Question for written answer E-005570/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Mireille D'Ornano (ENF)

Subject: Food products from cloned animals

In December 2013, the Commission put forward a proposal to ban animal cloning in the EU. In September 2015, Parliament broadened the scope of this proposal by recommending a ban on the sale of meat or milk from descendants of cloned animals and calling for traceability to be mandatory.

In November 2015, an expert report conceded that such products may have ended up on EU consumers' plates, as a result of meat, milk and genetic material – the latter used for animal breeding purposes in the EU – being imported from the US, China, Argentina, Brazil, Canada and Australia.

In its 2008 report and 2009 and 2010 statements, the European Food Safety Authority outlined the health and welfare implications for cloned animals: high levels of mortality in gestation, difficult births and severe birth defects.

- 1. Does the Commission take the view that people in the EU have the right to know whether they are eating food products from cloned animals?
- 2. Will it acknowledge that cloning is detrimental to animal health and welfare?

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