

Regulation (EU) No 652/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 laying down provisions for the management of expenditure relating to the food chain, animal health and animal welfare, and relating to plant health and plant reproductive material, amending Council Directives 98/56/EC, 2000/29/EC and 2008/90/EC, Regulations (EC) No 178/2002, (EC) No 882/2004 and (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Directive 2009/128/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Council Decisions 66/399/EEC, 76/894/EEC and 2009/470/EC

TITLE II

FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER I

Animal health

Section 1

Emergency Measures

Article 6

Eligible measures

1 Grants may be awarded to Member States up to the maximum rates set in Article 5(1) to (3) in respect of the measures taken as a result of the confirmation that one of the animal diseases listed pursuant to Article 7 has occurred, provided that the measures have been applied immediately and the applicable provisions laid down in the relevant Union law have been complied with. Such grants may also include costs incurred as a result of a suspected occurrence of such a disease, provided that the occurrence is subsequently confirmed.

2 Grants may be awarded to Member States where, following the confirmation of the occurrence of one of the animal diseases listed pursuant to Article 7, two or more Member States collaborate closely to control the epidemic.

3 Grants may be awarded to Member States, third countries and international organisations in respect of protection measures taken in the case of a direct threat to the health status of the Union as a result of the occurrence or development, in the territory of a third country or a Member State, of one of the animal diseases and zoonoses listed pursuant to Articles 7 or 10.

4 Grants may be awarded to Member States where the Commission decides, at the request of a Member State, that they must establish stocks of biological products intended for the control of the animal diseases and zoonoses listed pursuant to Article 7 or 10.

5 A Union financial contribution may be awarded for the establishment of stocks of biological products or the acquisition of vaccine doses if the occurrence or the development in

a third country or Member State of one of the animal diseases and zoonoses listed pursuant to Article 7 or 10 might constitute a threat to the Union.

Article 7

List of animal diseases

1 The list of animal diseases which qualify for funding under Article 6 is set out in Annex I.

2 The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts, in accordance with Article 40, in order to supplement the list of animal diseases referred to in paragraph 1, taking into account the animal diseases which are required to be notified in accordance with Directive 82/894/EEC and the diseases which are likely to constitute a new threat for the Union due to their significant impact on:

- a human health;
- b animal health or animal welfare; or
- c the agricultural or aquaculture production or related sectors of the economy.

Article 8

Eligible costs

1 The following costs incurred by the Member States in carrying out the measures referred to in Article 6(1) may qualify for funding under that paragraph:

- a costs of compensation to owners for the value of their animals slaughtered or culled, limited to the market value of such animals if they had not been affected by the disease;
- b costs of slaughtering or culling the animals and related transport costs;
- c costs of compensation to owners for the value of their destroyed products of animal origin, limited to the market value of those products immediately before any suspicion of the disease arose or was confirmed;
- d costs of cleaning, desinsectisation and disinfection of holdings and equipment, based on the epidemiology and characteristics of the pathogen;
- e costs for the transport and the destruction of the contaminated feeding stuffs and, where it can not be disinfected, contaminated equipment;
- f costs of purchase, storage, administration or distribution of vaccines and baits as well as the costs of inoculation itself, if the Commission decides or authorises such actions;
- g costs of transport and disposal of carcasses;
- h in exceptional and duly justified cases, any other costs essential for the eradication of the disease, as provided for in the financing decision referred to in Article 36(4) of this Regulation.

2 As referred to in Article 130(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, costs shall be eligible from the date of notification of the occurrence of the disease by the Member States to the Commission. Such costs may also include costs incurred as a result of a suspected occurrence of such a disease, provided that that occurrence is subsequently confirmed.

3 After assessment of the payment applications submitted by the Member States, the Commission shall make the corresponding budgetary commitments and shall pay the eligible expenditure.

Section 2

Programmes for the eradication, control and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonoses

Article 9

Eligible programmes

Grants may be awarded to Member States' annual or multiannual national programmes for the eradication, control and surveillance of the animal diseases and zoonoses listed pursuant to Article 10 ('national programmes').

Article 10

List of animal diseases and zoonoses

1 The list of animal diseases and zoonoses which qualify for grants under Article 9 is set out in Annex II.

2 The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts, in accordance with Article 40, in order to supplement the list of animal diseases and zoonoses referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, taking into account:

- a the situation of animal diseases that have a significant impact on livestock production or trade;
- b the development of zoonoses which pose a threat to humans; or
- c new scientific or epidemiological developments.

