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Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(11.12.2025)

The Commission recently carried out an Information Systems Security (ISS) audit at the Slovak paying agency. The audit detected no immediate threat to payment continuity or to the protection of EU financial interest. The paying agency is taking adequate measures to mitigate risks linked to the potential change of IT contractor and to ensure continuity of operations.

It is the responsibility of the Member State to set up the aid application system in line with the legal requirements and to ensure that payments are fully disbursed to beneficiaries within the deadlines set by Union law. When Member States pay farmers outside the deadlines, the Commission may reduce the reimbursement to the Member State of the EU financing by up to 100%.

So far the Commission has not been informed of issues related to non-payment and procurement irregularities involving the IT provider. When the Commission becomes aware of any suspected cases of fraud, corruption or any other illegal activity affecting the EU budget, it informs the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and, where applicable, the European Public Prosecutor’s Office (EPPO) without any delay.