

**Question for written answer E-005566/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Xabier Benito Ziluaga (GUE/NGL), Miguel Urbán Crespo (GUE/NGL) and Estefanía Torres
Martínez (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Fraudulent procurement - The role of Commissioner Arias Cañete and allocation of EU funds

In its answer to Written Question E-002108/2017, the Commission stated that 'all relevant decisions related to the contract mentioned by the Honourable Members were taken when Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete was no longer Minister of Agriculture of the Spanish Government'. However, Acuamed signed an agreement with the Community of Councils of Campo de Gibraltar and ARCGISA on 4 March 2014¹, when Mr Arias Cañete still was Spain's Minister of Agriculture — he ceased to be a Minister on 28 April 2014 — clear proof that he played an important role.

1. Was the Commission aware of this agreement?
2. In light of this document, does the Commission still consider that Mr. Arias Cañete had no connection with the procurement procedure?

In the same reply, the Commission also stated that 'the European Regional Development Fund and the Cohesion Fund have not contributed to the project' by Acuamed for water works in Algeciras (Cádiz). However, according to the Spanish Ministry of Finance, said project received EU funds in 2016².

3. What steps does the Commission intend to take should European funds be used to finance illegal works?

¹ <http://www.acuamed.es/sites/default/files/prensa/archivos/4-mar-14.pdf>.

² <http://www.dgfc.sepg.minhafp.gob.es/sitios/dgfc/es-ES/Beneficiarios%20Fondos%20Feder%20y%20Fondos%20de%20Cohesin/AN2917.pdf>, p. 54.