

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2256/09
by John Bowis (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Combating tuberculosis, on the occasion of World TB Day 2009 (24 March)

Given that four out of ten people who become ill with tuberculosis still fail to get an accurate diagnosis and effective treatment and that the WHO recognises that the problem of multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis is not being addressed with sufficient speed or commitment:

1. What steps is the Commission planning to take in order to ensure that the co-epidemic of HIV and tuberculosis is adequately addressed?
2. How will the Commission ensure that vulnerable population groups have access to high-quality treatment and sustained healthcare services?
3. How does the Commission plan to address the funding gap between the total resources available and the resources needed to control TB, in order to meet the 2015 target related to TB within the Millennium Development goals?
4. How is the Commission planning to follow up the 2007 Berlin Declaration on Tuberculosis, which acknowledged that tuberculosis has re-emerged as an increasing threat to health security in the WHO European Region?