

**Question for written answer E-010870/2012
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: US illegal subsidies in the aircraft trade dispute

Although the US has claimed to have rectified its failure to meet its World Trade Organisation commitments regarding its allegedly illegal subsidies for Boeing, the European Trade Commissioner has stated that the US is still in breach of WTO rules, and that this refusal to comply with the rules continues to distort the market, costing the EU aviation industries billions of euros.

The EU has therefore requested the establishment of a WTO compliance panel in order to both address and confirm America's failure to heed WTO commitments, and to make progress towards establishing a freer international market in which both sides' aviation industries can fairly compete.

1. If the WTO compliance panel does find the US guilty of illegally subsidising Boeing, what will the Commission's next steps be?
2. How has the Commission addressed its concerns to the US Administration directly?
3. In the event that the WTO compliance panel finds the US not guilty of failing to meet important WTO trade commitments, what will the Commission's strategy be in addressing the uneven playing field in which our aviation sector is competing on unfair terms?
4. How is the Commission planning to target this issue in possible future trade talks?