ORAL QUESTION H-0152/06 for Question Time at the part-session in March 2006 pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure by Jacky Henin to the Council

Subject: Council Regulation on the indication of the country of origin of certain products imported from third countries COM(2005)0661 final - ACC 2005/0254

The proposal for a Council Regulation on the indication of the country of origin is a first step towards providing consumers with honest information and protecting European know-how.

This regulation will help to safeguard employment in the Union by limiting the number of cases of unfair competition: a company from EU country X will no longer be able with impunity to manufacture a product in a third country and affix a label saying 'made in X' in order to promote sales fraudulently.

European cutlery industry professionals are asking for cutlery products, which involve a huge variety of artisanal skills, to be listed in the annex to the proposal for a regulation. The future of the European cutlery industry and thousands of skilled jobs are at stake.

Will the Council respond to this request by adding to the regulation's annex the products in Chapter 82 of the 'European Combined Nomenclature', and in particular the following codes: 82.08, 82.11, 82.12, 82.13, 82.14 and 82.15?

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