WRITTEN QUESTION E-1815/04 by Sérgio Ribeiro (GUE/NGL) to the Commission

Subject: Execution of the Structural Funds

According to information supplied by the Commission to Parliament's Committee on Budgets, the outstanding commitment for the ERDF at the end of 2002, for authorisations prior to 2000, was approximately EUR 7.9 bn. The same source claims that as at 20 October 2003 the total amount of cancelled authorisations was in the region of EUR 576 m and that the Commission proposed to the Member States a partial cancellation of authorisations amounting to approximately EUR 1.6 bn.

Can the Commission provide information on:

- 1. the current state of affairs as regards authorisations prior to 2000 still not executed for the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund, broken down by Member State, together with the total for authorisations prior to 2000 that have effectively been cancelled, broken down by Member State up to the present moment?
- 2. in the context of application of the N+2 rule, the total for authorisations effectively cancelled to date, broken down by Member State and programme, under that rule?

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