

**Question for written answer E-002086/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Follow-up question (E-001381/2022): Dimensions within freight transport in the feed sector

In its answer to question E-001381/2022, the Commission stated that Directive 96/53/EC would be revised in 2023 in order to bring about, inter alia, the necessary uniform weight and dimension limits within cross-border freight transport. The fact is that current differences in rules governing dimensions have an impact on free movement in the internal market.

If the Commission does indeed want to harmonise cross-border freight transport, differences in weights and dimensions between sectors will continue to be necessary. The feed sector in particular benefits from derogations regarding the size of products such as hay and straw, which are transported in bales. Such derogations (higher and longer goods vehicles) would also reduce eco-footprints, given that periods of drought mean that larger volumes of such products have to be transported over longer distances.

These concerns prompt the following questions:

1. When will the Commission take further action in this regard in order to harmonise dimensions (both height and length)?
2. With a view to more sustainable transport, will provision be made for an exemption for weights and dimensions for goods vehicles in the feed sector?

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