

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2506/03  
by Mauro Nobilia (UEN)  
to the Commission

Subject: Governance: tripartite environmental contracts

On 11 December 2002 the Commission issued a communication entitled 'A framework for target-based tripartite contracts and agreements between the Community, the States and regional and local authorities' (COM(2002) 709), dealing with the subject of tripartite contracts.

This communication does not wholly achieve its intended aim.

Despite the Commission's verbal undertakings, the subsequent plans of the Commissioner and DG responsible appear to point in the opposite direction.

The Commission selected two initiatives with a view to drawing up environmental pilot contracts by the end of 2002.

This venture, which is to be applauded, will require substantial support in terms of funding and human resources.

How will the Commission involve the EP where tripartite contracts are concerned?

Given that the White Paper assigns a key role to central government in laying down and implementing tripartite contracts, how will it involve the Member States?

How will it pursue its activities at the practical level? Specifically, which directorates-general and units will be involved for that purpose?

How will it allocate responsibilities and human resources among the directorates-general and units so as to enable all the parties concerned to obtain assistance?

When will it act on the verbal undertakings that it gave to Parliament's Environment Committee at the meeting of 2 October 2002?

How will it cover the projects from the financial point of view?