WRITTEN QUESTION P-1511/03
by Paulo Casaca (PSE) to the Commission
(28 April 2003)

Subject: Financial corrections

In reply to point 2.57 of the Court of Auditors Annual report for 2001 (1), the Commission states that 'as part of the follow-up to the 2001 clearance process the Commission services have informed the Portuguese authorities that a financial correction of 2% of Ifadap expenditure is proposed (EUR 2.8 million)'.

Will the Commission provide the report it based this decision?

Will it also provide the IT audit report of Portuguese paying agencies mentioned in point 2.59 of the Court of Auditors report, as well as any other audit reports which the Commission carried out in this connection?


Answer given by Mr Fischler on behalf of the Commission
(16 June 2003)

The financial correction proposed by the Commission in the case of the Portuguese paying agency Instituto Financeiro de Apoio ao Desenvolvimento da Agricultura e Pescas (Ifadap) is based on analysis of the report by the 2001 EAGGF financial year by the certifying body (in this case the Inspectorate-General for Finance) under Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1663/95 (1), and corresponds to extrapolation of the errors that body found. Commission officials visited Ifadap from 16 to 20 September 2002 to develop the extrapolation and carry out a general audit covering accreditation of Ifadap as a paying agency.

The clearance procedure in connection with imposition of this financial correction has not yet been completed.

The Court of Auditors’ 2001 annual report (2) also mentions, as the Honourable Member indicates, a series of computer system audits of paying agencies. In the case of Portugal only the Nacional de Intervenção e Garantia Agrícola (INGA) was included.


The Commission reminds the Honourable Member that under the Framework agreement on relations between Parliament and the Commission, signed on 5 July 2000, the President of Parliament, the chairpersons of the parliamentary committees concerned, the Bureau and the Conference of Presidents can ask for confidential information from the Commission.