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In accordance with Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 354/83 of 1 February 1983 concerning the opening to the public of the historical archives of the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community (OJ L 43, 15.2.1983, p. 1), as amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1700/2003 of 22 September 2003 (OJ L 243, 27.9.2003, p. 1), this file is open to the public. Where necessary, classified documents in this file have been declassified in conformity with Article 5 of the aforementioned regulation.

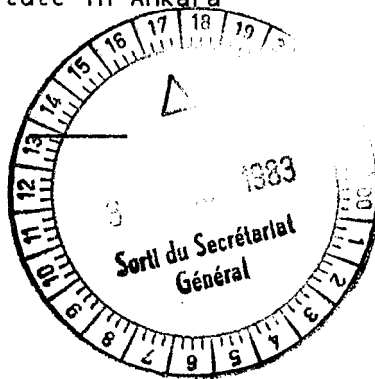
In Übereinstimmung mit der Verordnung (EWG, Euratom) Nr. 354/83 des Rates vom 1. Februar 1983 über die Freigabe der historischen Archive der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und der Europäischen Atomgemeinschaft (ABl. L 43 vom 15.2.1983, S. 1), geändert durch die Verordnung (EG, Euratom) Nr. 1700/2003 vom 22. September 2003 (ABl. L 243 vom 27.9.2003, S. 1), ist diese Datei der Öffentlichkeit zugänglich. Soweit erforderlich, wurden die Verschlussachen in dieser Datei in Übereinstimmung mit Artikel 5 der genannten Verordnung freigegeben.

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(83) 553 final

Brussels, 29 September 1983

Proposal for a
COUNCIL DECISION
on a financial contribution to the Foot-and-Mouth Disease
Institute in Ankara



(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(83) 553 final

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. The Turkish authorities have asked the Commission for a financial contribution from the Community towards the new Foot-and-Mouth Disease Institute in Ankara. The present Institute, opened in 1967, can produce only 8 to 10 million doses of monovalent foot-and-mouth vaccine per year, not enough according to the Turkish authorities to ensure effective protection against the disease on Turkish territory. The new Institute is designed to produce at least 40 million monovalent vaccine doses per year.
2. In 1975, by Council Decision 75/776/EEC of 16 December 1975, the EEC granted the Ankara Institute an initial financial contribution amounting to 1 million US dollars; this sum was used between 1978 and 1980 to purchase certain items of equipment (968 303 US dollars) and to finance technical assistance (training courses and consultancy services: 31 697 US dollars).

According to the information received from the Turkish authorities construction work on the new Institute is now at a very advanced stage and it is time to proceed with the procurement and installation of the necessary equipment.

3. The Ankara Institute has recently concluded a collaboration agreement with the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emilia de Brescia, Italy, with a view to obtaining technical back-up for the project. Under the agreement the Brescia Institute is to provide its Turkish counterpart with technical assistance, notably in examining and selecting the equipment needed by the Ankara Institute to reach its production target, checking the satisfactory operation of the equipment supplied and installing it, producing and monitoring the vaccine and training Turkish staff. This collaboration constitutes a guarantee for the implementation of the project.

4. The Turkish request this time is for DM 8 344 000 (3 681 366 ECU); according to the study carried out jointly by experts from the Ankara and Brescia Institutes, this sum should be enough to cover the following costs:
- acquisition of the equipment for the new Ankara Institute;
 - training courses for Turkish staff in the Community and technical collaboration between the Brescia and Ankara Institutes.
5. The Community has always made efforts to protect itself against the danger of exotic strains of foot-and-mouth virus appearing on its territory as its livestock is not immunized by vaccination against these viruses. Hence its efforts, past and present, to keep outbreaks of this type of disease far from its frontiers. Since 1962 it has contributed financially towards maintaining the vaccination buffer zone in south-east Europe along the frontiers between Bulgaria and Turkey and Greece and Turkey to prevent exotic strains of foot-and-mouth virus spreading towards Europe. This is one of the routes which the epizootic diseases capable of threatening Western and Central Europe would have to take.

It is therefore essential for this buffer area to be maintained. The move by the Turkish authorities to increase the present scale of foot-and-mouth vaccination on their territory and, above all, systematic vaccination along Turkey's eastern frontier will strengthen Europe's protection against the disease.

The granting of the financial contribution to the Ankara Institute is therefore very much in the Community's interest.

6. The actual granting of the financial contribution is subject to the Turkish authorities agreeing to the Commission and Court of Auditors monitoring the use made of the sum awarded.

Proposal for a
COUNCIL DECISION

on a financial contribution 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 Community should take all appropriate measures to ensure its protection against the risk of exotic strains of foot-and-mouth virus appearing on its territory, particularly as its livestock is not immunized by vaccination against these viruses;

Whereas to this end the Community has undertaken, and continues to undertake, action designed to keep outbreaks of this type of disease far from its frontiers by helping countries affected to strengthen their preventive measures; whereas, for this purpose, substantial Community subsidies have already been granted to the countries of south-east Europe through the FAO;

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

Whereas, however, the measures implemented hitherto must be reinforced if the campaign against foot-and-mouth disease is to be improved;

Whereas, in order to achieve this aim, substantial work has been undertaken at the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Institute in Ankara in order to increase significantly the production of vaccine by that Institute;

Whereas this work must be approved as it will enable Turkey to intensify its campaign against foot-and-mouth disease, having regard in particular to the undertaking given by that country to ensure the maintenance of the buffer vaccine zone against this disease in Turkish Thrace;

Whereas, by Council Decision 75/776/EEC¹ the Community has already made an initial financial contribution to the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Institute in Ankara ;

Whereas the Turkish authorities have again asked the Community to contribute to the Ankara Institute; whereas a favourable reply should be given to this request;

Whereas a technical collaboration agreement has been concluded between the Ankara Institute and an animal health institute in a Member State;

Whereas the Standing Veterinary Committee should be kept regularly informed of progress on the project as a whole,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

1. The Community shall make a financial contribution to a project at the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Institute in Ankara, during the 1983, 1984 and 1985 financial years.
2. The contribution referred to in paragraph 1 shall be for the financing of:
 - new equipment for the Ankara Institute,
 - technical assistance and training courses for Turkish staff in the Community.
3. The contribution referred to in paragraph 1 shall be paid by the Commission, up to the amount set aside for the purpose in the general budget of the European Communities, after production by the Turkish authorities of official supporting documents.

Article 2

The Commission shall be responsible for monitoring the use made of the contribution referred to in Article 1. It shall report to the Council and the European Parliament on the implementation of this Decision.

At least once a year it shall also inform the Standing Veterinary Committee of progress on this project.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

¹ OJ No L 326, 18.12.1975, p. 16.

