

**Question for written answer E-008370/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ian Duncan (ECR)

Subject: Directive 2003/59/EC on the requirement for professional driver training

Examples have been raised of the above directive being interpreted in an overly restrictive manner, despite the previous Commission stating that 'the Directive establishes a series of exemptions including an exemption for drivers carrying material or equipment as part of their work, provided that driving is not the driver's principal activity'.

Overly restrictive interpretations of what could be classified as 'material or equipment' are resulting in disproportionate consequences for some farmers - for whom livestock is the 'material or equipment' on which their business depends.

1. Can the Commission give an update on a working group established to examine exemptions to the above directive, particularly in relation to exemptions for agriculture?
2. Does the Commission have any plans to revise the directive – or issue new guidance on it – to ensure that exemptions are applied evenly across Member States?