



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

Brussels, 11.9.2014  
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**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of 11.9.2014**

**authorising the use of reimbursement of unit costs under the European Statistical  
Programme**

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### authorising the use of reimbursement of unit costs under the European Statistical Programme

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 5 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2013 on the European Statistical Programme 2013-2017<sup>2</sup> (hereinafter referred to as European Statistical Programme),

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union<sup>3</sup> (hereinafter referred to as the 'Financial Regulation'), and in particular Article 124(1) thereof,

Having regard to Commission delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union<sup>4</sup> (hereinafter referred to as the 'Rules of Application') and in particular 182 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Article 124(1) of the Financial Regulation, the use of lump sums, unit costs or flat-rate financing shall be authorised by way of a Commission decision ensuring respect for the principle of equal treatment of beneficiaries for the same category of actions or work programmes.
- (2) In accordance with Article 124(2), that authorisation shall be supported by the justification of the forms chosen, the identification of the costs or categories of costs covered, the description of the methods for determining the amounts and the conditions for reasonably ensuring that the no-profit and co-financing principles are complied with and that double financing of costs is avoided.
- (3) In accordance with Article 5(3) of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009, the national statistical institutes and other national authorities responsible for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics as designated by Member States may receive grants without a call for proposals.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 87, 31.3.2009, 164.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 39, 9.2.2013, p.12.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p.1.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p.1.

- (4) Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 makes a distinction between the national statistical institutes and other national authorities responsible in each Member States for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics;
- (5) In accordance with Article 5(1) of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009, the national statistical institutes have the responsibility for coordinating all activities at national level for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics and shall act as the contact point for the Commission (Eurostat) on statistical matters.
- (6) Other national authorities may be designated by Member states, to produce European statistics for specific or regional statistical domains. Given the specificities of national institutional set-ups, and the possible changes to the list of other national authorities designated by the Member-states in accordance with article 5(2) of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009, those other national authorities may not be in a position to prepare for the introduction of unit costs already in 2015.
- (7) To prevent any disruption in the production of European statistics, in 2015 derogation may be granted by the Commission (Eurostat) to other national authorities, for actions where their input is absolutely necessary to achieve the expected results.
- (8) The method for calculating unit costs aims at simplifying the reimbursement of personnel costs for both, beneficiaries and the Commission (Eurostat). To keep the number of unit costs at a reasonable level, while taking due account of the costs actually incurred, unit costs have to be calculated at the level of pay grades based on official national salary grids (or assimilated) for the public service.
- (9) International organisations with which the Commission has concluded bilateral agreements are excluded from the scope of this decision,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

#### *Article 1*

Beneficiaries of grants under the European Statistical Programme shall declare eligible direct personnel costs on the basis of unit costs authorised for the reasons and under the conditions set out in the Annex 1. The authorisation applies to grants financed by appropriations the implementation of which is delegated to Eurostat or sub-delegated to Eurostat by other Directorates-General.

#### *Article 2*

For 2015 only, derogation may be granted by the Authorising officer by delegation to other national authorities included in the list referred to in Article 5(2) of Regulation (EC) 223/2009.

When such derogation has been granted, other national authorities must declare personnel costs on the basis of costs actually incurred.

Done at Brussels, 11.9.2014

*For the Commission*  
*Algirdas ŠEMETA*  
*Member of the Commission*