

**Question for written answer P-015653/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Jean Lambert (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: Humanitarian situation in Nepal

Following the devastating earthquakes in April 2015, Nepal and its people are continuing the struggle to rebuild their livelihoods. With the onset of winter, the situation is growing more dire each day, made worse by the unofficial 'blockade' affecting fuel supplies. UNICEF has warned that as many as three million children under the age of five are at risk of death or disease due to the fuel, food and medicine shortage.

Earlier this year, international donors donated approximately USD 4 billion to Nepal's humanitarian relief effort through the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund – a large part of which came from the EU and its Member States. As it now stands, the promised Reconstruction Authority, which was meant to disburse these funds, has yet to be set up, meaning that much-needed aid has yet to reach the people.

Is the Commission, in particular DG-ECHO, aware of the reasons behind the delay in setting up the Reconstruction Authority in Nepal, and has the urgency behind establishing this institution been discussed with Nepalese counterparts?

What does the Commission plan to do in the event of a prolonged fuel, food and medicine shortage in Nepal in order to prevent the existing humanitarian crisis from getting worse?