

**Question for written answer E-007950/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Paul Brannen (S&D)

Subject: Support for ACP and LDC farmers in connection with the expiry of EU sugar quotas

The steep decline in the price of sugar in the EU as a result of the decision to implement the elimination of sugar beet quotas in 2017 is causing hardship for farmers in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries and in the Least Developed Countries (LDC) in advance of 2017. Market prices are already falling in anticipation of the end of quotas.

It is looking increasingly likely that access to the EU sugar market will no longer be financially viable for many of these farmers. This would mean a widespread loss of livelihood and the threat of poverty for farmers who for generations have relied on sugar exports to Europe.

1. How will the Commission ensure that these farmers and their communities will be able to support themselves in the future?
2. Will the Commission ensure that targeted transitional support is made available to meet farmers' needs?
3. Will the Commission commit to ensuring that any monies not spent from the Accompanying Measures for Sugar Protocol are made available to the countries to which such aid was originally allocated?