



submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution

Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

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Document version number: 2022 1.0

Member state : KYPROS

Disease Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

This program is multi annual :

Request of Union co-financing from beginning : To end of

1. Contact data

Name	Phone
Email	Your job type within the CA :

Submission Date
05/12/2022 09:51:44

Submission Number
1670226705459-19035



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2. Description of the programme

Please give a short description of the programme (max. 32000 chars) :

Monitoring in bovine animals:

The objective of the programme in bovines is the implementation of the surveillance programme for BSE as laid down in ANNEX III, Chapter A, (I) of Regulation 999/2001 as amended.

Brain samples for BSE testing are taken from all bovines of the following groups:

- no age limit in bovine animals showing any neurological sign
- dead animals over the 48 months of age.
- emergency slaughtered animals over 48 months of age.
- animals over 48 months of age with clinical signs at ante-mortem.

In case we test risk bovine animals born in MSs not listed in the Annex to the Commission Decision 2009/719/EC, the age limits (in months) scheme applied in these countries will be taken into consideration.

Since 1st January 2015, Cyprus is not testing any bovine animal slaughtered for human consumption (Decision 2013/76/EC).

The objectives of the programme in small ruminants are:

- a. To implement a TSE monitoring and surveillance programme as laid down in Reg. (EC) 999/2001.
- b. To identify all scrapie infected flocks.
- c. To implement a breeding programme for TSE resistance in the entire sheep and goat population, which is considered an essential tool to combat the disease.
- d. To implement in conjunction with the breeding programme, a solid identification system by means of electronic ID, which is a prerequisite for the effective control of the breeding programme and of the movements.

The main elements of the programme are:

- a) The regular inspections of all flocks.
- b) Individual identification of all animals by means of ruminal boluses and eartags.
- c) The movement restrictions for infected flocks according to Regulation (EC) 999/2001 as amended.
- d) The confiscation, killing and destruction of animals with suspect clinical symptoms and compensation of the farmers.
- e) The testing of confiscated suspect animals in accordance to point 3.2 of Chapter C of ANNEX X to Regulation (EC) 999/2001.
- f) The examination of fallen stock and healthy slaughtered animals over 18 months of age of infected flocks by rapid test. Ovine animals of the ARR/ARR genotype and caprine animals carrying at least one of the K222, D146 or S146 alleles are exempt.
- g) The examination of fallen stock over 18 months of age of non-infected flocks by rapid test with the exception of ARR/ARR (in accordance to point 3, Part II of ANNEX III to Regulation (EC) 999/2001).
- h) The genotyping of the lambs and kids intended for breeding.
- i) The obligatory use of ARR/ARR rams for infected flocks in order to increase the resistant genotype.
- j) The genotyping of all kids focusing at codons 146 and 222 of the goat PrP protein gene.
- j)The governmental nucleus units will continue to provide the farmers with ARR/ARR rams and 146S or 146D he-goats.

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3. Description of the epidemiological situation of the disease

Last year's No of cases	Total No	No of classical cases	No of atypical cases	No of undetermined cases
BSE case	0	0	0	0
Scrapie case (ovine)	2	2	0	0
Scrapie case (caprine)	139	139	0	0
Last case of		date (classical case)	date (atypical case)	date (undetermined case)
BSE		0	0	0
Scrapie (ovine)		22/06/2021	0	0
Scrapie (caprine)		16/12/2021	0	0

Comments (if any)

BSE

The bovine holdings in Cyprus are currently 357 and the animal population counts 81218 animals. Brain samples for BSE testing are taken from fallen stock over the 48 months of age, emergency slaughtered animals over 48 months of age and bovines exhibiting clinical signs of neurological disease. Since 1st January 2015, Cyprus is not testing any bovine animal slaughtered for human consumption. During the years 2001 to 2021, more than 92,500 animals have been examined by rapid test, all with negative results.

BSE has never been diagnosed in Cyprus so far. In case a positive BSE case is found by rapid test, the sample will be sent to Histology Laboratory for confirmatory testing by Immunohistochemistry (according to Annex X, Chapter C, point 3.1 (b) of Regulation (EC) 999/2001.

