WRITTEN OUESTION E-3030/00

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Subject: Flood in Calabria

In view of the following facts:

- on 10 September 2000 in Soverato, a commune of the region of Calabria in Italy, events caused by bad weather conditions led to the deaths of at least five disabled people and a number of volunteers and tourists, about fifteen people in total, and more than twenty other people were left injured;
- this disaster also affected the environment as a whole, causing heavy pollution as the result of the scattering of waste from garbage dumps;
- a deluge of water and detritus inundated a camp site which, although authorised, would seem to be located in an area defined as at high environmental risk, i.e. on the shore of a watercourse;
- Italian territory has for some time been subject to a series of natural disasters resulting in loss of life, disasters which were moreover foreseeable and often indirectly caused by a lack of preventive action by the relevant public bodies;

can the Commission answer the following questions?

- Has the Italian Government published a map of areas at environmental risk?
- Are those areas receiving the attention of, and being monitored by, the Commission?
- Are the Italian national authorities properly carrying out their duty to ensure the safety of European citizens and protect the national territory?

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