

**Question for written answer E-002670/2022**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Angelo Ciocca (ID)**

**Subject:** Follow-up to question E-001013/2022 – Changing the legislative framework for wool

Judging by its answer to question E-001013/2022, the Commission views new-shorn sheep wool, which is classified as an agricultural by-product under Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009, as a risk to animal and human health, especially if it is untreated.

On the other hand, the Italian authorities, including the Ministry of Health and the Institute of Zooprophyllaxis, recommend shearing at least once a year in the interests of animal welfare.

In recent decades, Italy has seen a decrease in the number of wool collection and storage centres, as well as the closure of washing points. Responsibility for unprocessed wool still lies with the farms, which have to meet the high costs of its collection by disposal centres.

Given that the crisis in the sheep and goat sector is liable to heighten the risks to the environment, including climate change, drought and rising agricultural product prices, can the Commission state:

1. whether it will review its stance and consider revising the rules in force;
2. whether, in view of the funding previously granted under the LIFE programme, it does not feel that incentives should be introduced for developing new storage and washing centres for all types of wool, as this would encourage the use of this natural fibre, open up new business prospects for sheep and goat farmers and ensure respect for waste water legislation?