Question for written answer E-003076/2023 to the Commission

Rule 138

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Subject: African swine fever vaccination protocols

On 24 July 2023, Vietnam approved two African Swine Fever (ASF) vaccines for domestic sale. ASF is a viral disease with a near 100% mortality rate which caused the death of more than a quarter of the world's entire pig population in 2018-2019. More than 650 000 vaccine doses have been tested in 40 provinces, revealing a 95% efficacy rate.¹.

The disease poses no risk to humans, but is considered a threat to food security, biodiversity and the livelihood of farming communities.

The two vaccines, NAVET-ASFVAC and AVAC ASF LIVE, were developed by two research centres in Vietnam with the help of US scientists, whose government has confirmed that it is interested in purchasing the vaccines as a precautionary measure.

The Bureau of Animal Industry in Manila and the Dominican authorities have also confirmed their interest in importing the vaccines to their countries. Given the scale of the phenomenon in Italy and Europe, can the Commission say:

- 1. What it thinks as to the reliability of these vaccines?
- 2. Whether it is a position to support cross-party calls from market operators and institutional players who have been crying out for a Europe-wide vaccination protocol for several months?

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¹ https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/vietnam-approves-commercial-use-first-african-swine-fever-vaccines-2023-07-24/