WRITTEN QUESTION P-3109/00 by Freddy Thielemans (PSE) to the Commission

Subject: Implementation of project ALA/92/47 and ALA/92/35 to protect the town of Montero against flooding

EC funding (project no. ALA/92/47 and ALA 92/35) and an agreement between Bolivia and the EC mean that the town of Montero could enjoy better protection against flooding. The requisite work has however fallen behind schedule, and will not be completed by 30 September 2000, when the technical assistance contract expires, although the funding agreement with Bolivia has not yet run out. I am informed that the Commission's services refuse to extend the deadline for completing the work (for which funding is guaranteed), a refusal which might make all the effort invested hitherto entirely pointless.

Is the Commission aware of the fact that a possible refusal to extend the deadline will mean that all the work already carried out will come to nothing? Why are the Commission services refusing to extend the project until the work is completed?

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