

ORAL QUESTION H-0755/08  
for Question Time at the part-session in October 2008  
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Péter Olajos  
to the Commission

Subject: Import of poultry meat products from China

Commission Decision 2008/638/EC of 30 July 2008<sup>1</sup> amended Decision 2007/777/EC<sup>2</sup> on the import of meat products from third countries. Under the earlier decision, China was permitted to export only heat-treated poultry meat products to the Community which had been treated in a hermetically sealed container to a Fo value of three or more.

At the same time, at the request of the competent Chinese authorities, the Commission approved the import of poultry meat products from China's Shandong Province which had been treated at a lower temperature (minimum 70°C).

In the light of the above, does the Commission not consider that relaxing the rules will lead to a slackening of the European Union's rigorous animal health, food hygiene and animal welfare regulations? Does it not think that taking such a decision, which applies to just one province of a country, is cause for concern, and does it think that the poultry meat products in question can be completely verified as coming only from Shandong Province? Does it not consider that granting the authorisation to one province will lead to a torrent of requests for the rules to be relaxed in other provinces (of which there are already indications)? Do the measures introduced not pose a risk to the situation of EU poultry farmers?

Tabled: 16.09.2008  
hu

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 207, 5.8.2008, p. 24.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 312, 30.11.2007, p. 49.