

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4755/06

by Hans-Peter Mayer (PPE-DE) and Ewa Klamt (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Dispute between the Commission's Internal Market DG and Germany concerning protection for the name 'savings bank' (paragraph 40 of the German Credit System Act)

The Commission wants Germany to change the provisions in order to ensure that the name 'Sparkasse' (savings bank) can also be used by private investors or banks.

After lengthy negotiations with the Bundesländer and the German Savings Bank and Giro Association, the Federal government last week agreed on a proposal according to which privatisation of savings banks is allowed in principle, but is subject to strict conditions.

Has the Commission adopted a decision on this subject? If so, does it correspond to the Federal government's proposal? If not, when can a Commission decision be expected?