Question for written answer E-003228/2013 to the Commission Rule 117 Sabine Wils (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Regulation (EC) No 1/2005

Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, in contrast to the previous legislation, assigns certain responsibilities to keepers of animals at the place of departure, transfer and destination, i.e. keepers are required to respect the rules on the fitness of the animals for transport (Chapter I of Annex I) and on the rules concerning the loading, unloading, handling, and separation of animals (Chapter III, section 1 of Annex I).

This new approach of assigning responsibility to keepers for compliance with certain requirements of the Regulation was stated by the Commission to be a big step forward compared to the previous legislation.

It is the Member States' responsibility to enforce the Regulation, and thus it is their responsibility to establish fines for keepers who violate the requirements for which they are responsible. Where longdistance transport, is involved, the keepers are often located in other Member States. In such cases difficulties can be expected in forcing the perpetrators to pay the fines.

In order to evaluate whether the new approach is to be considered useful, it is necessary to know whether keepers (national or from other Member States) are in practice being held responsible, i.e. whether they are fined for violations of requirements they are responsible for, and whether these fines are actually paid.

Have all Member States provided in their national legislation for fines to be imposed on keepers violating the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 for which they are responsible?

How many fines were handed out and actually paid in the Member States in 2010 concerning national keepers of animals, i.e. keepers resident in the same Member States where the violations were detected?

How many fines were handed out and actually paid in the Member States in 2010 concerning keepers located in other Member States, i.e. keepers resident in a Member State different from the one where the violation was detected?

On the basis of the answers provided to the above three questions, is the Commission of the opinion that Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, by assigning certain responsibilities to the keepers of animals, has led to improved enforcement and compliance?