Question for written answer E-006522/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Ernest Urtasun (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Follow-up question on the sale of unauthorised substances

As we understand from the answers given by Commissioner Kyriakides to questions from MEPs, harmonised risk indicator 1 (HRI 1) includes the sale of non-approved substances, according to Annex III of Regulation (EC) No 1185/2009.

Said Annex was amended by Regulation (EU) 2017/269¹, which added a list of substances, while 158 substances were removed, with regard to 36 of which 359 emergency derogations were provided for between 2016 and 2020², which proves that they are being sold and used.

It should be noted that these include 1,3-dichloropropene and chloropicrin, which have an index of 4 — that is the highest — for the calculation of HRI 1 and that, according to the statistics submitted by Spain to Eurostat in 2016 and 2017, 1,3-dichloropropene is the fourth most used substance in Spain, with no data being available for chloropicrin which is used in conjunction with it.

One must also stress the importance of a rigorous calculation of HRI 1, as the monitoring and achievement of the objectives of the Farm to Fork Strategy go hand in hand with this.

- 1. Are we to understand that Member States have not been obliged to report data on these 158 substances to Eurostat since 2017?
- 2. If so, does the Commission consider that the omission of these data undermines the calculation of HRI 1, rendering it unrigorous?

¹ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/269/oj

https://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/pesticides/eu-pesticides-database/ppp/pppeas/screen/home