficiency point (BEP), part load (PL), and over load (OL) for full (untrimmed) impeller diameter with clean cold water, as defined in Commission Regulation (EU) No 547/2012.

6. Vertical multistage water pumps are to be tested with a three stage (i = 3) version. Submersible multistage water pumps are to be tested with a nine stage (i = 9) version. If this number of stages is not offered within the specific product range, the next higher number of stages within the product range is to be chosen for verification testing.

7. A minimum of seven test points shall be taken for all verification tests within the range of 60 % to 120 % around the expected flow at the BEP. Four of these points shall be spaced between 60 % and 95 %, two between 105 % and 120 %, and one point chosen within 95 % to 105 % of the expected flow at the BEP. For the determination of the flow corresponding to BEP, PL, and OL, the flow-efficiency fitting curve must be represented by an appropriate mathematical expression. In the range of flow rates from PL to OL, the curve represented by the mathematical expression shall have only one maximum, and the second derivative of the mathematical expression must be negative. Appropriate methods for drawing the flow-efficiency fitting curve are polynomials of third order or spline functions. Alternatively, the nominal best flow value on the water pump's name plate or from the manufacturer's test reports can be chosen if provided.

8. The required minimum efficiencies shall be calculated as set out in Annex III of Commission Regulation (EU) No 547/2012. The minimum efficiency index (MEI) for product information requirements shall be derived using the same equation at BEP evaluated for the C-value and according to Table 1. The second decimal place of the MEI shall be determined by a linear interpolation of the C-values corresponding to the neighbouring MEI values in Table 1, and by rounding to the next lower MEI. If the C-value is smaller than the one corresponding to a MEI of 0,70, only 'MEI > 0,70' shall be provided as information.

[1] It is intended that these transitional methods will ultimately be replaced by harmonised standard (pr)EN 16480. When available, reference(s) to the harmonised standard will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* in accordance with Articles 9 and 10 of Directive 2009/125/EC.

Table 1

Minimum efficiency index (MEI) and its corresponding C-value depending on the pump type and speed

C-value for MEI / $C_{PumpType,\ rpm}$	MEI = 0,10	MEI = 0,20	MEI = 0,30	MEI = 0,40	MEI = 0,50	MEI = 0,60	MEI = 0,70
C (ESOB, 1 450)	132,58	130,68	129,35	128,07	126,97	126,10	124,85
C (ESOB, 2 900)	135,60	133,43	131,61	130,27	129,18	128,12	127,06
C (ESCC, 1 450)	132,74	131,20	129,77	128,46	127,38	126,57	125,46
C (ESCC, 2 900)	135,93	133,82	132,23	130,77	129,86	128,80	127,75
C (ESCCI, 1 450)	136,67	134,60	133,44	132,30	131,00	130,32	128,98
C (ESCCI, 2 900)	139,45	136,53	134,91	133,69	132,65	131,34	129,83
C (MS-V, 2 900)	138,19	135,41	134,89	133,95	133,43	131,87	130,37
C (MSS, 2 900)	134,31	132,43	130,94	128,79	127,27	125,22	123,84

9. The maximum permissible random uncertainty $e_{r,max}$ as a percentage of the arithmetically averaged value of the measured quantity is:

Table 2

Maximum permissible random uncertainty $e_{r,max}$

Measured quantity	Maximum permissible random uncertainty $e_{r,max}$
Rate of flow	± 3 %
Differential pressure	± 4 %
Discharge pressure	± 3 %
Suction pressure	± 3 %
Drive power input	± 3 %
Speed of rotation	± 1 %
Torque	± 3 %
Temperature	± 0,3 °C

10. The maximum permissible measurement device uncertainty $e_{s,max}$ as a percentage of the arithmetically averaged value of the measured quantity is:

Table 3

Maximum permissible measurement device uncertainty $e_{s,max}$

Measured quantity	Maximum permissible measurement device uncertainty $e_{s,max}$
Rate of flow	± 2,5 %
Differential pressure	± 2,5 %
Discharge pressure	± 2,5 %
Suction pressure	± 2,5 %

Measured quantity	Maximum permissible measurement device uncertainty $e_{s,max}$
Drive power input	± 2,0 %
Speed of rotation	± 1,4 %
Torque	± 2,0 %
Temperature	± 1,0 °C

