

**Question for written answer E-007854/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: ACP copra oil energy generation project on Ambae Island, Vanuatu

In 2007 the EU began this project with the goal of improving access to energy services in three villages on Ambae Island, through the use of locally produced copra oil as a biofuel. This project was scheduled to be completed in 2013, but work allegedly lagged and it finished only in September 2016.

Up to 21 million vatu (approximately EUR 179 000) may have been embezzled or misspent as part of this EU aid project.

The EU Delegation announced that an audit is being undertaken into the project, but for the moment no concrete steps have been taken by either the EU or the local authorities to find out what exactly happened with the copra oil energy generation project.

When will the conclusions of the audit be published?

What will the EU do to guarantee the transparency and objectiveness of these conclusions and help to bring those responsible to justice in the event of corruption?

What are the concrete steps being taken by the EU to avoid corruption and embezzlement of funds within aid projects?