

**Question for written answer E-002108/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Acuamed, water collection project in Algeciras - allocation of funds

Acuamed, a Spanish state-owned company run by the Ministry of Agriculture, is being investigated by the High Court for alleged fraud in the awarding of a works contract for a water project. On 22 February, Judge Velasco officially reiterated his request –a first request went unanswered by the ministry – for documentation on the work to install a collecting system in Algeciras (Cádiz). It is suspected that the contract was pre-awarded at the request of Mayor and Senator José Ignacio Landaluce (Partido Popular) well before the necessary legal framework and budget allocation were in place. EU Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete, who was then the Minister of Agriculture, is alleged to have facilitated the signing of the contract.

In addition, Acuamed received substantial financial support through the Cohesion Fund and the Regional Development Fund.

1. Has the Directorate-General for Regional Policy received any information on the possible allocation of EU funds for this project?
2. Are the Finance and Agriculture Ministries cooperating adequately with the European Anti-Fraud Office on the Acuamed case?
3. Does the Commission intend to investigate the role which Mr Arias Cañete may have played in facilitating the signing of the contract?