

WRITTEN QUESTION P-1181/04
by Salvador Jové Peres (GUE/NGL)
to the Commission

Subject: Correction for irregular grant of supplementary processed tomato quotas

In my Written Question P-0850/04¹ I put various questions to the Commission which have not received an adequate answer. The Commission has confined itself to clarifying that the shortcomings in checks on the quality of end products concerned the marketing year 1997/98 and that the irregular grant of supplementary quotas concerned the marketing years 1998/99 to 2000/01. The Commission has provided information on the volume of the supplementary quotas granted, but not on the volume of those granted improperly, even though it is the latter which must have given rise to the financial correction. The Commission further states that in principle, all the undertakings which acquired a higher number of raw materials at the minimum price than the quota allocated at the start of the marketing year benefited from the supplementary quotas and that, in principle, all the undertakings which indicated that they were prepared to conclude contracts for the supplementary amounts were eligible for the supplementary quotas. All this does not explain the nature of the irregularities which gave rise to the financial correction, nor their impact in terms of possible distortions of competition.

Given that the questions raised in Written Question P-0850/04 have not been answered, I am now resubmitting them:

1. What was involved in the shortcomings in checks on the quality of the end products? In what marketing years did such shortcomings occur?
2. What irregularities have given rise to the correction?
3. In what marketing years did they occur?
4. What volume of supplementary quotas was granted improperly in each marketing year?
5. To how many firms were supplementary quotas granted improperly in each of the marketing years to which the correction relates?
6. How many firms were eligible for the supplementary quotas in each of the marketing years to which the correction relates?

¹ OJ C