WRITTEN QUESTION P-4462/06 by David Casa (PPE-DE) to the Commission

Subject: Irregular immigration

As you have often stated, the fight against irregular immigration is on the top of your agenda. In view of the two resolutions that have been adopted by the European Parliament earlier this year, could you please state what action has been taken and is planned to be taken in the foreseeable future vis-à-vis:

- 1. the revision of regulation 343/2003¹, (Dublin II) by calling into question its very principle, namely that the Member State responsible for dealing with an asylum application is the first country that applicants reach, which puts an intolerable burden on the countries situated in the south and the east of the EU;
- 2. the introduction of a fair mechanism for sharing responsibilities among the Member States;
- 3. A Council of Ministers' meeting in Malta to discuss any possible solutions regarding this problem.

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¹ OJ L 50, 25.2.2003, p. 1.