

**Question for written answer E-6103/2010
to the Council**
Rule 117
Christophe Béchu (PPE)

Subject: Opening-up of the internal market to Brazilian pigmeat exports

According to the president of the Brazilian organisation Abipecs, Brazilian pigmeat exports could increase from 609 000 tonnes in 2009 to 650 000 tonnes in 2010, forecasts which are based solely on the data available for existing export markets. The president of Abipecs hopes that the United States and the European Union will open up their markets to Brazilian exports before the end of the year. In the light of the serious problems facing pig farmers in the EU, and in particular in France and Belgium, and the lack of demand on the internal market, the Brazilians' decision to try to secure a foothold on the European market before the end of 2010 would certainly seem to be premature.

What is more, Brazil has not yet enacted the laws and employment rules which would enable it to meet the quality, health and environmental requirements which apply on the internal market.

In the light of the above, what is the Council's position on the issue of pigmeat exports from Brazil, and from South America in general, to the European Union?