

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(86) 80 final

Brussels, 27 January 1986

**NINTH PROGRESS REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
SAFETY, HYGIENE AND HEALTH PROTECTION AT WORK
(PERIOD: 1984)**

COM(86) 80 final

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Council Decision 74/325/EEG of 27 June 1974 (O.J. No. L 185 of 9 July 1974 on the setting up of an Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work, provides in article 3 that:

- "1) The Committee shall produce an annual report on its activities.
- 2) The Commission shall forward that report to the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Consultative Committee of the European coal and Steel Community."

This Advisory Committee approved the enclosed Ninth Progress Report (Doc. No. V/LUX/4719/1/1985) in the meeting of 3 and 4 September 1985.

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0. INTRODUCTION

Article 3 of Council Decision 74/325/EEC of 27 June 1974 (OJ L 185 of 9 July 1974) on the setting up of an Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work provides that:

- "1) The Committee shall produce an annual report of its activities
- 2) The Commission shall forward this report to the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Consultative Committee of the European Coal and Steel Community."

The Ninth Progress Report, for the year 1984, was approved by the Committee at its meeting on -

1. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE, WORKING PARTIES AND RESTRICTED GROUP

The lists of members of the Committee, the three Working Parties and the Restricted Group at the end of 1984 are given in Annex I. It should be noted that once again, as in 1983, there were no Greek workers' representatives in any of the Working Parties.

1984 was the third and final year of the current term*) and there were relatively few changes of membership. Towards the end of the year Mr Fiore resigned as Chairman of Working Party III.

2. STRUCTURE AND OPERATION

2.0. The general structure and mode of operation of the Committee, the three Working Parties and the Restricted Group remained unchanged in 1984.

There were no changes in the Secretariat.

*) The term of office of the members expires officially on 1 April 1985.

2.1 In May 1984 the Committee decided to modify its substructure by replacing the three standing Working Parties (which had existed for nine years and were expected to cover every aspect of the Committee's sphere of competence) by ad hoc groups (the number of which would depend on the subjects to be covered in a given period and the membership of which would be restricted), and replacing the Restricted Group (composed of the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the three standing Working Parties) by a more representative intermediate group.

The Restricted Group was instructed to consider the terms of reference of this future intermediate group and the organizational aspects of the reform.

The reform will be introduced subsequent to the renewal of the current term of office.

3. MEETINGS

A total of eleven meetings, spread over 19 days, took place in 1984. This was fewer than previous years and in fact was the lowest number recorded since the creation of the Committee.

There was a marked slow-down in the frequency of meetings during the first half of the year, partly because of the general budgetary uncertainties and partly because of uncertainty about the implications of the reform proposed by the Committee (see 2.1.). Unlike most previous years, the busiest period for meetings was the last quarter. This was mainly because opinions had to be delivered on three draft directives presented in a short space of time by the departments of the Commission.

The following table gives details of the trend in the number of meetings and days devoted to meetings in recent years.

NUMBER OF MEETINGS AND NUMBER OF DAYS DEVOTED TO MEETINGS

1978/1984

	Number of meetings							Number of days						
	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978
Committee *)	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	6	6
Working Party I	5	7	6	6	4	9	5	10	11	11	11	8	15	10
Working Party II	1	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	6	3	6	4	4
Working Party III	2	1	2	3	4	2	1	3	1	2	6	6	2	1
Restricted Group	2	3	2	4	2	4	4	2	3	2	4	2	4	4
TOTAL	11	14	14	16	14	20	15	19	20	23	25	24	31	25

*) Preceded by a preparatory meeting of the workers' and employers' groups (since 1979) and of the representatives of the national governments (since 1981).

4. ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE

4.0. General remarks and summary

4.0.0. Almost all the activities were connected with the second Programme of Action of the European Communities on Safety and Health at Work*) and stemmed directly from the annual plan of work for DG V/E for the implementation of this programme in 1984**).

4.0.1. Activities in 1984 were concentrated on the following:

- completion of an overall opinion on the harmonization of exposure limit values, biological and workplace environment monitoring and health surveillance - second part (see 4.1.(1));
- the second plan of work for DG V/E - see 4.1.(4);
- the reform of the Committee - see 4.1.(14);
- two statements of views on Commission documents - see 4.1.(2) and (3);
- opinions on three draft directives presented by the departments of the Commission - see 4.1.(5), (9) and (10).

These activities alone represent a bigger workload than that of 1983.

