

**Question for written answer E-003795/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Palm oil tax

In France, a draft law on biodiversity that is currently under consideration will impose a tax on palm oil produced using non-environment friendly methods. Under the draft law, every tonne of palm oil exported into France will be subject to additional tax, which will increase progressively from EUR 30 in 2017 to EUR 90 in 2020.

The tax will not affect palm oil from the many agro-food producers that have already been certified as sustainable (and, in particular, whose production methods are in line with RSPO standards).

In this context, can the Commission say if the introduction of a tax of that kind is compatible with international trade laws, in particular Article 110 TFEU and Article III (2) of the GATT Agreement of 1994, which states that 'the products of the territory of any contracting party imported into the territory of any other contracting party shall not be subject, directly or indirectly, to internal taxes or other internal charges of any kind in excess of those applied, directly or indirectly, to like domestic products'?

Is the Commission planning to introduce similar measures at EU level?