ORAL QUESTION H-0409/06 for Question Time at the part-session in June 2006 pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure by Marie Isler Béguin to the Commission

Subject: Support for democratic transition in Mauritania

Mauritania, a member of the EU-ACP Joint Parliamentary Assembly, has been undergoing democratic transition since the overthrow of President Ould Taya's dictatorial regime on 4 August 2005.

The Military Council has pledged to carry out the reforms required to achieve democratisation and to lead the country into free elections and has also promised to ensure that no member of the current government stands in the elections.

Although reforms are under way and the election timetable has been set, Mauritania is appealing to the international community, and the European Union in particular, to assist it in its transition to democracy.

Does the Commission intend to provide technical and political support for the preparation and holding of free and fair elections?

In its specific geopolitical position, joining black Africa to the Maghreb, is Mauritania able to apply to join the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly?

Tabled: 27.04.2006

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613708.EN PE 371.019