4.0.2. A summary of the activities is given on the following page.

This summary and the meetings table (see item 3) show that WP I continues to have a bigger workload than the other working parties.

*) Council Resolution 84/C 67/02 of 27 February 1984 - OJ C 67 of 8 March 1984.

***) The Committee had given its opinion on this plan of work at the end of 1983 - see the Eighth Progress Report, item 4.1.(1).

Summary of activities in 1984*

Opinions completed

- (1) Harmonization of exposure limit values, biological and workplace environment monitoring and health surveillance (WP I) - second part
- (2) Technological change and social adjustment (WP II)
- (3) 1984 ESPRIT programme (WP II)
- (4) 1985 plan of work for DG V/E arising from the Second Action Programme (R.G.)
- (5) Draft directive on benzene (WP I)
- (6) Small information brochure for workers on asbestos (WP III)
- (7) Safety of fishing vessels**)
- (8) Toxicological programme**)

Opinions in preparation

- (9) Draft directive on acrylonitrile (WP I)
- (10) Draft directive on electromagnetic fields (WP I)

Activities continued

- (11) Preparation of a research programme on general safety (WP II)
- (12) Preparation of statistics on fatal and serious work accidents (WP II)
- (13) Preparation of data sheets pursuant to the Seveso directive (WP III)

Internal organization

- (14) Operation and structure of the Committee (R.G.)

Other activities

- (15) Documentation (particularly WP I)
- (16) Studies (WP II)
- (17) Application of the "framework" directive**)**
- (18) Other subjects connected with the activities of the Committee**).

*) The Working Party concerned is indicated in parentheses

***) Only discussed at the plenary meeting of the Committee

***) 80/1107/EEC of 27 November 1980, OJ L 327 of 3 December 1980

4.1. Description of activities

- (1) Harmonization of exposure limit values, biological and workplace environment monitoring and health surveillance - second part

The Committee adopted this overall opinion as a "policy" instrument, i.e. an instrument laying down guidelines and describing objectives while leaving various scientific and technical details open.

The purpose behind the opinion, which was drawn up on the Committee's initiative, was to establish various Community principles to serve as a guide for the preparation of specific directives pursuant to the framework directive*).

The opinion has already been used as a reference and has obviated the need to repeat various generally accepted basic principles each time a specific directive comes up for examination - see activities (5), (9) and (10).

- (2) Technological change and social adjustment**)

In a statement setting out its views, the Committee proposed a number of additions to this communication to the Council and declared its desire to be involved in any resulting activities connected with health and safety at work.

- (3) 1984 work programme for a European programme for research and development in information technologies (ESPRIT)***)

The Committee gave its support to this programme and asked to be consulted on the definition and implementation of all projects in the ESPRIT programme likely to affect health and safety at work.

*) 80/1107/EEC of 27 November 1980 - OJ L 327 of 3 December 1980

***) Doc. COM (84) 6 final of 26 January 1984

****) Council Decision 84/157/EEC - OJ L 81 of 24 March 1984.

(4) 1985 plan of work for DG V/E arising from the Second Action Programme*)

The Committee expressed broad agreement with the draft plan of work, gave priority to certain actions, requested that work be continued on asbestos and stressed the need to try to establish a reference instrument enabling actions in the field of health and safety to be developed on a solid base.

(5) Draft directive on benzene

Acting on instructions, and following the guidelines laid down by the Committee, WP I issued an opinion on this specific draft directive**) concerning benzene.

The opinion is in two parts, the first part being a general assessment and the second part dealing with specific items (exposure and intervention levels, measurements in air, medical examination and notification). In deciding on this structure, the Committee was adapting to the fact that the Commission - at the insistence of the Council - has been basing future directives**) on the "lead" and "asbestos" models, apart from those aspects which are specific to the particular agent in question.

Thus, the opinion on benzene can be used as a model for other opinions - see activities (9) and (10) -, in which only those aspects specific to the agent in question will need to be dealt with, the reader being referred to the opinion on benzene for the general observations.

This, together with the development referred to in (1), has enabled other opinions to be prepared more quickly.

*) See footnote **) to page 5

) Pursuant to the framework directive referred to at footnote*) on page 7.

(6) Small information brochure for workers on asbestos

In accordance with instructions from the Committee, WP III finalized the asbestos brochure in preparation for its publication. The brochure will be based on the lead model.

(7) Safety of fishing vessels

The Committee approved the Commission's intention of preparing a proposal for a Council Decision on the ratification of the Torremolinos International Convention of 1977*) for the safety of fishing vessels.

