

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3702/09

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to the Council

Subject: EU action on tax havens

In its resolution on the G20 of April 24, 2009 (P6\_TA(2009)0330), the European Parliament adopted the following paragraph:

*20. Welcomes and fully supports the request made by the Eurolat Parliamentary Assembly on 8 April 2009 to the EU-LAC countries to act at once to abolish all tax havens on their territory and to work at international level for the abolition of the rest and for sanctions against companies and individuals resorting to their services;*

How many and which LAC-EU countries have already abolished all tax havens on their territory? In which countries are such initiatives under way? Which countries are resisting the abolition of tax havens? What sort of sanctions is the Council proposing against companies and individuals? Could the Council give a full list of its own proposals for such sanctions?

Considering the urgent need to carry out an overall review of financial services as part of our agreements with third countries, in order to establish clear rules and close all loopholes, the logical consequence would be a moratorium on all existing provisions providing for more liberalisation and a withdrawal of this chapter from all current negotiations of agreements. Has the Council already taken such a step? Does it intend to do so?