11. The maximum overall tolerance for measurements is t_{tot} = 5 %. Measurement devices shall be chosen not to exceed this overall tolerance. Consequently, measured pump efficiencies for BEP, PL, and OL are not allowed to fall below the threshold value defined as follows:

$$\eta_{threshold} = (1 - t_{tot}) \cdot \eta_{min,req} = 0{,}95 \cdot \eta_{min,req}$$

12. For the purpose of conformity assessment, the manufacturer shall prepare and keep available upon request from market surveillance authorities test reports and all documentation needed to support the information declared by the manufacturer. The test reports shall contain all relevant measurement information including but not limited to:

— relevant charts and sampled value tables of the rate of flow, differential pressure, discharge pressure, suction pressure, driver power input, speed of rotation, torque, and temperature for all relevant test points;

— description of the test method(s) as applicable, laboratory space and ambient conditions, physical test rig set up specifying position of data capturing devices (e.g. sensors) and data processing equipment, as well as the operating range and measurement accuracy;

— settings of the unit being tested, description of the function of automatic switching of settings (e.g. between off mode and standby mode);

description of the test sequence followed (e.g. to arrive at equilibrium conditions as applicable).

NOTICES FROM MEMBER STATES

Summary information communicated by Member States on State aid granted in conformity with Commission Regulation (EC) No 736/2008 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to State aid to small and medium-sized enterprises active in the production, processing and marketing of fisheries products

(2012/C 402/08)

Aid No: SA.28105 (XF 6/09)

Member State: Spain

Region/authority granting the aid: Comunidad Autónoma de Castilla y León (NUTS 2 ES41)

Title of aid scheme/name of company receiving ad hoc aid: Líneas de ayuda en materia de acuicultura y productos de la pesca dentro del ámbito de las subvenciones a la transformación y comercialización de los productos agrarios, silvícolas y de la alimentación en Castilla y León.

Legal basis: Orden por la que se convocan determinadas líneas de ayuda en materia de acuicultura y productos de la pesca dentro del ámbito de las subvenciones a la transformación y comercialización de los productos agrarios, silvícolas y de la alimentación en Castilla y León.

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or amount of ad hoc aid granted: Annual expenditure planned under the scheme: EUR 15 000 000

Maximum aid intensity:

Type of beneficiary	Legislative reference	Maximum aid intensity
Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)	Articles 29(2)(a) and 35(3)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 1198/2006	40 %
Enterprises that are not covered by the above with less than 750 employees or with a turnover of less than EUR 200 000 000	Articles 29(2)(b) and 35(3)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1198/2006	20 %

Date of entry into force: 29 December 2008 ([1])

Duration of the scheme or individual aid award (not later than 30 June 2014); indicate:

— under the scheme: the date until which aid may be granted: 31 December 2013,

— in the case of ad hoc aid, the expected date of the last instalment to be paid: Not ad hoc aid.

([1]) Aid granted prior to the Commission issuing an acknowledgement of receipt of this form are covered by the provisions of Article 26(1) of Regulation (EC) No 736/2008.

Objective of aid:

Support for business investment in the following areas:

(a) Productive investments in aquaculture;

(b) Processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products.

Indicate which of Article(s) 8 to 24 is used:

Articles of Regulation (EC) No 736/2008 of 22 July 2008 used:

(a) Article 11 'Aid for productive investments in aquaculture';

(b) Article 16 'Aid for processing and marketing'.

Activity concerned: Aid scheme to support business investment in both aquaculture and the processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products.

Name and address of the granting authority:

Excma. Sra. Consejera de Agricultura y Ganadería de la Junta de Castilla y León, Doña Silvia Clemente Municio
Calle Rigoberto Cortejoso, 14
47014 Valladolid
ESPAÑA

Website:

http://www.jcyl.es/AyudaEstado20072013

Motivation:

Indicate why a State aid scheme has been established instead of assistance under the European Fisheries Fund:

Castile-Leon is a region that is eligible for aid under Article 87(3)(c) of the EC Treaty which, despite not having a coastline, has traditionally been home to undertakings active in aquaculture production as well as those engaged in the processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products.

The importance of these activities makes the region a leader in inshore aquaculture production and means that its processing and marketing industry even exceeds the scale of some of the industries which are located in Spain's coastal regions.

In previous programme periods, such circumstances have meant that Castile-Leon had FIFG co-financing available to establish aid for aquaculture, and processing and marketing.

