

EN

E-001375/2026

Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(21.5.2026)

The Commission cooperates with the Greek authorities to support the sound management of EU funds. Under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), it is a shared objective to ensure timely payments to genuine Greek farmers. Member States should set up the aid application system in line with the applicable rules and ensure that, following sufficient checks, payments are made in full and on time to beneficiaries¹. The Commission obtains assurance on whether the Member States management and control systems effectively protect the EU financial interests through the audits of the national certification bodies. The Commission performs also its own audits of these systems. In case of deficiencies, the Commission opens a conformity procedure determining a financial risk to the EU budget. The Commission performed multiple audits of CAP funds spending in Greece and, in several cases, decided on financial corrections.

Some of the issues identified remain relevant and are covered by ongoing enquiries. The Commission specifically addresses the issues concerning agricultural activity under its current audit work and the action plan presented by the Greek authorities for the Integrated Administration and Control System.

Due to non-compliances with the accreditation criteria, in September 2024 the Greek authorities put the accreditation of OPEKEPE under probation and initiated an action plan to address those issues. In March 2026, the competent authority reported completion of this action plan and restored the accreditation of the paying agency. The Commission plans to audit its implementation.

The Commission is also aware of the European Public Prosecutor's Office investigations but cannot comment on ongoing criminal investigations.

¹ Article 38, Article 44 and Article 59 of Regulation (EU) 2021/2116 - <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/2116/oj/eng?uri=CELEX:32021R2116>.