

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2048/07  
by Luis Manuel Capoulas Santos (PSE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Natural disasters

As the Commission knows my report on the agricultural aspects of natural disasters (forest fires, droughts and flooding) was adopted by a large majority. Disasters of this kind have had a large-scale impact on various Member States in recent years

The resulting EP resolution - P6\_TA(2006)222 - contains various suggestions and recommendations essentially designed to prevent the occurrence of fresh catastrophes or at least limit their scope, such as granting priority to measures to combat the causes of forest fires, such as fighting erosion, replanting forests with appropriate species, the maintenance of fire breaks, making use of and clearing out forests.

Given that the Commission is currently assessing and approving the National Rural Development Plans, submitted by the various Member States, can it tell me whether measures such as those set out in the resolution are adequately covered in the National Rural Development Plans of those Member States most vulnerable to forest fires and if not, whether the Commission intends to take any steps to plug such gaps?

Is the Commission currently preparing any further initiatives in the wake of other recommendations in Resolution P6\_TA/2006)222?