(8) Toxicological programme

The Committee expressed its support for a proposal**) by the Commission to the Council concerning a programme of action on toxicology for health protection, covering three main subjects: toxicity testing facilities and methods, clinical toxicological services and poison centres, and training of personnel.

(9) Draft directive on acrylonitrile

WP I completed the preparatory work for a draft opinion on acrylonitrile in a particularly short time, thanks to the new system referred to under activity (5), final paragraph.

(10) Draft directive on electromagnetic fields

Same as for (9), although the work is not quite so far advanced.

*) See OJ C 183 of 10 July 1984

***) See OJ C 156 of 16 June 1984

(11) Preparation of a research programme on general safety

The Committee monitored the inquiries undertaken by the Commission in preparation for the drafting of this programme.

(12) Preparation of statistics on fatal and serious work accidents

WP II was kept informed of the progress of the work carried out by the SOEC to obtain European statistics on fatal and serious work accidents.

(13) Preparation of data sheets pursuant to the Seveso directive*)

WP III was involved in laying down the basic principles for the data sheets and drawing up several specimen sheets. The Committee did not give priority to this activity.

(14) Operation and structure of the Committee

Details of the reform decided upon are given at 2.1.

Preparing the reform was a lengthy business, with opinions being divided; consequently, the reform finally adopted is not a consensus but the result of a majority vote.

*) 82/501/EEC of 24 June 1983 - OJ L 230 of 5 August 1982

The Committee's main priorities were to:

ensure observance of the Council Decision setting up the Committee and the rules of procedure; maintain the Committee's responsibilities; replace the existing substructure, which had become rigid and unbalanced; and avoid alignment with the internal structures of the Commission departments.

(15) Documentation

A large amount of national and international documentation was made available by the Commission departments and, in some cases, by members in order to facilitate the Committee's work. The documentation related primarily to activities (1), (5), (9) and (10), all these being WP I activities.

The Commission departments have been requested to continue to supply documentation and, if possible, to extend it to cover studies or references for studies.

(16) Studies

Through WP II the Committee was able to discuss:

- three studies on the construction industry:
 - 'Accident frequency in the building industry as a function of size of company',
 - 'Methods and instruments for surveys of premature health deterioration in building construction work',
 - 'Identification and discussion of indicators suitable for the empirical description of working conditions',
- a safety training module for agricultural workers (two sections), and
- a study of occupational accidents in sea fishing (two sections).

The Committee was also informed of five other studies which have already commenced and which will be submitted for its consideration at a future date.

(17) Application of the framework Directive

In view of the fact that the deadline for the implementation of the framework Directive on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work was 27 November 1984 (for nine Member States; November 1985 for Greece), the Committee requested that a survey be undertaken in conjunction with the Commission departments to assess the extent to which the Directive had already been implemented. A report on the matter was in the course of preparation at the end of 1984.

(18) Other subjects connected with the activities of the Committee

The Committee was informed of (and certain of its members attended) various meetings or symposia organized by the Commission and/or other international organizations on subjects of general or specific interest to the Committee. Details of these meetings and the subjects covered are given in Annex III.

5. CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK

5.0. 1984 was a particularly significant year for the Committee.

The low number of meetings made it impossible to deal with all the subjects covered by the action programme and work programme. The introduction by DG V/E of an annual work plan for the Second Action Programme was beneficial and the future is promising. The work plan is one of the major reasons for the positive results in 1984.

The Committee too has adapted, tightening up considerably on its planning and scheduling.

The second half of 1984 confirmed that strong support from the Commission departments is a vital element in the efficient functioning of the Committee.

The fact that safety was once again overshadowed by health in 1984 lends added credence to the belief that safety needs a platform in the same way as the framework directive constitutes a platform for actions in the health field.

5.1. 1985 will be a year of change. At Commission level, responsibility for the Committee will pass to a new Commissioner at the start of the year. At Committee level, the reformed substructure and system of operation will be introduced towards mid-year. The Committee and the departments of the Commission will need to take appropriate organizational measures to ensure that the transmission from the old system to the new will work satisfactorily. On the administrative front, the Committee reiterates its comments in previous reports regretting the shortage of staff and money.

