

**Question for written answer E-000482/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Sir Graham Watson (ALDE), Sharon Bowles (ALDE) and Malcolm Harbour (ECR)

Subject: Amendments to Regulation (EC) No 900/2008

The Commission has recently presented a draft implementing regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 900/2008 laying down the methods of analysis and other technical provisions necessary for the application of the arrangements for imports of certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products. This draft implementing regulation seeks to address some anomalies in the test set out in Article 2(3)(b) with regard to its application to whey protein products, anomalies that have been confirmed through scientific analyses. The draft regulation has already been discussed on three occasions on the Customs Code Committee, but no vote on it has yet taken place, presumably because of opposition from a number of representatives of the Member States attending the Customs Code Committee meetings.

1. As the draft regulation simply seeks to correct the effects of a test that has been scientifically proven to give erroneous results when applied to whey protein products, can the Commission explain on what basis the vote is being delayed and the reasons given by the Member States for opposing the proposed measure?
2. Does the Commission agree that, under general principles of law, errors in legislation should be amended, especially when these are proven through scientific analyses?
3. Finally, given that the issues were brought to the Commission's attention almost three years ago, what are the Commission's views on the timelines for resolving the issue, and what is its understanding of 'reasonable time'?