SCRAPIE

Scrapie was first diagnosed in Cyprus in 1985 in sheep and in 1986 in goats.

During 2021, 104 (64 mixed flocks, 32 with goats, 8 with sheep) infected flocks out of 2529 (4.11%) were active. The animal population attributed to the 104 infected flocks is 52,149 animals, 22,890 sheep and 29,259 goats.

Fallen stock and healthy slaughtered animals of infected flocks over 18 months of age, are examined by rapid test. Ovine animals of the ARR/ARR genotype and caprine animals carrying at least one of the K222, D146 or S146 alleles are exempt. In addition, fallen stock of non-infected flocks over 18 months of age, are examined in accordance to Annex III, Chapter A (II). Furthermore, fallen stock and slaughtered animals are sampled according to article 12 of Reg. (EC) 999/2001.

In case of a positive result on rapid test, the sample is sent to Histology Laboratory for confirmatory testing by Immunohistochemistry (according to Annex X, Chapter C, point 3.2 (b) of Regulation (EC) 999/2001. In case of a positive result which is an index case, then the sample is also sent to the NRL of Greece for Discriminatory testing. Since 2012, 120,693 of the healthy slaughtered category and fallen stock animals have been tested with rapid test. Out of those 120,693 samples, 2,628 were found positive and 118,065 negative. In addition, 4636 goats and 0 sheep were confiscated as TSE suspect cases. 3,706 of those were found positive, 891 negative and 39 were inconclusive. Three atypical cases have been found, one in 2015, one in 2018 and one in 2019.

The decreasing number of positive samples in sheep is attributed to the breeding program which started in 2004 and significantly improved the resistance to scrapie in sheep. Around 99% of sheep have

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nowadays at least one resistant allele in their genotype. Regarding goats, a genotyping program has started in 2009 and around 70% of goats have at least one resistant allele in their genotype.

4. Measures included in the programme

4.1 Designation of the central authority in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme

(max. 32000 chars) :

According to the Animal Health Law No. 109(I)/2001 as amended, Official Competent Authority responsible for the organization, implementation and monitoring of the programme are the Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment.

4.2 Description and delimitation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be applied

(max. 32000 chars) :

The TSE monitoring and control program applies over the entire area of the Republic of Cyprus, which is under the effective control of the Government of Cyprus.

4.3 System in place for the registration of holdings

(max. 32000 chars) :

All the holdings of bovine, ovine and caprine animals are registered in the electronic Database of the Animal Identification and Registration Scheme.

Information regarding a holding including its geographical coordinates is recorded.

According to Reg. (EU) 429/2016 and Reg. (EU)2035/2019 all premises, even with only one animal, are uniquely registered. The system in place for the registration of the holdings and the codification used is as follows:

CYS1234567 (for sheep and goats)

CYB1234567 (for bovines)

Where

CY= Country code

S = applies for holdings with sheep or goats B = applies for holdings with bovines

1 = District code (Values from 1-6)

234= together with the district code builds the geographical code of the village or area where the holding is located

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4.4 System in place for the identification of animals

(max. 32000 chars) :

The Animal Identification and Registration Scheme foresees the individual identification of all animals, bovines, ovines or caprines.

A full functioning web-enabled electronic Database is in place.

All bovine animals according to Regulation 1760/2000/EC and all sheep and goats in compliance with the provisions of Regulations 520/2021, 2035/2019 and 429/2016 are individually identified, registered and recorded in the computerized database.

The bovine animals are identified with plastic eartags on both ears. Sheep and goats are identified by a ruminal bolus and plastic eartags where this is possible according to the size of the pinna. The identification of sheep and goats is carried out by the personnel of the Veterinary Services with the exception of animals intended for slaughter. In that case, the identification is done by the farmers with the application of two eartags.

The eartag code is of the following format:

CY2 12345678

CY = Country code

2 = The first digit following the country code represents the animal kind. The digit 2 as in our example represents a small ruminant thus a sheep or a goat. The digit 1 instead represents a bovine animal.

