

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2704/04
by Willi Piecyk (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Food production traceability - Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of 28 January 2002 on food law and food safety

As a result of the food production traceability system introduced by Parliament-Council Regulation (EC) No 178/2002¹ of 28 January 2002, charitable organisations such as Deutsche Tafel which distribute food donated by firms to persons in need face a twin problem. Firstly, many donors have stopped donating food, or have given notice that they will do so, in order to avoid the additional effort involved because of mandatory labelling. Secondly, the Deutsche Tafel organisation itself has to cope with the administrative burden of recording food donations. This is jeopardising the very meaningful work of such charitable organisations.

1. Has the Commission recognised this problem in connection with Regulation (EC) No 178/2002?
2. What steps will the Commission take to ensure, in spite of the need for food safety, that the continued commitment of Deutsche Tafel and similar organisations is not jeopardised?

¹ OJ L 31, 1.2.2002, p. 1.