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Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(5.12.2025)

1. A detailed list of actions to tackle sheep and goat pox (SGP) in every Member States is not currently available. Preventive measures can be supported through the publicly available Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) Strategic Plans (CSPs). Exceptional EU support[1] may also be granted to cover market losses incurred by farmers located in areas under movement restrictions by veterinary measures. Support can also be granted under the Agricultural de minimis Regulation[2], under the Agricultural Block Exemption Regulation (ABER)[3] or the Agricultural State aid Guidelines[4].

2. The Greek authorities communicated to the Commission under SA.118530 (2025/XA) a State aid scheme under the ABER[5], based on the Ministerial Decision 59322/26923/5-3-2025 addressing also SGP[6]. Greece has not submitted related SGP requests for Measure 23 under the rural development programme or for exceptional market support measures under the Common Market Organisation. In addition, risk management, investments in biosecurity and agricultural restoration under the CSP, are tools that have not been used yet by Greece to tackle SGP.

3. To ensure effective and timely use of the above-mentioned instruments, the Commission is continuously providing guidance and technical support to Member States through regular communication. The Commission encourages Member States to make full use of the available financial and technical assistance available under the CSPs and the State aid rules, to protect the agricultural sector and prevent permanent production losses. However, the final decision on the allocation and implementation of these tools lies with the Member States.

[1] Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 671).
[2] Commission Regulation (EU) No 1408/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid in the agriculture sector, as amended (OJ L 352, 24.12.2013, p. 9).
[3] Commission regulation (EU) 2022/2472 of 14 December 2022 declaring certain categories of aid in the agricultural and forestry sectors and in rural areas compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (OJ L 327 21.12.2022, p. 1).
[4] Communication from the Commission Guidelines for State aid in the agricultural and forestry sectors and in rural areas 2022/C 485/01, C/2022/9120, OJ C 485, 21.12.2022, p. 1–90, as amended by Communication from the Commission correcting the Guidelines for State aid in the agricultural and forestry sectors and in rural areas, C/2024/1902, OJ C 1902, 5.3.2024.
[5] https://competition-cases.ec.europa.eu/cases/SA.118530.
[6] Government Gazette 1011/B/2025.