

**Question for written answer E-007558/2011
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Pablo Zalba Bidegain (PPE) and Francisco José Millán Mon (PPE)

Subject: Commission response to fresh information regarding the future output of canning enterprises in Papua New Guinea

Recent statements by Mr Sylvester Pokajam, Director-General of the Papua New Guinea (PNG) National Fisheries Authority, in response to fresh information concerning the possible output of canning enterprises in that country are being widely reported by the Spanish media. This is because of the expected unfavourable economic and social impact on EU tuna fisheries, the subject of a previous question to the Commission.

At the European Parliament plenary sitting of 7 January, Commissioner Andris Piebalgs stated that 'the Commission takes the view that it is highly unlikely that Papua New Guinea's exports will cause any serious disruption to the EU's fishing and canning industry'. He concluded by repeating that, on the basis of the 2008 figures, 'it will not cause any disruption to Europe's fishing or canning industries'.

Does the Commission continue to hold the optimistic view expressed in the above debate?