

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4861/05

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to the Commission

Subject: Institutional mechanisms for gender equality

The European Commission has announced the adoption at the beginning of 2006 of a Road Map for Gender Equality for 2006-2010. The future Road Map is an essential tool for strategic action to advance towards gender equality in all areas of EU policy, in conformity with the obligations of the Treaty.

Specific institutional mechanisms on equality between women and men are indispensable tools for the implementation of legislation and political commitments. In particular the implementation of gender mainstreaming necessitates strong institutional mechanisms, because this horizontal strategy needs coordinated action by a wide variety of actors within public institutions.

We would like to ask the Commission what are the measures and actions envisaged to strengthen institutional mechanisms for gender equality within DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities and, concerning the full implementation of gender mainstreaming, what actions are envisaged to give all EC services the necessary means and tools to progress in this area?