ORAL QUESTION H-0289/08 for Question Time at the part-session in May 2008 pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure by Jacky Hénin to the Commission

Subject: Increasing corporate social responsibility

The industrial textiles undertaking STAF, belonging to the SINTERAMA Group, has just confronted seven of its employees at its Hénin Beaumont works in France with the following dilemma: either they agree to move to Brazil, where they would be paid gross wages of € 315, or to Turkey, for € 230, or they will simply be dismissed. It should be noted that this undertaking has received substantial public subsidies.

In the name of the principle of corporate social responsibility, ought not the Commission to propose a directive which would make it possible either to ban such practices or to require that in such cases businesses should refund the public subsidies they have received?

Tabled: 08.04.2008

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