Dear [Art.4.1 (b) - privacy],

Thank you for your email of 25 August 2021 regarding changes to national apiculture programmes following note Ares(2021) 4963274 of 4 August 2021.

Member States may amend the budgetary allocations for each measure within their apiculture programmes to reflect our latest note of 4 August 2021, provided that the overall ceiling on planned annual expenditure is not exceeded and that the Union contribution to the apiculture programmes remains equivalent to 50% of the expenditure borne by the Member States for approved programmes1.

The updates of budgetary allocations in the national programmes do not fall under amendments that would require notification or Commission approval. Only requests for amendments entailing the introduction of a new measure or the withdrawal of a measure shall be notified to the Commission by the Member States and approved by the Commission before they are implemented as laid down in Article 6(2) and (3) of Regulation (EU) 2015/13682.

The present opinion expresses the view of the Commission services and does not commit the European Commission. In the event of a dispute involving Union law it is, under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, ultimately for the Court of Justice of the European Union to provide a definitive interpretation of the applicable Union law.

Yours faithfully,

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