

EN

E-004411/2025

Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(19.1.2026)

As the Commission noted in its reply to written question E-001489/2025¹, it is the responsibility of the Member States to ensure that payments are disbursed to the beneficiaries in full and within the payment deadlines as laid down by Union law². Member States must ensure that the area and animal-based payments are made between 1 December and 30 June of the calendar year following the applications, after sufficient checks have been carried out by the national authorities. Payments outside the deadlines lead to proportionate reductions from EU contribution to Member States' outlays of up to 100%³. This constitutes an incentive for Member States to pay farmers on time.

The Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development is closely monitoring the execution of payments and is in contacts with the Greek authorities on a regular basis including during the monitoring committees⁴.

The Commission does not give support, or advance payments to cover delays caused by administrative failures. Greece has benefited in the past from EU funding under the agricultural reserve to cover losses linked to natural disasters. In December 2023, the Commission allocated EUR 43 million emergency financial support for the agricultural sectors most impacted by wildfires and floodings, which affected Greece during August and September 2023⁵. Greece paid this amount to the beneficiaries almost in full by end May 2024. Moreover, under its Rural Development Programme, Greece is currently implementing measure 23 'Additional assistance to Member States affected by natural disasters', for which EUR 142.8 million of Union financing was allocated.

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-001489-ASW_EN.html.

² Articles 38, 44 and 59 of Regulation (EU) 2021/2116 — <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/2116/oj>.

³ Article 5(2) of Regulation (EU) 2022/127 — http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2022/127/oj.

⁴ <https://www.agrotikianaptixi.gr/category/epitropi-parakolouthisis-sskap-2023-2027/synedriaseis-epitropi-parakolouthisis-sskap-2023-2027/>.

⁵ http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2023/2820/oj.