

ORAL QUESTION O-0030/00

pursuant to Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure

by Carlos Westendorp y Cabeza, on behalf of the Committee on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy  
to the Council

Subject: Conclusion of seven agreements between the European Union and Switzerland  
(COM(1999) 229 final)

Seven agreements between the European Union and Switzerland (on the free movement of persons, air transport, the transport of goods and passengers by land, scientific and technological cooperation, public procurement, trade in agricultural products and mutual recognition of conformity assessment) were signed in Luxembourg on 21 June 1999.

Given that the Swiss Parliament ratified the above agreements on 8 October 1999 and that, despite the fact that the agreements were signed a long time ago, Parliament has yet to be asked for its assent, the Committee on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy is anxious that Parliament should be able to do so within a reasonable period of time, in the interests of both Switzerland and the EU.

What exactly are the reasons for the delay, and when does the Council intend to refer the matter to Parliament?

Tabled: 25.02.2000

Forwarded: 28.02.2000

Deadline for reply: 20.03.2000