Question for written answer P-000506/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Merja Kyllönen (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Bypassing the law by drafting guidance on negligible exposure to pesticides

Strict approval criteria were introduced in Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 to protect both humans and the environment from exposure to substances of very high concern. Hence, substances with carcinogenic, reprotoxic or endocrine-disruptive properties should not be approved 'unless the exposure ... under realistic proposed conditions of use, is negligible, that is, the product is used in closed systems or in other conditions excluding contact with humans'.

The Commission is now drafting a guidance document which will allow the most harmful pesticides to be approved, thus bypassing the law.

- 1. Could the Commission explain the scientific basis for the exposure level proposed as being acceptable in the document?
- 2. Does the Commission consider use of extensive and sophisticated risk mitigation measures to be 'realistic use' by all farmers in all Member States?
- 3. Does the Commission consider the use of carcinogenic, reprotoxic and endocrine disruptive substances to be in line with Directive 2009/128/EC on the sustainable use of pesticides?