

EN
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Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(29.6.2026)

Under the shared management of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), and with the objective to ensure timely payments to farmers, Member States must set up the aid application systems 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 the Member States' management and control systems through the audits of these systems, including by the national Certification Bodies.

On specific measures taken, the Commission performed multiple audits of CAP spending in Greece and, in several cases, decided on financial corrections. The national authorities must recover the irregularly spent funds from the beneficiaries who committed the irregularities.

In September 2024, the Greek authorities put the paying agency OPEKEPE's accreditation on probation due to several deficiencies that were identified and designed an action plan to address them. On 12 March 2026, the Greek authorities reported that the accreditation action plan was fully implemented and reinstated the accreditation of the paying agency.

The Commission received the report from the competent authority on completion of the action plan. An accreditation audit mission is planned during which the auditors of the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development will review the effective implementation of the actions included in the accreditation action plan and check whether these actions effectively address the issues at stake.

Regarding the European Public Prosecutor's Office investigations, the Commission 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>.