However, the possibilities of obtaining funding for aid for the period 2007-13 through the Operational Programme for the Spanish Fisheries Industry 2007-13 (European Fisheries Fund 2007-13) have been substantially reduced, to the point where Castile-Leon has decided to concentrate such limited resources on a single measure, i.e. measure 2.3 for processing and marketing.

Consequently, the Agriculture and Livestock Farming Department considers it appropriate to establish a State aid scheme that will support investment in aquaculture and, once the Operational Programme's limited resources have been exhausted, also in processing and marketing.

Aid No: SA.35649 (12/XF)

Member State: France

Authority granting the aid: Ministère de l'écologie, du développement durable et de l'énergie

Name of company receiving *ad hoc* aid: Aid paid to the Languedoc-Roussillon Regional Committee for Maritime Fisheries and Marine Farming (*Comité régional des pêches maritimes et des élevages marins du Languedoc-Roussillon*) with the aim of setting up silver eel release operations in the Rhône-Méditerranée Eel Management Unit and scientific monitoring of the progress and results of these operations.

Legal basis:

— Décret n° 99-1060 du 16 décembre 1999 relatif aux subventions de l'Etat pour des projets d'investissement.

— Décret n° 2000-675 du 17 juillet 2000 pris pour l'application de l'article 10 du décret n° 99-1060 du 16 décembre 1999 relatif aux subventions de l'Etat pour des projets d'investissement.

— Eel Management Plan of the Republic of France approved by the European Commission on 15 February 2010 pursuant to Council Regulation (EC) No 1100/2007 of 18 September 2007 establishing measures for the recovery of the stock of European eel.

Amount of ad hoc aid granted: EUR 264 000 in 2012 and EUR 66 000 in 2013, giving a maximum overall amount of EUR 330 000

Maximum aid intensity: 98 %

Date of entry into force: 2012

Duration of individual aid award (planned date of final payment): The deadline for submitting the request for payment of the balance of the aid is 31 March 2014.

Objective of aid:

Implementation of silver eel release measures pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1100/2007, and in particular the fifth indent of Article 2(8).

The purpose of this measure is to increase awareness of the contribution of the release of silver eels to attainment of the escapement target laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No 1100/2007 of 18 September 2007 establishing measures for the recovery of the stock of European eel by improving knowledge of their migration patterns, in particular.

Relevant articles:

Article 18: Aid for measures intended to protect and develop aquatic fauna and flora

Article 21: Aid for pilot projects

Activity concerned: Fisheries of Mediterranean waters, lagoons and rivers with the objective of releasing silver eels

Name and address of the granting authority:

Ministère de l'écologie, du développement durable et de l'énergie
Direction des pêches maritimes et de l'aquaculture
Bureau de la pisciculture et de la pêche continentale
3 place de Fontenoy
75007 Paris
FRANCE

Website where the conditions under which ad hoc aid is granted outside of an aid scheme can be found:

http://agriculture.gouv.fr/europe-et-international

Motivation:

The planned aid will allow the proposed action to be financed without using the EFF.

Recourse to EFF measure 3.2 (see Article 38 of the EFF Regulation, Regulation (EC) No 1198/2006) could be problematical in view of the use already made of the corresponding budgetary allocation.

Information communicated by Member States regarding State aid granted under Commission Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the Treaty to State aid to small and medium-sized enterprises active in the production of agricultural products and amending Regulation (EC) No 70/2001

(2012/C 402/09)

Aid No: SA.35435 (12/XA)

Member State: Hungary

Region: Hungary

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving an individual aid: Fiatal mezőgazdasági termelők tevékenységének megkezdéséhez intézményi kezességvállalással nyújtott szabad felhasználású hitel keretében nyújtott támogatás

Legal basis:

— 1038/2007. (VI. 18.) Korm. határozat 3.1. b) alpontja

— A vidékfejlesztési miniszter…/… . (… . … .) VM rendelete a „Sikeres Magyarországért" Agrár Fejlesztési Hitelprogram szabályairól szóló 108/2007. (IX. 24.) FVM rendelet és az Új Magyarország Vidékfejlesztési Program finanszírozáshoz igénybe vehető projekt kiegészítő hitelről szóló 78/2009. (VI. 30.) FVM rendelet módosításáról

