

COM(75) 273 final

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(75) 273 final

Brussels, 10 June 1975

PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

concerning a financial contribution by the Community
to the Foot and Mouth Disease Institute in Ankara

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(75) 273 final

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Director-General of the FAO has submitted a request to the Commission for a financial contribution from the Community towards the various measures his Institution has undertaken or intends to undertake in the countries of South East Europe and, especially, for the Foot and Mouth Disease Institute in Ankara, for which a sum of one million dollars towards the cost of installations has been requested.

Simultaneously with this request, the Turkish authorities have submitted a request to the Commission for two million dollars, also for laboratory equipment at the Foot and Mouth Disease Institute, stating that this request is complementary to that from the FAO. The total amount involved is therefore three million dollars.

- I. The Foot and Mouth Disease Institute in Ankara was opened in 1967. Its production capacity, in 1973, amounted to about 10 million doses of monovalent vaccine per annum. The Turkish authorities consider this amount insufficient to implement an effective prevention system against foot and mouth disease; they have therefore decided to set up the necessary installations to increase production to 90 million doses of monovalent vaccine per annum. The cost of the necessary works to expand the existing institute will amount to 55 million Turkish pounds (about 3 million dollars). The Community's contribution would be allocated to equipment costs.
- II. The Community has always given a high priority to protecting itself against the danger of an invasion of its territory by exotic strains of foot and mouth virus, since its livestock has not been immunised against these strains (vaccination against exotic strains of virus is banned throughout the Community). Consequently, the Community has undertaken - and continues to undertake - various measures designed to contain this type of disease in areas far from its frontiers by aiding countries afflicted by it. In this way, the Community has participated in the fight against foot and mouth disease in the countries of South East Europe - especially Turkey - by means of subsidies or gifts of vaccine.

To this end, the following amounts have been granted to the FAO:

In 1963	1 508 762
1964-1966	875 000
1968	360 000
1973	600 000
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	3 343 762 US dollars

In addition, in 1974 and 1975, 1 800 000 doses of Asia 1 and Asia 22 vaccine drawn from Community stocks and costing about 500 000 dollars were placed at the FAO's disposal.

These contributions were made partly to establish a buffer zone in Turkish Thrace; this region can be considered as one of the corridors through which epidemic diseases capable of threatening the countries of Western and Central Europe would have to pass. It is therefore essential that this barrier should be maintained in force, and if possible extended to cover the whole of Turkey - especially Eastern Anatolia.

It must be admitted that in existing circumstances the epidemic disease situation in this part of the world cannot be expected to improve appreciably, since Turkey - even in the opinion of its own authorities - has inadequate means at its disposal. In these circumstances, the Community is bound, in its own interest, to continue its aid policy - which, in view of the piecemeal fashion in which it has been granted, constitutes a palliative rather than a real remedy.

Whilst the Turkish project calls for substantial expenditure, if effectively carried out it may avoid repeated expenditure at a later date which would ultimately amount to a much greater sum.

- III. There is no option but to approve this project by the Ankara Institute, therefore, since it will enable Turkey to become self-sufficient in combating and eradicating foot and mouth disease and also because the existence of this barrier against the disease directly reinforces the Community's own protection.

The EEC has been asked for three million dollars to finance equipment costs.

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However, under the present circumstances it would be difficult to grant a subsidy on this scale, especially since the construction works relating to the principal buildings will not be completed until 1977.

It should also be noted that the success of the scheme does not depend solely on the financial resources available, but also on the techniques employed for the production of vaccine. This point of view is shared unanimously by delegations from all Member States. Therefore, besides a reasonable financial contribution, amounting to 1 million dollars for the period up to 31.12.80, the Community could offer Turkey its technical assistance, undertaking the cost of training courses for Turkish research workers in EEC laboratories and visits to the Ankara Institute by EEC experts. This measure would fall within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 1728 of the Council of 27 June 1974, on the coordination of agricultural research¹.

This sum would be paid on submission of the appropriate documents (equipment order forms and receipted invoices).

It is clear that in return, the Turkish authorities must undertake to maintain the existing buffer zone in effect and, in accordance with the objectives they themselves have established, to extend the zone subsequently to other regions (Anatolia).

It should be noted, finally, that the effects of this Community aid cannot be expected to be felt until 1980. Consequently, it is probable that before then the FAO will request further aid from the EEC in relation to the struggle against foot and mouth disease in South East Europe. In this respect, decisions should be taken on the merits of each case; it is clear, however, that contributions of this kind will no longer be justified once the Ankara laboratory has begun production of vaccines of the standard and in the quantities projected.

