

WRITTEN QUESTION P-1429/04  
by Heinz Kindermann (PSE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Animal welfare standards in the ten new Member States

It became clear from the Commission progress reports of November 2003 that Latvia, Lithuania, the Czech Republic and Poland would need to make 'considerable efforts' if they were to be in a position to comply with the required animal welfare standards on their accession to the EU.

In March 2004, it was reported in the agricultural press that shortcomings still existed in these four countries in the field of animal welfare. It was also reported that there were still no operational border inspection posts in Malta.

Can the Commission provide details of the individual animal welfare standards which are currently not yet complied with by each of the new Member States?

How does it intend to ensure that EU animal welfare legislation is applied as quickly as possible in the new Member States?