234567= a consecutive number

8 = check digit (calculated by a formula)

The ruminal boluses bear the country code (196) followed by 0's up to the last 8 digits of the code which follow the code format described above. Each ruminal bolus is packed together with the corresponding eartag, on which the last 8 digits of the relevant ruminal bolus is printed, plus the check digit as described above.

The boluses are used for both lambs and kids at maximum 4 months of age.

4.5 Measures in place as regards the notification of the disease

(max. 32000 chars) :

According to the Animal(s) Health Law 109(I) 2001, Article 6, it is compulsory for every one to report without any delay to the official Veterinary Services the suspicion of BSE or Scrapie.

In Cyprus BSE is a notifiable disease since June 1990 and Scrapie since 1987.

In the case of notification the official competent authority immediately applies all the foreseen by the law measures and also any other measures that are considered as necessary.

During their regular visits to the farms, the Veterinary Officers pay special attention to identify animals with suspect TSE signs.

4.6 Testing

4.6.1 Rapid tests in bovine animals

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Targets for year

2023

	Age (in months) above which animals are tested	Estimated number of animals to be tested	Estimated number of rapid tests, including rapid tests used for confirmation
Healthy slaughtered bovine animals born in Ms listed in Annex to CD2009/719/EC	0	0	0
Risk animals born in MS listed in Annex to CD 2009/719/EC	48	2 500	2 500
Healthy slaughtered bovine animals NOT born in MS listed in Annex to CD 2009/719/EC	30	0	0
Risk animals NOT born in MS listed in Annex to CD 2009/719/EC	24	0	0
Suspect animals (as referred to in Art 12.2 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001)		2	2

4.6.2 Rapid tests on small ruminants

The sampling rules applicable for the monitoring of ovine and caprine animals slaughtered or not for human consumption (described below as healthy slaughtered/dead animals) are in compliance with provisions of Annex III, II, 4 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001, in particular:

- Animals are over 18 months of age or have more than two permanent incisors,
- No over-representation of any group (origin, age, breed, production type, etc),
- Sampling representative of each region and season,
- Multiple sampling in the same flock avoided whenever possible,
- A system is in place to ensure that in successive sampling years, all officially registered holdings with more than 100 animals where TSE cases have never been detected are subject to TSE testing,
- A system is in place to check that animals are not being diverted from sampling (except derogation communicated to the Commission):

yes

no

If no please explain.

4.6.2.1 Rapid tests on ovine animals

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Estimated population of adult ewes and ewe lambs put to the ram.

260 640

Targets for year

2023

	Estimated number of animals to be tested
Healthy slaughtered ovine animals (a)	0
Dead ovine animals (b)	1 500
In the context of measures of control/eradication on holdings affected by TSE as described in Annexes III and VII of the TSE regulation	
Ovine animals from holdings affected by classical scrapie	1 500
Ovine animals from holdings affected by atypical scrapie	0
Ovine animals from holdings affected by BSE	0
Suspect animals (c)	300
Total number of tests	3 300

(a) Annex III, A, II, 2 of the TSE regulation

(b) Annex III, A, II, 3 of the TSE regulation

(c) Art 12 of the TSE regulation

4.6.2.2 Rapid tests on caprine animals

Estimated population of female goats and female kids mated

187 460

Targets for year

2023

	Estimated number of animals to be tested
Healthy slaughtered caprine animals (a)	0
Dead caprine animals (b)	500
In the context of measures of control/eradication on holdings affected by TSE as described in Annexes III and VII of the TSE regulation	
Caprine animals from holdings affected by classical scrapie	3 000
Caprine animals from holdings affected by atypical scrapie	0
Caprine animals from holdings affected by BSE	0
Suspect animals (c)	300
Total number of tests	3 800

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- (a) Annex III, A, II, 2 of the TSE regulation
- (b) Annex III, A, II, 3 of the TSE regulation
- (c) Art 12 of the TSE regulation

4.6.3 Confirmatory tests **other than rapid tests** as referred to in Annex X Chapter C of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001

Targets for year 2023

	Estimated number of tests
Confirmatory tests in Bovine animals	2
Confirmatory tests in Ovine and Caprine animals	200