MEDLEMMER
MITGLIEDER
MEMBERS
MEMBRES
MEMBRI
LEDEN
ΜΕΛΗ

- A = *Repraesentanter for regeringen*
Regeringsvertreter
Representatives of the Government
Représentants du gouvernement
Rappresentanti del governo
Vertegenwoordigers van de Regering
μέλος που εκπροσωπεί κυβέρνηση
- B = *Repraesentanter for arbejdsdagernes faglige organisationer*
Vertreter der Arbeitnehmerorganisationen
Representatives of trade unions
Représentants des organisations syndicales de travailleurs
Rappresentanti delle organizzazioni sindacali dei lavoratori
Vertegenwoordigers van de organisaties van werknemers
μέλος που εκπροσωπεί εργαζόμενους
- C = *Repraesentanter for arbejdsgivernes faglige organisationer*
Vertreter der Arbeitgeberorganisationen
Representatives of employers' organisations
Représentants des organisations syndicales d'employeurs
Rappresentanti delle organizzazioni sindacali dei datori di lavoro
Vertegenwoordigers van de organisaties van werkgevers
μέλος που εκπροσωπεί εργοδότες

Titulaires	Suppléants	Titulaires	Suppléants
Faste medlemmer	Suppleanterne	Faste medlemmer	Suppleanterne
Mitglieder	Stellvertreter	Mitglieder	Stellvertreter
Full members	Alternate members	Full members	Alternate members
Membri titolari	Membri supplenti	Membri titolari	Membri supplenti
Gewone leden	Plaatsvervangende leden	Gewone leden	Plaatsvervangende leden
Πλήρη Μέλη	Αναπληρωματικά Μέλη	Πλήρη Μέλη	Αναπληρωματικά Μέλη

A.

Belgie/Belgique
 Danmark
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 France
 Hellas
 Ireland
 Italia
 Luxembourg
 Nederland
 United Kingdom

M. BENS	Mme MARQUEGNIES	M. DENONNE	M. CAJOT
Fr. LÖLLIKE	Hr. SAXILD	Hr. ANDERSEN	Hr. OVERGAARD-HANSEN
Herr NOTLICHS	Herr OFFERMANN	Herr WAGNER	Herr WOLFF
M. REBIERE	Mlle BUNE	M. LAROQUE	M. JULIEN
k. VASILOPOULOS	ka. KAFETZOPOULOU	ka. GEORGOPOULOU	k. ZORBAS
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M. SCHUSTER	M. GLODT	M. RUME	M. DEMUTH
Dhr. DE ROOS	Dhr. RIKMENSPOEL	Dhr. SICCAMI	Dhr. VOS
Mr. MARTIN	Mrs. CATTO	Mr. SORRIE	Mr. CASSWELL

B.

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 B.R. Deutschland
 France
 Hellas
 Ireland
 Italia
 Luxembourg
 Nederland
 United Kingdom

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Hr. MALTESEN	Hr. HEEGAARD	Fr. CHRISTENSEN	Fr. SVANHOLT
Herr KONSTANTY	Herr KIENAPPEL	Herr PARTIKEL	Herr EGELKRAUT
M. BAUDE	M. MALNOE	M. GUEVEL	M. DIAZ
k. TASOULIS	k. YERANIOS	ka. VASILAKOU	Ka. KARAMANOU
Mr. BRANIGAN	Mr. O'HALLORAN	Mr. O'SULLIVAN	Mr. KEATING
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M. JUNK	M. DUNKEL	M. RIES	M. NURENBERG
Dhr. BUNF	Dhr. BURLINGH	Dhr. VAN DE KAMP	Dhr. SCHMITZ
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C.

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 Danmark
 B.R. Deutschland
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M. CORDY	M. BORMANS	M. LEONARD	M. HARDY
Hr. FALK	Hr. LINIUS	Hr. JEPSEN	Fr. KROGH ANDERSEN
Herr VON HASSELL	Herr MULLER	Herr BOESHAGEN	Herr HARTMANN
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Arbejdsgruppe I - Arbeitsgruppe I - Working Party I - Groupe de travail
Gruppo di lavoro I - Werkgroep I - Ομάδα εργασίας I

Tekniske og forskriftsmæssige aspekter i forbindelse med forebyggelse og beskyttelse
Technische Aspekte und Vorschriften der Unfallverhütung und des Gesundheitsschutzes
Technical protective measures and regulations relating to health and safety at work
Aspects techniques et réglementaires de la prévention et de la protection
Aspetti tecnici e normativi della prevenzione e della protezione
Technische en reglementaire aspecten van de ongevallenpreventie en gezondheidsbescherm
Τεχνικά προστατευτικά μέτρα και κανονισμοί αναφορικά με την υγεία και την ασφάλεια
στον τόπο εργασίας.

