

ORAL QUESTION H-0975/08
for Question Time at the part-session in January 2009
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure
by Eoin Ryan
to the Council

Subject: Effective distribution of European aid to developing countries

The European Union is the world's largest giver of aid to the developing world, yet a BBC Panorama programme broadcast in late November 2008 highlighted how this aid is too often misspent, inefficiently used, or fails to reach its target population. Among the many issues highlighted was the inefficiency of aid spent in the education sector, where money is spent on buildings rather than on training and wages, with the result that teaching standards can be low. There are often high levels of teacher-absenteeism as teachers are forced to work in multiple jobs to get by. Such trends could very easily lead to a very worrying and frankly unacceptable situation where the MDG 2 of universal primary education is superficially achieved, but with the education being of such a low standard as to be of little merit or value in changing the lives of the children involved. What measures or changes does the Council envisage to ensure that European aid is more effectively distributed and employed?

Tabled: 02.12.2008
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