

**Question for written answer E-002214/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Tom Vandenkendelaere (PPE)

Subject: Tougher action on non-compliance with trade agreements with South Africa

On 10 June 2016, the European Union concluded the EU-SADC Agreement with South Africa. Regular consultations between the Commission and South Africa take place under the umbrella of the EU-SADC Trade and Development Committee. On the Commission's side, DG TRADE is responsible for participating in and coordinating these talks. The abuse of sanitary and phytosanitary measures by South Africa (including the keeping in place of the HPAI embargo vis-à-vis certain Member States) and the safeguard import duty of 35.3% have prevented the poultry sector from benefiting from the full potential of this agreement.

1. Is the Commission aware of South Africa's lack of compliance with the trade commitments made in the EU-SADC Agreement?
2. Can the Commission adopt a stronger position vis-à-vis South Africa and urge it to comply fully with the commitments made?
3. Once European Member States have been declared HPAI-free by the World Organisation for Animal Health, will the Commission support them in their talks with South Africa to lift the HPAI embargo?