Question for written answer E-015535/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso (PPE)

Subject: Case of avian influenza in France

On Wednesday, 25 November, the French Ministry of Agriculture discovered a case of avian influenza at a farm in the Dordogne department, the first in the country in eight years. France has activated its national health emergency plan, as set out in European and international legislation, and established a watch zone within a radius of 10 km of the affected farm.

This comes just after the detection of other cases of potentially highly contagious animal diseases in Europe: three outbreaks of serotype 4 bluetongue virus in Austria and another case of bluetongue at a cattle farm in Slovenia.

Does the Commission consider the measures put in place by France to be sufficient to contain this outbreak of avian influenza?

Does the Commission consider new measures to be needed to manage such crises, given these recent outbreaks of bluetongue and avian influenza in Europe?

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