

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0387/08  
by Hubert Pirker (PPE-DE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Agencies

A whole host of agencies have sprung up over the years. At the present time, 32 agencies are listed on the Commission's website. In the case of some agencies, we are not even aware of their existence.

The cost of the agencies has already risen to more than 1 billion euro. Staff costs, in particular, have risen sharply. It is therefore time to review the performance and utility of all the agencies and submit a detailed report to the European Parliament.

1. What was the total cost incurred by each individual agency in each of the last ten years? How high were the staff costs of each agency in each of the last ten years?
2. When does the Commission intend to begin the review of the performance and utility of the agencies and how long should this review take?
3. In the Commission's view, which agencies could be closed down first?