

**Question for written answer E-009815/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Bart Staes (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Phytosanitary certification for impregnated wood

Directive 2000/29 specifies that certain types of wood that are imported into the EU must have a phytosanitary certificate. To obtain such a certificate the wood must have undergone heat treatment (HT). This treatment is important to prevent the spread of diseases, fungi and invasive exotics within the EU. However when impregnated wood from the US is exported to the EU it must also undergo this HT, although impregnation offers at least equal protection against the spread of diseases, fungi and invasive exotics. The US uses HS code 4407100102 – ‘Wood treated with paint, stain, creosote or other preservative’. This corresponds to EU code 440310¹. However this code still requires a phytosanitary certificate with the accompanying HT.

1. What is the reasoning behind the obligation for impregnated wood to undergo additional HT before it can be imported into the EU?
2. Does this HT offer protection in addition to that offered by impregnation?
3. If HT does not offer protection in addition to that offered by impregnation, is the EC prepared to review the requirement for a phytosanitary certificate for wood imported under goods code 440310?

¹

http://exporthelp.europa.eu/thdapp/display.htm?page=re/re_ClassifyingWood.html&docType=main&languageId=EN