

ORAL QUESTION H-0518/06  
for Question Time at the part-session in July 2006  
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Ioannis Varvitsiotis  
to the Commission

Subject: Consumer protection

In a previous question (H-0501/04)<sup>1</sup>, I raised the matter of indoor air fresheners, protection of consumers from misleading information concerning the spurious properties and the hidden risks of these products. A scientific study carried out by the Commission subsequently confirmed that there were grounds for concern and proposed that research into the matter should continue. The Commission recently launched an initiative to improve the labelling of sun protection products with a view to issuing a recommendation to the European industry. The aim is to make it easier, through standardised labelling, for consumers to avoid spurious and unacceptable claims (e.g. 100% protection) which give them a false sense of security.

Will there also be a consumer information campaign on sun protection products to complement this initiative in an appropriate manner by including the very important and delicate matter of protection against the sun? In conjunction with this initiative, what additional measures does the Commission intend to take to ensure that these products are subject to quality control and are correctly labelled, bearing in mind that there was a considerable delay before a specific study was carried out in the case of indoor air fresheners?

Tabled: 01.06.2006  
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<sup>1</sup> Written answer of 11.1.2005.