

**Question for written answer E-000594/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: The Acuamed case and Commissioner Cañete

The state-owned company Acuamed (Aguas de las Cuencas Mediterráneas), controlled by Spain's Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, carries out various water infrastructure projects in Spain, some with European funds.

A judicial investigation has been opened, with the participation of the Anti-Corruption Office, into fraud in procurement, cost overruns, the misappropriation of public funds and kickbacks. Thirteen people have so far been arrested, of whom five are currently serving unconditional prison sentences. The presiding judge wrote in the arrest warrant that the investigation went beyond the suspects arrested and that very senior figures in the ministry were implicated. A witness has named Miguel Arias Cañete, Minister for Agriculture and Environment during the events under investigation, and current Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, as party to the fraud.

Will OLAF be taking any action on this matter?

What steps will the Commission take if Commissioner Cañete is implicated in this case? What is the Commission's course of action if a commissioner is subject to a legal investigation?