

**Question for written answer E-011136/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Palm oil production: adverse impact on the environment and public health and ethical implications

In certain areas of the world, including Indonesia and Malaysia, palm oil production is resulting in the depletion of tropical forests, including the last of those remaining on the island of Sumatra, thereby undermining biodiversity and destroying natural habitats.

In addition to causing deforestation, which is jeopardising species such as the Sumatran orang-utan (*Pongo abelii*), palm oil production is also encouraging land grabbing, resulting in the displacement of millions of African and Asian families.

Under Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council, the general term 'vegetable oils and fats' must be replaced in lists of food ingredients with specific indications of the type of oil used.

In view of this:

1. Will the Commission seek to halt deforestation and uphold the FAO Committee on World Food Security guidelines for the responsible management of land, forest and water resources?
2. Does the Commission intend to take action to protect endangered species and combat land grabbing?
3. Given that vegetable fats, including olive oil, are regarded as a major cause of childhood obesity, does the Commission not consider that it should take further action to raise awareness by means of food labelling?