

ORAL QUESTION H-0286/03

for Question Time at the part-session in May 2003

pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure

by Dana Scallon

to the Commission

Subject: EU Regulation on reproductive and sexual health and rights in developing countries

Could the Commission clarify the position of the Commission proposal with regard to 'reproductive and sexual health and rights in developing countries', where Item B7-6312 has been increased from EUR 55.8 to EUR 73.98 million increase, as announced by the 'Council of Ministers'. Could it please inform me if the above-mentioned increase was actually proposed by the Commission or not? How will this increase be funded, given that the general budget of the EU for 2003 has already been implemented and in the light of the opinion of the Committee on Budgets.

The Commission's recent amended proposal (COM/2003/0083 final) states that 'the financial framework adopted by the European Parliament for this regulation can be accommodated within Heading 4 of the Financial perspective and, in particular, within the increased envelope foreseen for ABB Policy Area Development 'and that 'the Commission can therefore accept in its entirety Parliament's position at first reading': is it legitimate to approve such funding from next year's budget been applied before the normal European Parliament procedure has first been applied?

Tabled: 29.04.2003

en