WRITTEN QUESTION E-3016/04 by Jean-Claude Fruteau (PSE) to the Commission

Subject: C sugar

In its conclusions published on 15 October 2004, the report of the WTO Panel on the regulation of the Community sugar market condemns European exports of C sugar. The conclusions condemn the system of cross-subsidies and adopt a similar line to the case law on Canada's milk exports.

If this condemnation were to be upheld on appeal, this would have considerable implications for the common organisation of the market in sugar, whose reform is being prepared.

Although the question of the future of C sugar is fundamental, no mention is made of it in the preparatory documents which the Commission forwarded to Members of the European Parliament concerning the reform.

In this context, what will the Commission do to reduce the impact of a possible ban on C sugar?