

Question for written answer E-001301/2013
to the Commission
Rule 117
Agnès Le Brun (PPE)

Subject: Sugar market management and the CMO in sugar after 2015

1. Could the Commission provide details, from the marketing years 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 onwards, of the total quantities under exceptional import quotas and the total out-of-quota quantities placed on the EU sugar market? Could the Commission explain why quantities under exceptional import quotas exceeded out-of-quota quantities, and whether this has not been detrimental to the EU sugar beet sector?
2. In the light of the exceptional market measures adopted by the Management Committee for the management of sugar marketing year 2012/2013, could the Commission explain exactly why it is important that out-of-quota quantities should be placed on the market to manage shortages on the EU sugar market?
3. Given the European Parliament's position, as adopted by the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development on 23 January 2013, suggesting that out-of-quota quantities be put back on the market as a temporary measure, does the Commission think that this could be an efficient way of managing serious shortages on the EU sugar market in the future?
4. In the light of the recent bilateral agreements and of the increase in duty-free imports of preferential origin envisaged by the ACP/LDC London sugar group, does the Commission think that there is likely to be a shortfall in sugar imports into the EU in the coming years?
5. Can EU cane sugar refiners avail themselves of inward processing arrangements to import raw cane sugar free of duty and export refined white sugar? If they can, why are raw cane sugar refiners not taking advantage of this opportunity to work at full capacity?