ORAL QUESTION WITH DEBATE O-0131/08

pursuant to Rule 108 of the Rules of Procedure

by Guido Sacconi, on behalf of the PSE Group, Satu Hassi, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, John Bowis, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, Chris Davies, on behalf of the ALDE Group, Jens Holm, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Johannes Blokland, on behalf of the IND/DEM Group, Alessandro Foglietta, on behalf of the UEN Group to the Commission

Subject: Pre-registration of phase-in substances according to the REACH Regulation

Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006¹ on REACH provides that companies have to pre-register phase-in substances by 1 December in order to benefit from the transitional regime. According to the information released by the European Chemicals Agency on its website, the number of pre-registrations received by the Agency is unexpectedly high, and more and more companies are complaining about difficulties in logging in and the long response times during peak hours. Can the Commission inform the Parliament about the final status of the pre-registration process and the difficulties encountered by ECHA in absorbing the enormous number of pre-registrations? What action did ECHA and the Commission undertake to ensure that companies were technically able to respond to the obligation to pre-register by 1 December?

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Deadline for reply: 03.12.2008

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OJ L 136, 29.5.2007, p. 3.