

**Question for written answer E-005861/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică (S&D)

Subject: Zimbabwe

The United Nations Development Programme working in Zimbabwe has announced that the number of people affected by drought in the country is rising to 4 million. The number of food-insecure people in Zimbabwe is expected to increase to over 4 million during the next peak of the lean season (January-March 2017). Food insecurity levels have increased significantly in all of the country's 60 districts, and in particular in the 20 most food-insecure districts. According to the Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee's 2016/2017 Rural Livelihood Assessment report, the impact of the El Niño-induced drought is being felt not only in rural areas, but also in urban areas. Has the Commission considered contributing to the drought response, such as by providing joint support to the urban vulnerability assessment and strengthening the monitoring system in programme implementation?