4.6.4 Discriminatory tests (Annex X.C point 3.1 (c) and 3.2 (c)(i) of Regulation (EC) No 999(2001)

Targets for year 2023

	Estimated number of tests
Primary molecular testing on bovine animals	2
Primary molecular testing on ovine and caprine animals	15
Total	17

4.6.5 Genotyping of positive and randomly selected animals

Adult sheep population

More than 750,000 animals

Less than or equal to 750,000 animals

Targets for year 2023

	Estimated number
Genotyping of TSE cases	0
Random genotyping	0

4.7 Eradication

4.7.1 Measures following confirmation of a TSE case in bovine animals

4.7.1.1 Description

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(max. 32000 chars) :

In case a bovine animal is confirmed to be positive to BSE by laboratory examination the inquiry referred to in Article 13(1)(b) must identify:

- all other ruminants on the holding of the animal in which the disease was confirmed,
- where the disease was confirmed in a female animal, its progeny born within a period of two years prior to, or after, the clinical onset of the disease. A thorough epidemiological investigation is carried out to identify all animals at risk.
- all animals of the cohort of the animal in which the disease was confirmed,
- the possible origin of the disease,
- other animals on the holding of the animal in which the disease was confirmed or on other holdings which may have become infected by the TSE agent or been exposed to the same feed or contamination source,
- the movement of potentially contaminated feedingstuffs, of other material or any other means of transmission, which may have transmitted the TSE agent to or from the holding in question;
- decontamination procedures will be undertaken on any materials and equipment that came in contact with slaughtered animals

4.7.1.2 Summary table

Targets for year

2023

	Estimated number
Bovine animals culled and destroyed	2

4.7.2 Measures following confirmation of a TSE case in ovine and caprine animals

4.7.2.1 Description

(max. 32000 chars) :

In the case of TSE suspicion in sheep and goats or where an animal is proven to be positive to scrapie by laboratory examination, the following measures are applied by the Veterinary Services to the establishment of origin of the positive animal:

- the establishment is placed under movement restrictions,
- the establishment is subject to the conditions set out in option 1 or 2 or 3 (according to Annex VII, point 2.2.2 (b) or (c) or (d) of EC Regulation 999/2001). The final decision of the strategy is made according to the dominant genotypes prevailing in the establishment. In case it is difficult to obtain replacement of male ovine animals of the ARR/ARR genotype and female ovine animals carrying at least one ARR allele and no VRQ allele, or caprine animals carrying at least one of the following alleles: K222, D146 and S146 or the frequency of the ARR allele within the ovine breed or holding or the K222, D146 or S146 alleles within the caprine breed or holding is low or it is deemed necessary in order to avoid inbreeding, the establishment is set in option 3.
- The farmers whose establishment is set in option 3 are obliged to remove animals with susceptible genotypes little by little.
- the trade of animals for the aims of reproduction is only allowed for the categories of animals as laid down under Point 3 and 4 Chapter B of Annex VII to Reg. (EC) 999/2001,
- a written notification is given to the farmers about the applied restrictions on the establishment
- an analytical epidemiological investigation is carried out in order to detect the possible source of

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infection and an eventual spreading of the disease,

- animals with suspect clinical symptoms are confiscated and their market value is estimated
- confiscated suspect animals are killed, sampled and forwarded to the incinerator for complete destruction
- all the animals of the establishment which are over the age of 18 months and have died or have been slaughtered for human consumption (ovine animals of the ARR/ARR genotype and caprine animals carrying at least one of the K222, D146 or S146 alleles are exempt), are tested for the presence of TSE (according to Annex VII, point 3 or 4 of EC Regulation 999/2001).
- frequent inspections of the affected units are then carried out by the Veterinary Services for the early detection of suspect scrapie affected animals
- the Veterinary Services include the establishment in the list of priority to provide it with ARR/ARR rams or 146S or 146D he-goats from the nucleus units as soon as such animals are available.

If BSE cannot be excluded after the results of the secondary molecular testing carried out in an ovine or caprine animal in accordance with the methods and protocols set out in Annex X, Chapter C, point 3.2(c) (ii), the killing and complete destruction, without delay, of all animals, embryos and ova identified by the inquiry referred to in the second to fifth indents of point 1(b).

