

**Question for written answer E-001245/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Tom Vandenkendelaere (PPE)

Subject: Decision by Congo concerning imports of pigmeat and African swine fever

In response to the outbreak of African swine fever in Belgium, as many as 21 third countries are currently imposing restrictions on imports of pigmeat from domestic pigs (despite the fact that in Belgium only wild boar are suffering from African swine fever). Recently, the Democratic Republic of Congo became the 22nd country to join this list, which was already too long. A striking aspect of the DRC's press release is that it refers to pigmeat from the Netherlands, and that an instruction has also been given to close Congolese territory to imports of all pigmeat from anywhere in the European Union.

1. Can the Commission confirm that pigmeat from the Netherlands is not so far infected with African swine fever and that Congo therefore presumably does not have any good reason to close its market on account of Dutch pigmeat?

2. What will the Commission do with regard to the import ban on all pork from across the European Union so as to ensure that measures are taken only in relation to certain specific Member States, while others can still continue to export?