

**Question for written answer E-002256/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Replacement of the Export Certificate for products from third countries with entry into the Union by digitisation systems at source

Agricultural associations emphasise the benefits that European producers would derive from the digitisation at source of trade flows from third countries, since - according to them - this would entail greater transparency, the planning of the inspection controls, the centralisation of information and the monitoring of volumes and make available statistical data for preparing possible applications of the safeguard clause, inter alia.

In fact, they point out that the current Export Certificates involve excessive red tape and propose digitisation at source as a more automated, simpler system and as a basic tool offering the agricultural product observatories promoted by the Commission direct access.

In view of the above:

- 1) Why has the Commission decided not to apply digitisation at source of trade flows to imports of agricultural products into the European Union as an alternative to the current Export Certificate?
- 2) Could the implementation of such a measure be envisaged in the coming years for imports from third countries?