The animals over 18 months of age killed for destruction shall be tested for the presence of TSE in accordance with the laboratory methods and protocols set out in Annex X, Chapter C, Part 3, point 3.2, as laid down in Annex III, Chapter A, Part II, point 5.

The milk and the milk products derived from the animals to be destroyed, which were present on the holding between the date of confirmation that BSE cannot be excluded and the date of complete destruction of the animals, shall be disposed of in accordance with Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009.

Following the killing and complete destruction of all animals, the conditions set out in point 3 of Annex VII of Reg. (EC) 999/2001 shall apply to the holding

4.7.2.2 Summary table

Targets for year

2023

	Estimated number
Ovine and caprine animals culled and destroyed (due to classical scrapie)	110
Ovine and caprine animals compulsory slaughter (due to classical scrapie)	0
Genotyping tests - monitoring and eradication measures	0

4.7.3 Breeding programme for resistance to TSEs in sheep

4.7.3.1 General description

Description of the programme according to the minimum requirements set out in Annex VII, Chapter B of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001

(max. 32000 chars) :

The PrP-genotyping of lambs and kids intended for breeding will be also continued in 2021-2022. In accordance to article 6A and chapter C of annex VII of Regulation (EC) 999/2001, all the minimum requirements for a breeding programme for resistance to TSEs in ovine and caprine animals are set.

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Aim of the programme is to apply selective breeding for resistance in the flocks and increase the frequency of the ARR allele within the ovine population in Cyprus and the frequency of the 146S or 146D allele in the goat population.

The Ministerial Order 545/2005 issued on the 2nd of December 2005 provides for the genotyping of all ovine animals over 35 days of age intended to remain in the flock for breeding purposes. It also provides for the Electronic Identification of the genotyped animals.

The Ministerial Order 44/2008 amending the Order 545/2005 provides after the 1st of July 2008 for exclusive use for breeding purposes only of ARR/ARR rams in all farms with ovine animals.

The breeding for resistance is compulsory for all flocks with ovine animals.

Since 2004 more than 1,320,720 ovine animals have been genotyped thanks to the financial contribution of the Community approved by the European Commission for that purpose.

The determination of the PrP-genotype of all the young ovine animals on the establishments will provide the Veterinary Services and the farmers the possibility to select the resistant and productive animals for breeding and for the substitution purposes in the establishment.

In 2004, a small scale genotyping programme covering 30,000 animals was co-financed by the European Union. Flocks were selected according to the numbers of resistant rams received.

The aim of this selection was to identify as many ARR/ARR animals as possible so that they could be introduced in other flocks with scrapie. Because the capacity of the two nucleus units was relatively limited and the demand for ARR/ARR rams very high, the genotyping programme of 2004 was planned so to help in the direction of creating other private nucleus units. The identification of as many ARR/ARR rams as possible facilitated an exchange of these animals between the establishments. This exchange of rams between flocks helped to avoid possible inbreeding.

4.7.3.2 Summary table

Targets for year

2023

	Estimated number
Ewes to be genotyped under the framework of a breeding programme referred to in Article 6a of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001	63 000
Rams to be genotyped under the framework of a breeding programme referred to in Article 6a of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001	7 000
Total	70 000

5. Costs

5.1 Detailed analysis of the costs

(max. 32000 chars):

It is estimated that about 2512 bovine animals will be tested by rapid test in 2023. In sheep and goats it is estimated that about 7100 animals will be tested by rapid test. The confirmatory test IHC it is estimated that will be performed in 200 cases of sheep and goats. The Primary molecular tests on index cases will be approx. 15. These samples will be sent to the Greek TSE's National Laboratory and they will perform the test on our behalf. Therefore, they will claim the relevant amount and not CY. The breeding program will cover both sheep and goats and it will cover the lambs and kids to be born in 2023 and will be kept for breeding. Even though only genotyping in lambs is now co-financed, it is estimated that about 70000 lambs (63000 females and 7000 males) and 70000 kids will be tested.

