Question for written answer E-015383/2015 to the Council Rule 130 Jasenko Selimovic (ALDE)

Subject: Member States' lack of preparedness against antimicrobial resistance

Given the increased use of antibiotics and the development of more multi-resistant bacteria, the problem of antimicrobial resistance is increasing considerably in Europe. In June 2012, the Council called on the Member States to 'develop and implement national strategies or action plans' for countering antimicrobial resistance. However, according to the Commission recently, only 24 out of the 28 Member States currently have such strategies or plans in place.

In view of this and the recently agreed Animal Health Law (which requires a 'prudent and responsible use of veterinary medicines'), together with the current review of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, does the Council consider the Member States to be in violation of their own commitments – or even European legislation (since Directive 2003/99/EC on zoonoses already requires Member States to collect, analyse and submit comparable data as regards the development of antimicrobial resistance on their territory)?

And if so, what action does the Council envisage to increase the Member States' level of preparedness for tackling the increasing problem of antimicrobial resistance?

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