Question for written answer E-011505/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Julie Girling (ECR)

Subject: Distribution of medicine by charities

Charities such as Jacob's Well Appeal have in the past distributed medicine donated by individuals to developing countries in Eastern Europe and Africa.

According to Directive 2001/83/EC and the guidelines on the good distribution practice of medicinal products for human use (2013/C 343/01), anyone distributing medicines must have the appropriate authorisation to do so. This is of course extremely important, given the EU's high regard for patient safety. However, as individuals who donate medicines to the above-named charity do not possess such authorisation, the charity is unable to distribute the medicines concerned to those in need.

Has the Commission considered exemptions in these circumstances, and would such exemptions be feasible in practice?