As regards the confiscation of bovine animals, even though it is actually not expected to have a positive BSE case, we would suggest to allocate an amount of Euro in the case an emergency occurs.

In sheep and goats, it is estimated that about 110 animals will be confiscated during 2023. This number includes animals with suspect clinical symptoms.

5.2 Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme

Costs of the planned activities for year :

2023

5.3. Financial information

1. Identification of the implementing entities - financial circuits/flows

Identify and describe the entities which will be in charge of implementing the eligible measures planned in this programme which costs will constitute the reimbursement/payment claim to the EU. Describe the financial flows/circuits followed.

Each of the following paragraphs (from a to e) shall be filled out if EU cofinancing is requested for the related measure.

a) Implementing entities - **sampling**: who performs the official sampling? Who pays?
(e.g. authorised private vets perform the sampling and are paid by the regional veterinary services (state budget); sampling equipment is provided by the private laboratory testing the samples which includes the price in the invoice which is paid by the local state veterinary services (state budget))

(max. 32000 chars):

Cyprus Veterinary Services` trained personnel perform the official sampling and they are paid by the state budget. Sampling equipment is paid by the Veterinary Services (state budget) according to the relevant tender.

b) Implementing entities - **testing**: who performs the testing of the official samples? Who pays?
(e.g. regional public laboratories perform the testing of official samples and costs related to this testing are entirely paid by the state budget)

(max. 32000 chars):

Veterinary Services`s Laboratories perform the testing of official samples and costs related to this testing are paid by the Veterinary Services (state budget).

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c) Implementing entities - **compensation**: who performs the compensation? Who pays?
(e.g. compensation is paid by the central level of the state veterinary services,
or compensation is paid by an insurance fund fed by compulsory farmers contribution)

(max. 32000 chars):

There is a committee which prepares a protocol with the prices and the way they should be calculated in order to correspond to the market value, taking into account several parameters such as breed, age, production direction etc and proposes regularly the maximum values that should be put based on actual market prices. Each time there is an animal in a farm with suspicious clinical signs, the local veterinary officer confiscate the animal. Prior to the killing of the animal, another Committee using the guidelines and the maximum values prepared by the previous Committee evaluates the animal according to the above parameters, in order to compensate the farmer. The cost of the compensation is financed by the budget of the state.

d) Implementing entities - **vaccination (if applicable)** : who provides the vaccine and who performs the vaccination?
Who pays the vaccine? Who pays the vaccinator?
(e.g. farmers buy their vaccine to the private vets, send the paid invoices to the local state veterinary services which reimburse the farmers of the full amount and the vaccinator is paid by the regional state veterinary services)

(max. 32000 chars):

N/A

e) Implementing entities - **other essential measures**: who implements this measure? Who provides the equipment/
service? Who pays?

(max. 32000 chars):

N/A

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2. Source of funding of eligible measures

All eligible measures for which cofinancing is requested and reimbursement will be claimed are financed by public funds.

yes

no

3. Additional measures in exceptional and justified cases

In the "*Guidelines for the Union co-funded veterinary programmes*", it is indicated that in exceptional and duly justified cases, additional necessary measures can be proposed by the Member States in their application.

If you introduced these type of measures in this programme, for each of them, please provide detailed technical justification and also justification of their cost:

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Attachments

IMPORTANT :

- 1) The more files you attach, the longer it takes to upload them .
- 2) This attachment files should have one of the format listed here : jpg, jpeg, tiff, tif, xls, xlsx, doc, docx, ppt, pptx, bmp, pna, pdf.
- 3) The total file size of the attached files should not exceed 2 500Kb (+- 2.5 Mb). You will receive a message while attaching when you try to load too much.
- 4) IT CAN TAKE **SEVERAL MINUTES TO UPLOAD** ALL THE ATTACHED FILES. Don't interrupt the uploading by closing the pdf and wait until you have received a Submission Number!
- 5) Only use letters from a-z and numbers from 1-10 in the attachment names, otherwise the submission of the data will not work.

List of all attachments

	Attachment name	File will be saved as (only a-z and 0-9 and -_):	File size
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	19035_14737.pdf	19035_14737.pdf	288 kb
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