

**PART III 12.III.H**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SHEET ON AID TO  
PRODUCER GROUPS**

*This form must be used for the notification of any state aid measures meant to provide aid to producer groups as described by chapter IV.H. of the Community Guidelines for State aid in the agricultural and forestry sector 2007-2013<sup>1</sup>*

**1. TYPE OF AID**

1.1. Does the aid concern start-up aid to newly established producer groups?

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yes

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no

1.2. Does the aid concern start-up aid to newly established producer associations (i.e. a producer association consists of recognised producer groups and pursues the same objectives on a larger scale)?

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yes

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no

1.3. Is the aid granted towards eligible expenses limited to and resulting from a year-on-year increase in turnover of the beneficiary by at least 30% due to the accession of new members and/or the coverage of new products?

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yes

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no

1.3.1. If yes, how much is the increase in turnover of the beneficiary?

1.3.2. Is the increase in turnover of the beneficiary due to

☐

the accession of new members

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the coverage of new products

☐

both

1.4. Is aid granted to cover the start-up costs of associations of producers, which are responsible for the supervision of the use of geographical indications and designations of origin or quality marks in conformity with Community law?

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yes

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no

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<sup>1</sup> OJ ...

- 1.5. Is the aid granted to other producer groups or associations, which undertake tasks at the level of agricultural production, such as mutual support and farm relief and farm management services, in the members' holdings without being involved in the joint adaptation of supply to the market?

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yes

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no

*If yes, please note that aid to these groups or associations is not covered by chapter IV.H. of the Guidelines . Please refer to the relevant legal basis.*

- 1.6. Is aid granted to producer groups or associations to cover expenses, which are not linked to setting-up costs, such as investments or promotion activities?

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yes

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no

*If yes, the aid will be assessed in accordance with the specific rules governing such aids. Please refer to the relevant sections of the notification form.*

- 1.7. In case of an aid scheme, can you confirm that it will be adjusted to take account any change in the regulations governing the common organisations of the market?

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yes

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no

- 1.8. Is aid granted directly to producers to offset their contributions to the cost of running the groups or associations during the first five years following the formation of the group or association?

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yes

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no

- 1.8.1. If yes, will the overall amount granted directly to producers respect the limit for maximum support (EUR 400 000)?

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yes

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no

## 2. BENEFICIARY

2.1. Is the start-up aid granted exclusively to small and medium-sized enterprises?

☐ yes ☐ no

2.2. Is start-up aid granted to producer groups or producer associations which are entitled to assistance under the legislation of the Member State concerned?

☐ yes ☐ no

*If the answer is no, please refer to Article 9 (2) of Commission Regulation (EC) No ...<sup>2</sup>.*

2.3. Is the aid granted only if all the following rules are respected:

- The obligation on members to market production in accordance with the rules on supply and placing on the market, drawn up by the group or association (the rules may permit a proportion of the production to be marketed directly by the producer);

☐ yes ☐ no

- the obligation for producers joining the group or the association to remain members for at least three years and give at least 12 months notice of withdrawal;

☐ yes ☐ no

- common rules on production, in particular relating to product quality, or use of organic practices, common rules for placing goods on the market and rules on product information, with particular regard to harvesting and availability?

☐ yes ☐ no

*If any of the answers to section 2.3 above is no, please refer to Article 9 (2) of Commission Regulation (EC) No ... for the list of eligibility criteria for support to producer groups or associations.*

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<sup>2</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No .../.. of 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 of agricultural products and amending Regulation (EC) 70/2001 (OJ ...).

2.4. Does the producer group or association comply fully with all relevant provisions of competition law, in particular Articles 81 and 82 of the Treaty?

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yes

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no

2.5. Does the aid measure/scheme clearly exclude production organisations such as companies or co-operatives the objective of which is the management of one or more agricultural holdings and which are therefore in effect single producers?

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yes

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no

*If no, please note that, according to Article 9 (5) of Commission Regulation (EC) No ... , producers should remain responsible for managing their holdings.*

2.6. Does the aid measure/scheme, clearly exclude any aid to producer groups or associations the objectives of which are incompatible with a Council Regulation setting up a common market organisation?

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yes

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no

*If no, please note that, under Article 9 (8) of Commission Regulation (EC) No ... , under no circumstances can the Commission approve an aid which is incompatible with the provisions governing a common organisation of the market or which would interfere with the proper functioning of the common organisation*

### 3. AID INTENSITY AND ELIGIBLE COSTS

3.1. Can you confirm that the total amount of aid granted to a producer group or association will not exceed EUR 400 000?

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yes

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no

3.2. Does the aid measure/scheme clearly exclude that aid is paid in respect of costs incurred after the fifth year?

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yes

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no

3.3. Does the aid measure/scheme clearly exclude that aid is paid following the seventh year after recognition of the producer organisation?

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yes

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no

*If the answer to any of the questions of point 3.2 and 3.3 above is no, please note that Article 9 (4) of Commission Regulation (EC) No ... clearly excludes aid for costs incurred after the fifth year and aid paid after the seventh year after recognition of the producer organisation.*

3.4. Do the eligible expenses, both in case of aid granted to producers groups or associations and in case of aid granted directly to producers, include only:

- the rental of suitable premises or
- the purchase of suitable premises (the eligible expenses are limited to rental costs at market rates);
- the acquisition of office equipment, including computer hardware and software, administrative staff costs, overheads and legal and administrative fees?

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yes

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no

*If the answer is no, please refer to the list of eligible expenses set in Article 9 (3) of Commission Regulation (EC) No ... .*