

**Question for written answer E-006922/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Plague in Madagascar: protection of travellers and support for the Malagasy authorities

Since August 2017, Madagascar has been facing an epidemic of the plague with 1801 confirmed cases as at 30 October 2017.

Although a fall in the number of cases has been recorded as of November, the World Health Organisation expects the outbreak to last until April 2018, with a high risk at a national level and a moderate risk at an international level.

On 27 October 2017, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control issued general recommendations for European travellers.

1. Given the geographical proximity to Madagascar of certain French overseas territories, including La Réunion and Mayotte, does the European Commission not consider that there is an urgent need to issue specific recommendations, in particular as regards the control of passengers from Madagascar?
2. Will the Commission adopt temporary measures concerning imports of living organisms – notably mammals – from Madagascar?
3. Is the European Commission providing material and financial support to the Malagasy authorities, notably through the National Indicative Programme for the period 2014-2020 and its department for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection? Does the Commission intend to provide exceptional assistance to the Malagasy authorities to respond to this health crisis?