

ORAL QUESTION H-0317/02  
for Question Time at the part-session in May 2002  
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Michael Gahler  
to the Council

Subject:           Extending EU sanctions against Zimbabwe

On 15 April 2002, the General Affairs Council deferred further decisions on additional targeted measures against the Government of Zimbabwe until May although the domestic situation has been increasingly deteriorating since the March elections. In the meantime, countries such as the US and New Zealand have extended their lists. What is the Council's interim assessment of sanctions to date? How many visa applications have been rejected by the embassies of the 15 Member States? Given the exceptional events taking place, have the same criteria been applied by the 15 Member States? On what grounds are certain Member States preventing or delaying the extension of targeted sanctions? Are those Member States afraid that identical criteria could be applied in their spheres of influence in Africa and that, as a result, they themselves could come under political pressure to account for their actions? Is the Council prepared, at its May meeting, to extend the present list of 20 persons in line with what individual EU states and other states are doing in practice and on the basis of Parliament proposals?

Tabled: 24.04.2002  
de