Article 11

Eligible costs

The following costs incurred by the Member States in implementing the national programmes may qualify for grants under Article 9:

- (a) costs of sampling animals;
- (b) costs of tests, provided that they are limited to:
 - (i) costs of test kits, reagents, and consumables which are identifiable and specifically used for carrying out those tests;
 - (ii) costs of personnel, regardless of their status, directly involved in carrying out the tests;
- (c) costs of compensation to owners for the value of their animals slaughtered or culled, limited to the market value of such animals if they had not been affected by the disease;
- (d) costs of slaughtering or culling of the animals;
- (e) costs of compensation to owners for the value of their destroyed products of animal origin, limited to the market value of those products immediately before any suspicion of the disease arose or was confirmed;

- (f) costs of purchase, storage, inoculation, administration or distribution of vaccine doses or vaccine and baits used for the programmes;
- (g) costs of cleaning, disinfection, desinsectisation of the holding and equipment based on the epidemiology and characteristics of the pathogen; and
- (h) in exceptional and duly justified cases, the costs incurred in carrying out necessary measures other than those referred to in points (a) to (g), provided that such measures are set out in the grant decision referred to in Article 13(3) and (4).

For the purposes of point (c) of the first paragraph, the salvage value of the animals, if any, shall be deducted from the compensation.

For the purposes of point (d) of the first paragraph, the salvage value of heat-treated non-incubated eggs shall be deducted from the compensation.

Article 12

Content and submission of the national programmes

1 By 31 May, Member States shall submit to the Commission the national programmes which are due to start in the following year in respect of which they wish to apply for a grant.

National programmes submitted after 31 May shall not be eligible for financing in respect of the following year.

- 2 The national programmes shall contain at least the following:
- a a description of the epidemiological situation of the animal disease or zoonosis before the date of the beginning of the programme;
 - b a description and demarcation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be applied;
 - c the duration of the programme;
 - d the measures to be implemented;
 - e the estimated budget;
 - f the targets to be attained by the completion date of the programme and the anticipated benefits thereof; and
 - g appropriate indicators to measure the achievement of the targets of the programme.

In each multiannual national programme, the information referred to in points (b), (d), and (f) of the first subparagraph shall be provided for each year covered by the programme, in the case of significant changes compared to the previous year. The information referred to in point (e) of that subparagraph shall be provided for each year covered by the programme.

3 If the occurrence or the development of one of the animal diseases or zoonoses listed pursuant to Article 10 is likely to constitute a threat to the health status of the Union and in order to protect the Union from the introduction of one of those diseases or zoonoses, Member States may include in their national programmes measures to be implemented in territories of neighbouring third countries in cooperation with the authorities of those countries.

Article 13

Evaluation and approval of the national programmes

1 The Commission shall evaluate the national programmes taking into account the priorities and criteria set out in the annual or multiannual work programmes referred to in Article 36(1).

2 The Commission shall communicate to Member States by 30 November each year:

- a the list of national programmes technically approved and proposed for co-financing;
- b the provisional amount allocated to each programme;
- c the provisional maximum level of the Union financial contribution for each programme; and
- d any provisional conditions to which the Union financial contribution may be subject.

3 The Commission shall approve the annual national programmes and associated funding by 31 January each year by means of a grant decision in relation to the measures implemented and the costs incurred from 1 January to 31 December of that year. Following submission of the intermediate reports as referred to in Article 14, the Commission may, if necessary, amend such decisions in relation to the whole eligibility period.

4 The Commission shall approve the multiannual national programmes and associated funding by 31 January of the first year of implementation by means of a grant decision in relation to the measures implemented and the costs incurred from 1 January of the first year of implementation until the end of the implementation period.

5 In the case of approval of multiannual national programmes in accordance with paragraph 4, budgetary commitments may be divided into annual instalments. Where budgetary commitments are so divided, the Commission shall commit the annual instalments taking into account the progress of the programmes, the estimated needs and the budget available.

Article 14

Reporting

For each approved annual or multiannual national programme, Member States shall submit to the Commission, by 30 April each year, an annual detailed technical and financial report covering the previous year. That report shall include the results achieved, measured on the basis of the indicators referred to in Articles 12(2)(g) and a detailed account of eligible costs incurred.

