Question for written answer E-006630/2014 to the Commission Rule 130 Davor Škrlec (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Share-out of additional funding for the promotion of food products

The agricultural sector in the EU as a whole is a victim of the Russian sanctions. In view of the serious effects of the sanctions, the EU has agreed to grant additional aid, which is to be allocated to producers of explicitly listed products. On 3 September 2014 the Commission confirmed its decision to provide an additional EUR 30 million for foodstuff promotion programmes over and above the EUR 60 million earmarked in the annual budget for the common agricultural policy.

The Croatian public are already aware that mandarins, the food product in Croatia being hit hardest by the sanctions, are not on the list and not eligible to benefit from the necessary aid. I personally have received several enquiries from small-scale producers whose livelihood depends on the sale of this fruit.

- 1. Which budget heading is being used to provide the additional funding?
- 2. What criteria will be observed for the purpose of apportioning this funding among Member States? To put it another way, how will Member States proceed when applying for a share of the funding?
- 3. If producers operate on when all is said and done a small scale, how will they obtain funding to promote their products? Will a grant for a given product be subject to the condition that the product must be on the above-mentioned list?

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