	A.	B.	C.
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Danmark	Hr. SAXILD	Hr. MALTESEN	Hr. FALK
Bundesrepublik Deutschland	Herr HORNEFFER	Herr PARTIKEL	Herr HARTMANN
France	Mlle BERTHEZENE	M. LEVY	M. PEYRICAL
Hellas	k. VASILOPOULOS	-----	k. TSAMOUSOPOULOS
Ireland	Mr. NEVILLE	Mr. O'SULLIVAN	Mr. CLARKE
Italia	Sig. FIORE	Sig.ra TOMASSINI	Sig. GARLANDA
Luxembourg	M. SCHUSTER	M. RIES	M. OLINGER
Nederland	Dhr. RIKMENSPOEL	Dhr. BURINGH	Dhr. DEN BOER
United Kingdom	Mr. MASSON	Mr. JACQUES	Mr. EBERLIE (xx)

(x) Chairman
(xx) Vice-Chairman

Arbejdsgruppe II - Arbeitsgruppe II - Working Party II - Groupe de travail II
Gruppo di lavoro II - Werkgroep II - Ομάδα εργασίας II

Statistik og Forskning
Statistik und Forschung
Statistics and Research
Statistiques et Recherches
Statistiche e Ricerche
Statistiek en Onderzoek
Στατιστική και Έρευνα

	A.	B.	C.
België/Belgique	M. DE GREVE	M. THISSEN	M. CORDY
Danmark	Hr. ANDERSEN	Fr. SVANHOLT	Hr. GRUNNET
Bundesrepublik Deutschland	Herr KOCH	Herr KIENAPPEL	Herr BASTONG
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Ireland	Mr. MURPHY	Mr. O'HALLORAN	Mrs. CARROLL
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(x) Chairman

(xx) Vice-Chairman

Arbejdsgruppe III - Arbeitsgruppe III - Working Party III - Groupe de travail III
Gruppo di lavoro III - Werkgroep III - Ομάδα εργασίας III

Arbejdsmarkedets parters rolle, problemer i forbindelse med uddannelse of information
Rolle der Sozialpartner, Ausbildungs- und Informationsprobleme
Role of both sides of industry, problems of training and information
Rôle des partenaires sociaux, problèmes de formation et d'information
Ruolo delle parti sociali, problemi di formazione e d'informazione
Rol van de sociale partners, opleiding en voorlichting
Ρόλος των κοινωνικών εταίρων, προβλήματα εκπαίδευσης και ενημέρωσης.

	A.	B.	C.
België/Belgique	M. NUYTS	M. KENNES	M. CORDY
Danmark	Hr. KONKOLEWSKY	Hr. ELIKOFER	Hr. FALK
Bundesrepublik Deutschland	Herr ANZINGER	Herr KONSTANTY	Herr WILKE
France	M. JACOB	M. GUEVEL	M. TASSIN (xx)
Hellas	ka. KAFETZOPOULOU	-----	-----
Ireland	-----	Mr. BRANIGAN	Mr. RICE
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United Kingdom	Mr. MASSON	Mr. HAMILTON (xx)	Mr. NASH

(x) Chairman

(xx) Vice-Chairman

Restricted Group - Organe restreint - Organo ristretto - Klein Comité

ΠΕΡΙΟΡΙΣΜΕΝΟΥ ΟΡΓΑΝΟΥ

M. SILON

Mr. EBERLIE

Dhr. DEN BOER

Mr. SORRIE

Sig. STANZANI

Mr. HAMILTON

M. TASSIN

HEALTH AND SAFETY DIRECTORATE

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR 1985

OF THE

ACTION PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

ON

SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK

JANUARY 1985

This forward outline of the work in implementation of the Resolution of Council has been prepared with the assistance of the Advisory Committee for Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work and following consultation with Member States.

Section I. Protection against dangerous substances. Actions 1-6

- a) Complete preparation of a proposal for a Directive on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to dangerous agents at work, in particular benzene and acrylonitrile.
- b) Complete updating of the proposal to Council on electromagnetic fields (microwaves).
- c) Continue implementation of the lead Directive and work on ZPP standardization, blood lead quality control and lead in air measurements.
- d) Continue evaluation of available scientific data on agents in Annex I of Directive 80/1107/EEC, in particular lead, asbestos⁽¹⁾ cadmium, nickel and chlorinated hydrocarbons.
- e) Continue work on health effects of noise and vibration.
- f) Continue preparation of biological and health monitoring reports on certain agents, and begin to evaluate mixed exposures.
- g) Commence preparation of a proposal to Council on exposure limits.⁽¹⁾
- h) Commence preparation of a Communication to Council on the theoretical and practical aspects of the measurement of exposure to dangerous agents in the workplace.
- i) Commence preparation of a Communication to Council on chemical agents for which skin penetration is a hazard.
- j) Commence a review of current practices of prevention in non-industrial sectors concerning biological agents.

