

ORAL QUESTION H-0775/08  
for Question Time at the part-session in October 2008  
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Gianluca Susta  
to the Council

Subject: Shoes

In the last week of September, Italy's *Guardia di Finanza* (police whose duties include customs and excise enforcement) confiscated 1,700,000 pairs of shoes. The shoes seized bore counterfeit trademarks and 84,000 of them were wrongly labelled 'made in Italy'. Many of them were found to contain alarming levels of hexavalent chromium, a carcinogenic substance.

What is the Council's opinion of this incident, and what measures does it intend to take to prevent future incidents? Does the Council intend to urge the Commission to initiate anti-dumping proceedings against China more frequently? Does the Council consider it should strengthen quality standards for products by approving the Commission's proposal of December 2005 (COM(2005)0661) for a regulation on compulsory origin marking for goods imported from third countries? Does the Council consider it should urge the Commission to submit legislative proposals and/or tighten up existing legislation on the traceability and health standards of textiles, shoes, cosmetics, jewellery and similar products produced in non-EU countries?

Tabled: 01.10.2008  
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