— 1857/2006/EK rendelet 7. cikke

— 1698/2005/EK rendelet 22. cikke

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company: Annual overall amount of the budget planned under the scheme: HUF 128,50 million

Maximum aid intensity: 100 %

Date of implementation: —

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: 18 December 2012-31 December 2013

Objective of aid: Setting up of young farmers (Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006)

Sector(s) concerned: Agriculture, forestry and fishing

Name and address of the granting authority:

Vidékfejlesztési Minisztérium
Budapest
Kossuth Lajos tér 11.
1055
MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY

Website:

http://www.kormany.hu/download/b/ff/b0000/foldhitel_rendelettervezet.pdf#!DocumentBrowse

Other information: —

Aid No: SA.35662 (12/XA)

Member State: Netherlands

Region: Agglom. haarlem, groot-amsterdam

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving an individual aid: Innovatiemotor Greenport Aalsmeer

Legal basis:

Publicatie Staatsblad:

http://www.kansenvoorwest.nl/images/stories/besluit%20efro%20staatscourant%2023%20oktober%202007.pdf

Regelgeving EFRO doelstelling 2 programmaperiode 2007-2013

http://www.kansenvoorwest.nl/images/stories/ministeriele%20regeling%20efro%20doelstelling%202%202007-2013.pdf

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company: Overall amount of the ad hoc aid awarded to the undertaking: EUR 1,70 million

Maximum aid intensity: 70 %

Date of implementation: —

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: 18 December 2012-30 June 2015

Objective of aid: Technical support (Article 15 of Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006)

Sector(s) concerned: Growing of non-perennial crops, Growing of perennial crops, Plant propagation

Name and address of the granting authority:

B&W Rotterdam namens Management Autoriteit Kansen voor West en provincie Noord Holland
Coolsingel 40
3011 AD Rotterdam
en
Ceylonpoort 5-25
2037 AA Haarlem
NEDERLAND

Website:

http://www.kansenvoorwest.nl/index.php?option=com_projectdetails&view=projectdetails&Itemid=42&projectId=876

Other information: —

Aid No: SA.35782 (12/XA)

Member State: Germany

Region: Schleswig-Holstein

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving an individual aid: (Schleswig-Holstein) Beihilfen im Rahmen der Bekämpfung Transmissibler Spongiformer Enzephalopathien bei Rindern, Schafen und Ziegen

Legal basis: Richtlinien für die Gewährung von Beihilfen im Rahmen der Bekämpfung Transmissibler Spongiformer Enzephalopathien bei Rindern, Schafen und Ziegen (TSE-Beihilfe-Richtlinien)

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company: Annual overall amount of the budget planned under the scheme: EUR 0,15 million

Maximum aid intensity: 100 %

Date of implementation: —

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: 12 December 2012-31 December 2013

Objective of aid: Animal diseases (Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006)

Sector(s) concerned: Animal production

Name and address of the granting authority:

Ministerium für Energiewende, Landwirtschaft, Umwelt und ländliche Räume Schleswig-Holstein
Mercatorstr. 3
24106 Kiel
DEUTSCHLAND

Website:

http://www.schleswig-holstein.de/UmweltLandwirtschaft/DE/LebensmittelTierGesundheit/04_Tiergesundheit/Informationen/PDF/TSE_RiLi_2012__blob=publicationFile.pdf

Other information: —

Aid No: SA.35823 (12/XA)

Member State: Germany

Region: Baden-Wuerttemberg

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving an individual aid: Baden-Württemberg: Gewährung von Beihilfen und sonstigen Leistungen durch die Tierseuchenkasse Baden-Württemberg

Legal basis:

— § 71 Tierseuchengesetz der Bundesrepublik Deutschland

— §§ 8 und 9 Ausführungsgesetz zum Tierseuchengesetz des Landes Baden-Württemberg

— Leistungssatzung und Leistungsverzeichnis der Tierseuchenkasse Baden-Württemberg

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company: Annual overall amount of the budget planned under the scheme: EUR 3,90 million

Maximum aid intensity: 100 %

Date of implementation: —

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: 1 January 2013-30 June 2014

Objective of aid: Animal diseases (Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006)

Sector(s) concerned: Animal production

Name and address of the granting authority:

Tierseuchenkasse Baden-Württemberg
Anstalt des öffentlichen Rechts
Hohenzollernstraße 10
70178 Stuttgart
DEUTSCHLAND

