

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2660/05
by Joost Lagendijk (Verts/ALE)
to the Commission

Subject: The EU-Israel 'technical arrangement' and Protocol 4 to the EU-Israel Association Agreement

The Commission recently officially announced¹ an 'arrangement for the implementation of Protocol 4 to the [EU-Israel Association] Agreement'. It stated that 'as a result, all movement certificates EUR.1 and invoice declarations made out in Israel will bear...the name of the city, village or industrial zone where production conferring originating status has taken place', and that 'the preferential treatment will be refused to the goods for which the proof of origin indicates that the production conferring originating status has taken place in a city, village or industrial zone which has been brought under Israeli administration since 1967'.

If the Commission defines this as an 'arrangement for the implementation of Protocol 4', does this mean that the Community now considers that the implementation of Protocol 4, and therefore the implementation of the trade-related provisions of the Agreement, does not require Israel to cease issuing proofs of origin to products produced in the Occupied Territories, provided that Israel discloses when it has done so and does not object to the EU customs services refusing preferential treatment to the product in question?

¹ Notice to Importers, Imports from Israel into the Community (OJ C 20, 25.1.2005, p. 2.).