WRITTEN QUESTION E-2271/09 by Jens Holm (GUE/NGL) to the Commission

Subject: Campaign to increase demand for tulips

The European Commission has launched an extensive campaign to stimulate demand for European tulips.

How much is the campaign costing? How long will it last? Why tulips? Why not support only fair-trade and/or organic tulips?

What other campaigns to increase consumption of various products does the Commission intend to fund, and by how much, during 2009?

What measures has the Commission taken to ensure that poor countries which export cut flowers to the EU are not affected by the subsidisation of European flowers?

Does the Commission not think that this campaign is a waste of taxpayers' money?

777949.EN PE 423.316