Question for written answer E-004368/2017 to the Commission Rule 130 Mireille D'Ornano (ENF)

Subject: Atrazine exports to third countries

According to the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research, atrazine damages fœtal development and children's neurological systems. The European Chemicals Agency believes that this herbicide also affects adults' organs and can cause allergic reactions to the skin. That is why Commission Decision 2004/248/EC bans atrazine from plant protection products and withdraws prior authorisations for products containing the substance.

According to the Swiss NGO Public Eye, however, a number of European countries export atrazine. In France, the Environment Ministry itself managed the exports of the pesticide. The exports were mainly to developing countries, which would then suffer the health consequences of using atrazine.

- 1. Does the Commission have any information to support or refute these accusations?
- 2. Does the Commission intend to take specific measures to prevent dangerous substances banned in the EU from being exported to third countries?

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