

ORAL QUESTION H-0270/03
for Question Time at the part-session in May 2003
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure
by John Cushnahan
to the Commission

Subject: Irregular application of EC-Israel trade-related agreements

Based on a list of suspected settlement products prepared by the Commission, Member States sent verification requests on a total of 3798 EUR1 or invoice declarations to Israel's customs authorities beginning August 2000. In April 2001 the Member States involved reported to the Commission that Israel's replies were 'evasive and therefore not acceptable'. On 15 May 2001 Commissioner Patten, quoting Community law, told us that '...if the reply does not contain sufficient information to determine the authenticity of the document in question or the real origin of the products, the requesting customs authorities shall refuse entitlement to the preferences'¹.

Has the Commission accepted the decisions subsequently taken by the Member States to accept entitlement to preferences for all the imports in question?

Tabled: 29.04.2003
en

¹ OJ C 350 E, 11.12.2001, p. 71.