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¹OJ No L 182, 5 July 1974, p.1

Draft Council Decision

of

concerning a financial contribution by the Community to
the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Institute in Ankara

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

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

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament;

Whereas the Commission should take all appropriate measures to ensure its
protection against the appearance on its territory of exotic strains of
foot-and-mouth virus; whereas the Community's livestock is unprotected by
vaccination against this danger;

Whereas to this end the Community has undertaken in the past, and is
continuing to undertake in the present, action designed to contain outbreaks
of this type of disease far from its frontiers by helping afflicted countries
to strengthen their preventive measures; whereas for this purpose
substantial Community subsidies have already been granted to countries of
South East Europe through the intermediary of the FAO and a quantity
of foot-and-mouth vaccine drawn from Community reserves has also been supplied
to these countries;

Whereas these measures have unquestionably made an effective contribution
to the protection of Community livestock, especially through the
establishment and maintenance of buffer zones in Turkish Thrace;

Whereas, however, in the opinion of the Turkish authorities, the measures
so far implemented must be reinforced to achieve the fundamental objective
of eradicating the disease from the entire country;

Whereas, in order to achieve this aim, substantial works have been undertaken
at the Ankara Institute to make possible a substantial increase in the
production of vaccine by that Institute;

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Whereas this project is thoroughly worthy of approval in that it is designed to give Turkey self-sufficiency in the control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease and protection of the Community against the disease will be directly strengthened by the barrier thus created;

Whereas the Turkish authorities have asked the Community to contribute to the cost of the new installations at the Ankara Institute;

Whereas, without prejudice to any action which may be undertaken within the framework of Regulation (EEC) No 1728/74¹ of the Council of 27 June 1974 on the coordination of agricultural research, a favourable reply to this request is justified and a grant should be made to Turkey, through the intermediary of the FAO, of a subsidy not exceeding one million dollars, having regard in particular to the undertaking by that country to establish a buffer zone on its eastern frontier and completely to eradicate foot-and-mouth disease; whereas, this subsidy being intended to finance installations to be acquired progressively as the project is carried out, it would be appropriate to make provision for its payment in several instalments on submission of appropriate documents;

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

1. Without prejudice to any action which may be undertaken under Regulation (EEC) No 1728/74 of the Council of 27 June 1974 on the coordination of agricultural research, the Community shall contribute over a period expiring on 31 December 1980 a sum not exceeding one million dollars towards the cost of new installations at the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Institute in Ankara.

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¹OJ No L 182 of 5 July 1974, p.1

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2. The subsidy referred to above shall be paid to Turkey through the intermediary of the FAO on submission of appropriate official documents by the Turkish authorities.

Article 2

The Commission shall be responsible for keeping a check on the use to which the money referred to in Article 1 is put and shall report to the Council on the implementation of this Decision.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President

Fiche financière succincte concernant
les propositions d'actions nouvelles

	Rubrique correspondante de la "fiche DG XIX"
1. Ligne budgétaire concernée	3103
2. Intitulé de l'action	Contribution financière de la CEE en faveur de l'Institut de la fièvre aphteuse d'Ankara.
3. Base juridique (disposition d'un traité ; décision ou mandat du Conseil)	Proposition à soumettre au Conseil.
4. Objectif de l'action	La contribution est destinée à l'achat d'une partie de l'équipement pour le nouveau laboratoire de l'Institut de la fièvre aphteuse d'Ankara.
5. Coût de l'action	
5.0 Coût total pendant toute la durée envisagée	D'après les renseignements fournis, environ 6.000.000 dollars US
5.0.0 A la charge du budget de la Communauté	1.000.000 dollars US (830.000 UC)
5.0.1 A la charge des administrations nationales	} 5.300.000 dollars US
et	
5.0.2 A la charge d'autres secteurs au niveau national	
5.1 Echancier pluriannuel	La contribution sera versée par tranches en fonction de la progression des travaux : 1975 : 100.000 dollars US (83.000 UC) 1976 : 400.000 dollars US (332.000 UC) 1977 : 250.000 dollars US (207.000 UC) 1980 : (fin des travaux prévue) 250.000 dollars US (207.000 UC).
6. Financement	
6.2 Financement possible par virement entre chapitres du budget en cours d'exécution	Pour la tranche 1975 : (83.000 UC) un virement de crédit du chap. 99 au poste 3103 du budget 1975 sera demandé au Conseil.
6.4 Crédits à inscrire dans les budgets futurs	Les montants des tranches prévues pour 1976-1977 et 1980 seront inscrits dans les budgets correspondants.

