Question for written answer P-015885/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Norbert Erdős (PPE)

Subject: Immediate secondary testing of honeys from third countries

Every year the Association of Hungarian Beekeepers (AHB) carries out honey testing under the auspices of the Member State apiculture programme. Serious deficiencies showed up during the 2015 tests in connection with commercially available samples that had been put up and packaged by mixing EU Member State honeys with imported non-EU honeys.

The reports showing the results of the nuclear magnetic resonance tests carried out at the Eurofins laboratory in France reveal that a considerable quantity of imported honey of objectionable quality is coming into the European Union. I have six test reports in my possession proving that in each case imported honey of objectionable quality was used for the products that were tested.

I would like to put the following questions to the European Commission:

- 1. Is the Commission willing to immediately order secondary testing of honeys from third countries and make official testing of all commercially available packaged honey more stringent?
- 2. What steps is the European Commission planning to take in the interest of effectively inspecting imported honey shipments that fail to comply with the EU food safety regulations?
- 3. What specific steps is the Commission planning in order to effectively screen mixed honeys put on the European Union's internal market that do not comply with the European Union's consumer protection regulations and marking rules?