

**Question for written answer E-010684/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Falling, increasingly remote bonito catches

Over the past few years, and for reasons presumably linked to climate change and physical and biological factors of unknown magnitude, bonito stocks have gradually moved away from the Cantabria coastline. This has resulted in a significant drop in the number of catches – 2 800 tonnes in 2014, down from 6 300 in 2013 and 141 280 in 2006 – and a reduction in profitability, as fishing fleets are forced to travel large distances to make the catches.

This problem, common to a number of regions of Spain, is having an adverse effect on a fisheries sector that accounts for more than half of fishers' annual income.

Is the Commission aware of this problem, which has affected fishing fleets for a number of years, and the huge losses it is causing? Is the Commission planning to look into providing some form of compensation to the sector to offset these severe economic losses?