EN E-003951/2015 Answer given by Mr Andriukaitis on behalf of the Commission (8.5.2015)

The Commission is aware of the importance and scale of diabetes in Europe and intends to continue supporting Member States in promoting good health and addressing the main risk factors of diabetes. For example, the Commission supports action to promote healthy nutrition through the High Level Group on Nutrition and Physical Activity¹ and the EU platform for action on diet, physical activity and health² and through projects co-financed under the Health Programme³. The 2007 Strategy for Europe on Nutrition, Overweight and Obesity-related Health Issues⁴ and the 2014 Action Plan on Childhood Obesity⁵ are provide frameworks for action in this regard.

In addition, the Commission has cofinanced a number of diabetes related projects, e.g. EUBIROD, SWEET, and IMAGE⁶ through its health programmes. The Joint Action on "Chronic Diseases and Promoting Healthy Ageing across the Life Cycle" includes a work package on the prevention and early diagnosis of diabetes type II. Also under FP7⁷, the Commission has funded the research project PREVIEW⁸ and it may potentially provide future funding opportunities within the Horizon 2020⁹ Societal Challenge 2¹⁰, to continue collaborative research on non-communicable diseases, such as diabetes.

Furthermore, the European Parliament-financed pilot project "Developing and implementing successful prevention strategies for type II diabetes" (2015 - 2017) is addressing childhood obesity and diabetes prevention strategies in children.

As such the Commission intends to continue to address diabetes through existing instruments, approaches and policies.

⁴ COM(2007) 279

⁶ http://ec.europa.eu/eahc/projects/database.html

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/health/nutrition_physical_activity/high_level_group/index_en.htm

² http://ec.europa.eu/health/nutrition_physical_activity/platform/index_en.htm

³ http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014R0282&from=EN

⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/health/nutrition_physical_activity/docs/childhoodobesity_actionplan_2014_2020_en.pdf

⁷ Seventh Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities (FP7, 2007-2013); http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html

⁸ PREVention of diabetes through lifestyle Intervention and population studies in Europe and around the World; http://previewstudy.com/

⁹ http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/home.html

¹⁰ Societal challenge 2"Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research, and the Bioeconomy, http://ec.europa.eu/research/bioeconomy/h2020/index_en.htm