WRITTEN QUESTION E-4753/05 by Jeffrey Titford (IND/DEM) to the Commission

Subject: Funds for French riot

By what authority did Mr Jose Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, write to the Prime Minister of France, Mr Dominique de Villepin and offer to supply funds of up to €1 billion to help to repair the damage from the French riots?

Would the Commission please confirm whether the President has the authority, by virtue of his office, to make the offer? Furthermore, please confirm from which budget this enormous sum will be paid and provide a full explanation of why the Commission feels obliged to provide such funding to alleviate the troubles in France but felt no similar obligation when the London bombing outrages occurred in July?

593252.EN PE 367.505