Question for written answer P-000425/2018 to the Commission Rule 130 Florent Marcellesi (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Legal validity of Moroccan sanitary control systems in Western Sahara

In December 2017, the Commission's Directorate General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANCO) carried out a visit to occupied Western Sahara in order to visit veterinary offices in several towns. In reply to a Saharawi organisation asking to meet the delegation, the Commission stated that the visit would consist of an audit mission to verify existing sanitary control systems with a view to updating the list of companies authorised to export their products to the EU¹.

Can the Commission confirm that it continues to consider Moroccan sanitary control systems as legally valid in relation to exports to the EU by companies based in Western Sahara?

If so, what is the legal basis for such a position?

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