

WRITTEN QUESTION P-1292/04
by Paulo Casaca (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Deficit - proceedings against Portugal

The Commission's latest positions indicate a fresh increase in Portugal's budgetary deficit in 2004.

Meanwhile, the press has said that the letter from the Portuguese Finance Minister to the Commission has led the latter to deem that Portugal, contrary to forecasts, will in fact be able to meet the EC Treaty provisions on the deficit in 2004.

Given the principles of rigour and transparency which form of the *acquis communautaire*, it is essential that all undertakings given by the Portuguese Government in budgetary matters be disclosed. For that reason, will the Commission, as a matter of supreme urgency, forward to me with all possible despatch, a copy of the letter in question from the Portuguese Government?