

Mission du Royaume du Maroc  
auprès de l'Union Européenne  
Bruxelles



بعثة المملكة المغربية  
لدى الاتحاد الأوروبي  
بروكسيل

Service PE/F.Mansour / N°

0541

03 octobre 2014

L'AMBASSADEUR DE SA MAJESTÉ LE ROI

A

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGÈRES  
ET DE LA COOPÉRATION

Destinataire Principal : CAB/1 – DG/7-5  
Destinataire CC : CAB/2 – SG/4 – DG8/1- DAJT  
Transmission : Normale

**Objet :** PE/ Questions parlementaires, réponse de la Commission Européenne.


J'ai l'honneur de vous faire parvenir ci-joint, la réponse a la question parlementaire écrite concernant l'administration du territoire du sahara, par la quelle la CE confirme qu'elle adhère a la position des Nations Unies sur ce sujet et considère le Maroc comme l'administrateur de facto sur ce territoire.

La CE a aussi soulignée que le même principe est appliqué a l'accord de l'agriculture ; elle suit son mise en œuvre a travers les sous-comités de la pêche et de la agriculture qui ont été établies par l'accord d'association.

Concernant la question de l'étiquetage d'origine, la CE souligne ce que suit :

- Ni l'accord d'association ni ce lui de l'agriculture prévoient des clauses spécifiques concernant l'étiquetage des produits.
- Les produits originaires du Maroc, importés dans l'Union Européenne, ne peuvent pas être différenciés sur leur origine territoriale.

PJ : 1

 L'Ambassadeur  
Ménouar ALEM

25 September 2014

E-006108/2014

**Answer given by Mr Ciolos on behalf of the Commission**

The Commission would refer the Honourable Member to its answers to Written Questions E-3971/2013 and E-6205/2012.

According to the United Nations position on the subject, which the EU adheres to, Western Sahara is considered a 'non-self-governing territory' and the Kingdom of Morocco its de facto administering power.

To the extent that exports of products from Western Sahara are de facto benefitting from the trade preferences, activities related to natural resources undertaken by an administering power in a non-self-governing territory are lawful as long as they are not undertaken in disregard of the needs, interests and benefits of the people of that territory.

The de facto administration of Morocco in Western Sahara is obliged to comply with these principles of international law. The same applies as regards the implementation of the Agriculture Agreement(1). The Commission is monitoring all relevant areas of the implementation of the Agreement through the agricultural and fisheries subcommittee established by the Association Agreement(2).

Concerning the issue of origin labelling, it must be borne in mind that neither the Association Agreement, nor the Agriculture Agreement foresee any specific rules regarding requirements as to the labelling of products. Products originating in Morocco and imported into the Union can thus not be differentiated on a territorial basis. As a result, the EU de facto grants Western Sahara products the benefit of preferential tariffs if they are not differentiated from products originating in Morocco; otherwise they would be subject to the full Most Favoured Nation tariffs which would obviously provide less favourable access into the European market.