In addition, for each approved annual national programme, Member States shall submit to the Commission, by 31 August each year, an intermediate financial report.

Article 15

Payments

The payment request for a given year in respect of a national programme shall be submitted by the Member State to the Commission by 30 April of the following year.

The Commission shall pay the Union financial contribution for the eligible costs following appropriate verification of the reports referred to in Article 14.

CHAPTER II

Plant health

Section 1

Emergency measures

Article 16

Eligible measures

- 1 Grants may be awarded to Member States up to the maximum rates set in Article 5(1) to (3) for the following measures against pests, subject to the conditions laid down in Article 17:
- a measures to eradicate a pest from an infested area, taken by the competent authorities pursuant to Article 16(1) and (2) of Directive 2000/29/EC or pursuant to the Union measures adopted in accordance with Article 16(3) of that Directive;
 - b measures to contain a pest, against which Union containment measures have been adopted pursuant to Article 16(3) of Directive 2000/29/EC, in an infested area from which that pest cannot be eradicated, where those measures are essential to protect the Union against further spread of that pest. Those measures shall exclusively concern the eradication of that pest from the buffer zone in case its presence is detected in that buffer zone;
 - c additional protective measures taken against the spread of a pest, against which Union measures have been adopted pursuant to Article 16(3) of Directive 2000/29/EC, other than the eradication measures referred to in point (a) and the containment measures referred to in point (b), where those measures are essential to protect the Union against further spread of that pest.

Grants for measures referred to in points (a) and (b) of the first subparagraph may also be awarded for measures taken as a result of a suspected presence of such a pest, provided that that presence is subsequently confirmed.

2 Grants referred to in paragraph 1 may also be awarded to a Member State in whose territory the pests referred to in paragraph 1 are not present, where measures have been taken against the entry of those pests into the territory of that Member State because of their presence in a neighbouring Member State or third country immediately adjacent to its border.

3 Grants may be awarded to Member States where, following the confirmation of the presence of one of the pests referred to in Article 17, two or more Member States collaborate closely in carrying out the measures referred to in paragraph 1.

4 Grants in respect of the measures referred to in points (a) to (c) of the first subparagraph of paragraph 1 may also be awarded to international organisations.

Article 17

Conditions

The measures referred to in Article 16 may qualify for grants provided that they have been applied immediately and the applicable provisions laid down in the relevant Union law have been complied with, and provided that one or more of the following conditions are fulfilled:

- (a) they concern pests listed in Section I of Part A of Annex I to Directive 2000/29/EC and Section I of Part A of Annex II thereto;
- (b) they concern pests covered by a measure adopted by the Commission pursuant to Article 16(3) of Directive 2000/29/EC;
- (c) they concern pests for which measures have been adopted pursuant to Directives 69/464/EEC, 93/85/EEC, 98/57/EC or 2007/33/EC; or
- (d) they concern pests, not listed in Annex I or Annex II to Directive 2000/29/EC, which are subject to a measure adopted by the competent authority of a Member State pursuant to Article 16(2) of Directive 2000/29/EC and which provisionally qualify for listing in Section I of Part A of Annex I to Directive 2000/29/EC or Section I of Part A of Annex II thereto.

For measures fulfilling the condition laid down in point (b) of the first paragraph, the grant shall not cover costs incurred after the expiry of the measure adopted by the Commission pursuant to Article 16(3) of Directive 2000/29/EC.

For measures fulfilling the condition laid down in point (d) of the first paragraph, the grant shall not cover costs incurred later than two years after the entry into force of the measure adopted by the competent authority of the Member State concerned, or incurred after the expiry of that measure.

Article 18

Eligible costs

1 The following costs incurred by Member States in carrying out the measures referred to in Article 16 may qualify for grants under that Article:

- a costs of personnel, regardless of their status, directly involved in the measures, as well as costs of renting equipment, of consumables and of any other necessary materials, of treatment products, of sampling and of laboratory tests;
- b costs of service contracts with third parties to execute part of the measures;
- c costs of compensating the operators or owners concerned for the treatment, the destruction and subsequent removal of plants, of plant products and of other objects, and for the cleaning and disinfection of premises, land, water, soil, growing media, facilities, machinery and equipment;
- d costs of compensating the owners concerned for the value of the destroyed plants, plant products or other objects subject to the measures referred to in Article 16 of Directive 2000/29/EC, limited to the market value of such plants, plant products and other objects as if they had not been affected by those measures; the salvage value, if any, shall be deducted from the compensation; and

- e in exceptional and duly justified cases, the costs incurred in carrying out necessary measures other than those referred to in points (a) to (d), provided that such measures are set out in the financing decision referred to in Article 36(4).

The compensation to owners referred to in point (c) shall only be eligible if the measures have been carried out under the supervision of the competent authority.

2 As referred to in Article 130(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, costs shall be eligible from the date of notification of the presence of the pest by the Member States to the Commission. Such costs may also include costs incurred as a result of the suspected presence of that pest, provided that that presence is subsequently confirmed.

3 After assessment of the payment applications submitted by the Member States, the Commission shall make the corresponding budgetary commitments and the payment of eligible expenditure.

Section 2

Survey programmes concerning the presence of pests

Article 19

Eligible survey programmes

Grants may be awarded to Member States for annual and multiannual survey programmes that they carry out concerning the presence of pests ('survey programmes'), provided that those survey programmes comply with at least one of the following conditions:

- (a) they concern pests listed in Section I of Part A of Annex I to Directive 2000/29/EC and Section I of Part A of Annex II thereto;
- (b) they concern pests covered by a measure adopted by the Commission pursuant to Article 16(3) of Directive 2000/29/EC.

For the pests referred to in point (a) of the first paragraph of this Article, the survey programmes shall be based on an assessment of the risk of the entry, establishment and spread of those pests in the territory of the Member State concerned and shall as a minimum target the pests that pose the main risks and the main plant species that are exposed to those risks.

For measures fulfilling the condition laid down in point (b) of the first paragraph of this Article, the grant shall not cover costs incurred after the expiry of the measure adopted by the Commission pursuant to Article 16(3) of Directive 2000/29/EC.

Article 20

Eligible costs

The following costs incurred by the Member States in implementing the survey programmes referred to in Article 19 may qualify for grants under that Article:

- (a) costs for sampling;

- (b) costs of tests, provided that they are limited to:
 - (i) the costs of test kits, of reagents and of consumables which are identifiable and specifically used for carrying out the tests;
 - (ii) the costs of personnel, regardless of their status, directly involved in carrying out the tests;
- (c) in exceptional and duly justified cases, costs incurred in carrying out necessary measures other than those referred to in points (a) and (b), provided that such measures are set out in the grant decision referred to in Article 22(3) and (4).

Article 21

Content and submission of the survey programmes

1 By 31 May, Member States shall submit to the Commission the survey programmes which are due to start in the following year in respect of which they wish to apply for a grant.

Survey programmes submitted after 31 May shall not be eligible for financing in respect of the following year.

- 2 The survey programmes shall contain at least the following:
- a the pests included in the programme;
 - b a description and demarcation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be applied and a description of the status of those areas as regards the presence of the pests concerned;
 - c the duration of the programme;
 - d the number of visual examinations, samples and tests scheduled for the pests and plants, plants products and other objects concerned;
 - e the estimated budget;
 - f the targets to be attained by the completion date of the programme and the anticipated benefits thereof; and
 - g appropriate indicators to measure the achievement of the targets of the programme.

In each multiannual survey programme, the information referred to in points (b), (d), and (f) of the first subparagraph shall be provided for each year covered by the programme, in the case of significant changes compared to the previous year. The information referred to in point (e) of that subparagraph shall be provided for each year covered by the programme.

Article 22

Evaluation and approval of the survey programmes

1 The Commission shall evaluate the survey programmes taking into account the priorities and criteria set out in the annual or multiannual work programmes referred to in Article 36(1).

- 2 The Commission shall communicate to Member States by 30 November each year:
- a the list of survey programmes technically approved and proposed for co-financing;
 - b the provisional amount allocated to each programme;

- c the provisional maximum level of the Union financial contribution for each programme; and
- d any provisional conditions to which the Union financial contribution may be subject.

3 The Commission shall approve the annual survey programmes and associated funding by 31 January each year by means of a grant decision in relation to the measures implemented and the costs incurred from 1 January to 31 December of that year. Following submission of the intermediate reports as referred to in Article 23, the Commission may, if necessary, amend such decisions in relation to the whole eligibility period.

