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COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE EVALUATION

Accompanying the document

**REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND
TO THE COUNCIL**

Mid-term evaluation of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council 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

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Regulation (EU) No 652/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 (hereinafter: CFF Regulation) lays down provisions for the management of expenditure relating to the food chain, animal health and animal welfare, plant health and plant reproductive material.

Article 42 of the CFF Regulation provides that the Commission shall establish and present to the European Parliament and to the Council a mid-term evaluation report on whether, in terms of their results and impacts, the animal health and plant health measures (Chapters I and II of Title II) and the European Union Reference laboratories and Better Training for Safer Food activities (Articles 30 and 31 of Chapter III) achieve the objectives set out in the Regulation itself (Article 2(1)), as regards the efficiency of the use of resources and its added value, at Union level.

The CFF Regulation involves an average annual spending of EUR 270,3 million, with a maximum ceiling for expenditure of EUR 1 891 936 000 over the 7-year period 2014-2020.

The present Staff Working Document (SWD) summarises the outcome of the mid-term evaluation exercise, which included an external study complemented by the internal assessment performed by the Commission. The evaluation fully covers the implementation of the above-referred measures in the 28 EU Member States for 2014, 2015 and, partially, for 2016, dependant on preliminary data available. The SWD provides a qualitative and quantitative overview of those measures and assesses them against the five evaluation criteria set by the Better Regulation¹ policies in the European Commission: relevance, European added value, effectiveness, efficiency and coherence.

Based on the analysis performed, it can be concluded that the CFF Regulation is highly **relevant** in the area of food chain: ensuring a high status of human, animal and plant health, it helps to protect more than 500 million of European consumers and facilitates the functioning of agri-food supply chains. The majority of the activities covered by the CFF Regulation proved to be **effective** in achieving the CFF objectives, and showed progress in the indicators used to monitor the CFF measures implemented. Also the outcome of the consultation process revealed a large appreciation of the EU financial contribution in those areas. Overall, the use of CFF financial resources is **efficient** and consistent with the results achieved. Particularly, in the veterinary area, the improvement of the animal health status is accompanied by a progressive and significant reduction of the financial resources needed. The CFF Regulation has shown to be largely **coherent** with other EU and national policies in the area of food safety. Primary agriculture coherence is reflected in the complementarity of the CFF regulation and Common Agriculture Policies. The measures co-financed by the CFF Regulation strongly contribute to creating **EU added value**. Member States benefit from the prioritised and targeted implementation of EU co-funded activities, especially for emergency, eradication, control and monitoring measures for animal diseases and plant pest throughout the Union.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-making-process/better-regulation-why-and-how_en

Overall, the mid-term evaluation revealed that the CFF Regulation is functioning well within its policy context. All activities receiving EU financial support in this area have proven to serve the CFF objectives, namely the improvement of human, animal and plant health, as well as the overall Commission's priorities, including the functioning of an effective internal market and the support to trade with non-EU countries.

The EU financial provisions on food safety, animal and plant health have been recognised as uniform and consistent in their application and enforcement in all EU Member States. This ensures in turn that both citizens and businesses are confident that this financial framework is fair and effective in promoting high safety standards in a key sector of the EU economy. The activities funded under the CFF Regulation contribute to an EU which is safe and secure, prosperous and sustainable, social, and stronger on the global scene.