

**Question for written answer E-009720/2013
to the Commission
Rule 117
Peter van Dalen (ECR)**

Subject: Air quality and harmful fumes on aircraft

This week a court case, the first of its kind, is being heard in the Netherlands concerning the harmful effects of aircraft cabin fumes, proceedings having been brought by a pilot against his employers for health problems allegedly caused by long-term exposure to such fumes (TCPs). The details of the case have caught the attention of the national and international media, particularly in view of concerns being expressed by airline crews worldwide regarding health problems arising in this connection. In Germany there have been two reported incidents of cabin crews being adversely affected and in recent weeks a number of aircraft have had to return to their airport of departure because of cabin and cockpit fumes.

1. Is the Commission aware of the legal proceedings taking place in Amsterdam and the findings of the German Federal Aviation Bureau regarding the causes of the above incidents?
2. Does the Commission know how many European airline staff members are suffering from health problems attributed to cabin and cockpit fumes and poor air quality on aircraft? Does it know how frequently air traffic is disrupted by such incidents? If not, will it compile the relevant statistics?
3. Will the Commission call for an investigation into air quality on aircraft and possibly harmful levels of contamination by cabin and cockpit fumes? Will it investigate the reasons for such incidents? If not, why not?