Website:

http://www.tsk-bw.de/download/Documents/Leistungssatzung_2013.pdf

http://www.tsk-bw.de/download/Documents/TSG.pdf

http://www.tsk-bw.de/download/Documents/Ausfuehrung.pdf

Other information: —

Aid No: SA.35824 (12/XA)

Member State: Germany

Region: Saarland

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving an individual aid: Saarland — Beihilferegelung zur Bekämpfung und Tilgung der BHV1 (Boviner Herpesvirus Typ 1) bei Rindern

Legal basis: Satzung der Tierseuchenkasse des Saarlandes über die Gewährung von Beihilfen und Leistungen (2. Änderungssatzung)

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company: Annual overall amount of the budget planned under the scheme: EUR 0,09 million

Maximum aid intensity: 100 %

Date of implementation: —

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: 1 January 2013-31 December 2013

Objective of aid: Animal diseases (Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006)

Sector(s) concerned: Animal production

Name and address of the granting authority:

Tierseuchenkasse des Saarlandes
Anstalt des öffentlichen Rechts
Keplerstraße 18
66117 Saarbrücken
DEUTSCHLAND

Website:

http://www.tsk-sl.de/satzungen/ausztiersg.html

http://www.tsk-sl.de/PDF/Beihilfesatzung2012.pdf

http://www.tsk-sl.de/satzungen/tiersg.html

Other information: —

Aid No: SA.35858 (12/XA)

Member State: Germany

Region: Bayern

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving an individual aid: Bayern: Förderung der Vermittlung und des Einsatzes von Fachkräften der Betriebs- und Haushaltshilfe sowie für die Melkeraushilfe

Legal basis:

Bayerisches Agrarwirtschaftsgesetz (BayAgrarWig) vom 8.12.2006,

Eckpunktepapier,

Bayerische Haushaltsordnung

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company: Annual overall amount of the budget planned under the scheme: EUR 3,45 million

Maximum aid intensity: 80 %

Date of implementation: —

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: 1 January 2013-30 June 2014

Objective of aid: Technical support (Article 15 of Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006)

Sector(s) concerned: Crop and animal production, hunting and related service activities

Name and address of the granting authority:

Bayerische Landesanstalt für Landwirtschaft
Abteilung Förderwesen und Fachrecht
Menzinger Straße 54
80638 München
DEUTSCHLAND

Website:

http://www.stmelf.bayern.de/mam/cms01/agrarpolitik/dateien/b_eckpunktepapier_einsatz_melkerhilfe.pdf

Other information: —

V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DECISION TO CLOSE THE FORMAL INVESTIGATION PROCEDURE AFTER WITHDRAWAL BY MEMBER STATE

State aid — Greece

(Articles 107 to 109 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union)

Commission notice pursuant to Article 108(2) TFEU — Withdrawal of notification

State aid C 21/09 — (ex N 105/08, N 168/08 and N 169/08) — Greece

Public financing of infrastructure and equipment at the port of Pireaus — part notified under ex N 169/08

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2012/C 402/10)

The Commission has decided to close the formal investigation procedure under Article 108(2) TFEU, initiated on 13 July 2009 [1] in respect of the financing of the acquisition of loading and unloading equipment in the container terminal section of the Port of Piraeus (notified under N 169/08), recording that Greece has withdrawn its notification on 1 October 2010 and will not pursue this aid project further.

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[1] OJ C 245, 13.10.2009, p. 21.

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.6784 — SFR/Librairie Fernand Nathan/JV)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2012/C 402/11)

1. On 18 December 2012, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]) by which the undertakings Société Française du Radiotéléphone ('SFR', France) and Librairie Fernand Nathan ('LFN', France) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the undertaking Dokéo TV (France) by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— SFR: fixed and mobile electronic communications,

— LFN: publication of educational material for teachers, pupils, children and their parents,

— Dokéo TV: creation, distribution and marketing of youth interactive multimedia and edutainment content for young children and their families.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the EC Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under the EC Merger Regulation ([2]) it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the Notice.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax (+32 22964301), by email to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference number COMP/M.6784 — SFR/Librairie Fernand Nathan/JV, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
J-70
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'EC Merger Regulation').
([2]) OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32 ('Notice on a simplified procedure').

V *Announcements*

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

European Commission

Note to the reader (see page 3 of the cover)

EN

[1] Text with EEA relevance

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