

**Question for written answer E-014669/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Fabio Massimo Castaldo (EFDD)

Subject: Risks of equine glanders contamination in horsemeat from Brazil

According to the OIE's World Animal Health Information Database, equine glanders is a zoonotic disease, which was detected in Brazil in the first half of 2015. Recent cases have been reported in Brazil but without the OIE having been notified. The Uruguayan Equine Veterinary Association expressed serious concerns with regard to the risk of cross-border contamination to Uruguay, which is considered glanders-free.

Given that both Brazil and Uruguay are permitted to export horsemeat to the EU, the risks of transmission to humans through horsemeat consumption can be deemed serious, especially in EU countries (Italy, Belgium and France) that are major importers.

Considering that food and veterinary audits in Brazil and Uruguay on the production of horsemeat for EU export were scheduled to take place this year, which measures will the Commission adopt to prevent horsemeat produced in Brazil from being placed on the EU market?