

**Question for written answer E-001254/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Isabella Lövin (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Measures against dioxin in the Baltic Sea

Dioxin levels in oily fish in the Baltic Sea are so high that they exceed the EU's limit values. Sweden has a derogation allowing the sale of fish containing high levels of dioxin in Sweden. This is an unacceptable way of dealing with a threat to human health and the lives of fauna in the Baltic Sea. The EU should cooperate with other States whose emissions affect the Baltic in order to control emissions at source.

In May 2013, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency presented a report containing information about the sources and causes of the high dioxin levels¹. This information is needed to enable the most effective measures to be taken against dioxin emissions.

The findings indicate that atmospheric deposition is the main source of dioxin pollution in the Baltic Sea. According to the report, it is likely that the biggest contribution to dioxin pollution comes from the eastern regions of Europe. There are indications that seasonal sources, such as non-industrial combustion, are the main source of dioxin pollution.

1. Has the Commission studied the report from the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency?
2. What other sources of information does the Commission have regarding the causes of the high dioxin levels in the Baltic Sea?
3. What has the Commission already done to reduce the amount of dioxin entering the Baltic Sea?
4. What does the Commission intend to do in future to reduce the amount of dioxin entering the Baltic Sea?

¹ Wiberg, K. et al. 2013. Managing the dioxin problem in the Baltic region with focus on sources to air and fish, Naturvårdsverket, report 6566, ISBN 978-91-620-6566-9