4 The Commission shall approve the multiannual survey programmes and associated funding by 31 January of the first year of implementation by means of a grant decision in relation to the measures implemented and the costs incurred from 1 January of the first year of implementation until the end of the implementation period.

5 In the case of approval of multiannual survey programmes in accordance with paragraph 4, budgetary commitments may be divided into annual instalments. Where budgetary commitments are so divided, the Commission shall commit the annual instalments taking into account the progress of the programmes, the estimated needs and the budget available.

Article 23

Reporting

For each approved annual or multiannual survey programme, Member States shall submit to the Commission, by 30 April each year, an annual detailed technical and financial report covering the previous year. That report shall include the results achieved, measured on the basis of the indicators referred to in Articles 21(2)(g) and a detailed account of eligible costs incurred. In addition, for each approved annual survey programme, Member States shall submit to the Commission, by 31 August each year, an intermediate financial report.

Article 24

Payments

The payment request for a given year in respect of a survey programme shall be submitted by the Member State to the Commission by 30 April of the following year.

The Commission shall pay the Union financial contribution for the eligible costs following appropriate verification of the reports referred to in Article 23.

Section 3

Programmes concerning the control of pests in outermost regions of the Union

Article 25

Eligible measures and eligible costs

1 Grants may be awarded to Member States for programmes that they carry out for the control of pests in the outermost regions of the Union referred to in Article 349 TFEU in line with the objectives set out in Article 2 of Regulation (EU) No 228/2013 ('programmes for the outermost regions'). Those grants shall concern activities necessary to ensure the correct implementation in those regions of the rules, whether they are Union rules or national rules, in force in those regions, on the control of pests.

2 The following costs incurred by Member States for programmes for the outermost regions may qualify for a Union financial contribution:

- a costs of personnel, regardless of their status, directly involved in the implementation of the measures, as well as the costs of renting equipment, of consumables and of treatment products;
- b costs of service contracts with third parties to execute part of the measures;
- c costs of sampling;
- d costs of tests, provided that they are limited to:
 - (i) the costs of test kits, of reagents and of consumables which are identifiable and specifically used for carrying out the tests;
 - (ii) the costs of personnel, regardless of their status, directly involved in carrying out the tests.

Article 26

Content and submission of the programmes for the outermost regions

1 By 31 May Member States shall submit to the Commission the programmes for the outermost regions which are due to start in the following year in respect of which they wish to apply for a grant.

Programmes for the outermost regions submitted after 31 May shall not be eligible for financing in respect of the following year.

2 The programmes for the outermost regions shall contain at least the following:

- a the pests included in the programme;
- b a description and demarcation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be applied and a description of the status of those areas as regards the presence of the pests concerned;
- c a technical analysis of the regional phytosanitary situation;
- d the duration of the programme;
- e the activities included in the programme and, where relevant, the number of visual examinations, samples and tests scheduled for the pests and plants, plants products and other objects concerned;
- f the estimated budget;

- g the targets to be attained by the completion date of the programme and the anticipated benefits thereof; and
- h appropriate indicators to measure the achievement of the targets of the programme.

In each multiannual programme for the outermost regions, the information referred to in points (b), (e) and (g) of the first subparagraph shall be provided for each year covered by the programme, in the case of significant changes compared to the previous year. The information referred to in point (f) of that subparagraph shall be provided for each year covered by the programme.

Article 27

Evaluation and approval of the programmes for the outermost regions

1 The programmes for the outermost regions shall be evaluated taking into account the priorities and criteria set out in the annual or multiannual work programmes referred to in Article 36(1).

- 2 The Commission shall communicate to Member States by 30 November each year:
- a the list of programmes for the outermost regions technically approved and proposed for co-financing;
 - b the provisional amount allocated to each programme;
 - c the provisional maximum level of the Union financial contribution for each programme; and
 - d any provisional conditions to which the Union financial contribution may be subject.

3 Annual programmes for the outermost regions and associated funding shall be approved by 31 January each year by means of a grant decision in relation to the measures implemented and the costs incurred from 1 January to 31 December of that year. Following submission of the intermediate reports as referred to in Article 28, the Commission may, if necessary, amend such decisions in relation to the whole eligibility period.

4 Multiannual programmes for the outermost regions and associated funding shall be approved by 31 January of the first year of implementation by means of a grant decision in relation to the measures implemented and the costs incurred from 1 January of the first year of implementation until the end of the implementation period.