Section II. Ergonomic measures, protection against accidents and dangerous situations. Actions 7-11

- a) Complete preparation of a discussion paper on safety and use of tools and equipment.
- b) Continue to organize exchanges of experience and information between Member States concerning the principles and methods of organization and training of those responsible for inspection in the fields of safety, health and hygiene at work.⁽¹⁾
- c) Commence a review of ergonomic health issues in information technology and process control systems.⁽²⁾
- d) Commence work on establishing⁽²⁾ guidelines for human factor considerations in process control systems.
- e) Commence work on establishing guidelines for the prevention of back injuries.

(1) See footnote on following page
(2) See footnote on following page

Section III. Organization. Actions 12-14

- a) Complete updating of the 1962 and 1966 Commission Recommendations on occupational diseases.
- b) Continue a review of current practices of participation by workers and their representatives in matters of health and hygiene in the workplace. (1)
- c) Commence preparation of a Communication to Council on the provision and organisation of occupational health services.

Section IV. Training and information. Actions 15-16

- a) Complete the review of current practices of the provision of information to employers and workers exposed to dangerous agents at work.
- b) Continue preparation of information notices to workers on dangerous agents and major accident hazards.
- c) Continue work on recommendations for training of workers in special risk industries eg. diving, fishing, agriculture, and the construction industry.
- d) Commence a review of the safety training requirements for employers, workers' representatives and safety specialists in industry.

Section V. Statistics. Actions 17-18

- a) Continue collaboration with the Statistical Office in the collection and use of statistics on mortality and on occupational diseases and continue a review of current practices of cancer registration.

Section VI. Research. Action 19

- a) Continue work on the preparation of research programmes on ergonomics (2) and safety at work.

Section VII. Co-operation. Actions 20-21

- a) Participate in the 71st Session of the ILO Conference and ILO Technical Meetings and coordinate the Community response to the ILO questionnaire on safety in the use of asbestos.
- b) Collaborate with WHO and IPCS in the preparation of technical reports and meetings.
- c) Continue the exchange of information with US and Swedish agencies.

(1) Representatives of Member States requested that these items receive priority attention.

(2) These items reflect paragraph 1.4. of the conclusions of the Council of 22 June 1984 concerning a Community medium term social action programme (O.J. C. 175, 4 July 1984): "Arrangements should, in particular, be sought for taking systematic account of the ergonomic implications of technological innovations as from the stage of the study and design of the equipment."

ANNEX III

OTHER SUBJECTS CONNECTED WITH THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE

In 1984 the Commission organized or was involved in various information or study meetings.

- The Member States' labour inspectorates met in Brussels (26 - 28.11.1984) to examine the occupational exposure of workers to chemical and physical agents from the point of view of labour inspection practice (equipment used, role of the industrial hygienist, methods and strategies used for measurement and sampling).
- The European employers' organization (UNICE - ELC) met in Luxembourg from 3 - 5.12.1984 to examine the monitoring of limit values, the regulations relating to work with carcinogens and the legal situation of persons responsible for safety in undertakings.
- The course organized by the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) had to be cancelled for technical reasons, but the same organization participated in a seminar on radiation protection held in Luxembourg at the end of November 1984 and collaborated in the preparation of a symposium (scheduled to be held in Luxembourg in September 1984*) on safety and health at work from the trade union viewpoint.
- The European Council of Chemical Manufacturers' Federations (ECCMF) organized an international meeting in Brussels on 24.2.1984 on the harmonization of exposure limit values.
- The University of Ghent hosted a workshop (11 - 13.1.1984) devoted to analysing barriers to the development of research and its applications in the field of occupational health.

*) Postponed until early 1985 for budgetary and/or organizational reasons.

- A seminar on welding hazards (including nickel and chromium fumes), organized by the World Health Organization in collaboration with the Commission, was scheduled to take place in Copenhagen at the end of 1984*).
- A study meeting on professional diving operations was planned and prepared (end of 1984 in Luxembourg*).

*) Postponed until early 1985 for budgetary and/or organizational reasons.

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