Question for written answer P-005185/2017 to the Commission Rule 130 Annie Schreijer-Pierik (PPE)

Subject: Fipronil Eggs

In recent weeks several EU Member States have found that the permitted maximum residue limit (MRL) of fipronil in eggs has been exceeded (see Regulation (EC) No 396/2005).

1. When did the Member States concerned detect the presence of fipronil in eggs, did they record the fact that the MRL had been exceeded, and did they subsequently report and detail this via the EU's Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)?

2. In the Commission's view, how are the Member States ensuring a harmonised European approach – particularly with regard to the maximum residue limit (MRL), the acceptable daily intake (ADI) and the acute reference dose (ARfD) – given all the different measures that have been taken, such as the recall of eggs, the temporary embargo placed on poultry holdings, and written and oral public warnings?

3. What financial support measures will the European Commission introduce in this context for the affected breeders in the different Member States to ensure they remain financially viable and to avoid market disruption stemming from increasing bankruptcies?