

**Question for written answer E-001019/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Rachida Dati (PPE)

Subject: Misuse of impregnated mosquito nets

Mosquito nets impregnated with insecticide are an important tool in combating malaria in developing countries. Working together as part of the 'Roll Back Malaria' partnership, the WHO, the UN and the EU are the world's foremost distributors of mosquito nets. The nets helped cut malaria rates by 37% globally between 2000 and 2015.

According to a report in the scientific journal PLOS ONE, however, it is common practice in a number of countries for impregnated mosquito nets to be used as fishing nets, and this poses a major risk to fish stocks. The fine mesh of the mosquito net is not selective, and catches fish that have not yet grown large enough to be fished legally. What is more, the insecticide dissolves in the water, and this is hazardous both for the seabed and for the health of fish. According to the report, there are 26 countries in which impregnated mosquito nets are being misused in this way.

Is the Commission therefore intending to take action to prevent impregnated mosquito nets from being used as fishing nets? Are awareness-raising campaigns going to be mounted that focus on the adverse effects of misusing the nets in this way?