5 In the case of approval of multiannual programmes for the outermost regions in accordance with paragraph 4, budgetary commitments may be divided into annual instalments. Where budgetary commitments are so divided, the Commission shall commit the annual instalments taking into account the progress of the programmes, the estimated needs and the budget available.

Article 28

Reporting

For each approved annual or multiannual programme for the outermost regions, Member States shall submit to the Commission, by 30 April each year, an annual detailed technical and financial report covering the previous year. That report shall include the results achieved, measured on the basis of the indicators referred to in point (h) of the first subparagraph of Article 26(2) and a detailed account of eligible costs incurred.

In addition, for each approved annual programme for the outermost regions, Member States shall submit to the Commission, by 31 August each year, an intermediate financial report.

Article 29

Payments

The payment request for a given year in respect of a programme for the outermost regions shall be submitted by the Member State to the Commission by 30 April of the following year.

The Commission shall pay the Union financial contribution for the eligible costs following appropriate verification of the reports referred to in Article 28.

CHAPTER III

Financial support to official controls and other activities

Article 30

European Union reference laboratories

1 Grants may be awarded to the European Union reference laboratories referred to in Article 32 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 for the costs that they incur in implementing the work programmes approved by the Commission.

- 2 The following costs may be eligible for grants under paragraph 1:
- a costs of personnel, regardless of their status, directly involved in activities of the laboratories which are carried out in their capacity of Union reference laboratory;
 - b costs of capital equipment;
 - c cost of consumables;
 - d costs of shipment of samples, missions, meetings, training activities.

Article 31

Training

1 The Union may finance the training of the staff of the competent authorities responsible for official controls, as referred to in Article 51 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, in order to develop a harmonised approach to official controls and other official activities to ensure a high level of protection of human, animal and plant health.

2 The Commission shall develop training programmes identifying the priorities for intervention, based on the identified risks for public health, animal health and welfare and plant health.

3 In order to be eligible for Union financing as referred to in paragraph 1, the competent authorities shall ensure that the knowledge acquired through the training activities referred to in that paragraph is disseminated as necessary and that it is appropriately used in the national training programmes.

4 The following costs may be eligible for the financial contribution referred to in paragraph 1:

- a cost of the organisation of the training, including training that is also open to participants from third countries, or exchange activities;
- b costs of travel, accommodation and daily subsistence of the personnel of the competent authorities taking part in the training.

Article 32

Experts from the Member States

A Union financial contribution may be granted for the travel, accommodation and daily subsistence expenses incurred by Member States' experts as a result of the Commission appointing them to assist its experts as provided for in Articles 45(1) and 46(1) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.

Article 33

Coordinated control plans and data collection

1 Grants may be awarded to Member States for the costs incurred for the implementation of the coordinated control plans referred to in Article 53 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 and for data collection.

2 The following costs may qualify for such grants:

- a costs of sampling and laboratory tests,
- b cost of equipment necessary to perform the official control and data collection tasks.

CHAPTER IV

Other measures

Article 34

Information systems

1 The Union shall finance the establishment and operation of the data bases and computerised information management systems, managed by the Commission, which are necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of the rules referred to in Article 1.

2 A Union financial contribution may be granted for the establishment and management of data bases and computerised information management systems of third parties, including international organisations, provided that those data bases and computerised information management systems:

- a have a proven added value for the Union as a whole and are available across the Union to all interested users; and
- b are necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of the rules referred to in Article 1.

Article 35

Implementation and adaptation of the rules

1 The Union may finance technical and scientific work, including studies and coordination activities, necessary to ensure the correct implementation of the rules in respect of the fields referred to in Article 1 and the adaptation of those rules to scientific, technological and societal developments.

A Union financial contribution may also be granted to the Member States or international organisations operating in the fields referred to in Article 1 in order for them to undertake activities in support of the development and implementation of the rules in respect of those fields.

2 Grants may be awarded to projects organised by one or more Member States with the aim of improving, through the use of innovative techniques and protocols, the efficient performance of official controls.

3 A Union financial contribution may also be granted to support information and awareness raising initiatives by the Union and Member States aimed at ensuring improved, compliant and sustainable behaviour in the implementation of the rules in respect of the fields referred to in Article 1.