

**Question for written answer E-005638/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Philippe Juvin (PPE)**

Subject: Rules on botanical products

In 2016, as part of the REFIT (Regulatory Fitness and Performance Programme) exercise, the Commission will carry out a consultation procedure to determine the best way of dealing with more than 2000 health claims made on botanical products, the validity of which has still to be assessed under Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006. The approach which will be chosen will have major implications for all the Member States, but particularly for France and Italy, which have the largest botanical dietary supplements markets in Europe and well-developed regulatory systems. Given that 90% of the businesses active in the dietary supplements industry are SMEs, an appropriate regulatory approach should reflect best practices at national level.

Can the Commission confirm whether it will take such practices into account when drawing up the EU rules for this sector?