

**FORM FOR TABLING A QUESTION FOR
WRITTEN ANSWER (Rule 130)**

Select only one addressee:

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Priority question

AUTHOR(S): Heidi Hautala,

SUBJECT: Flegt action plan and tackling corruption
(please specify)

TEXT:

The FLEGT Action Plan aims to develop a comprehensive approach to tackle illegal logging. Civil society and the European Parliament have repeatedly highlighted its deficits in terms of accountability, transparency, participation and integrity, which ultimately has not provided a framework capable of tackling underlying corrupt practices.

1. What measures does the Commission plan to follow up Council Conclusions 2003/268 Point 9, Evaluation SWD(2016)276 and 2016 Council Conclusions on FLEGT Action Plan, point 14, regarding anti-corruption and forest governance? What empirical indicators are being considered to assess progress in tackling corruption, considering recent Evaluation SWD(2016)276 call in its conclusions for “stronger evaluation and monitoring arrangements”?
2. How does the Commission plan to ensure appropriate measures are taken in both implementing and negotiating VPA countries for them to comply with the goals laid out in the initial COM(2003) 251Final proposal, especially points 4.1.1 and 4.1.3 regarding accountability, integrity, participation and transparency aspects essential to tackling corruption?
3. What steps will the Commission take to ensure that VPAs review logging concessions and cancel those allocated through corrupt or illegal means? What steps will they take to also ensure that FLEGT licensed timber does not come from logging concessions allocated through corrupt or illegal means?

Signature(s):

Date: