

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM (89) 197 final

Brussels, 28 April 1989

TWELFTH PROGRESS REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
ON SAFETY, HYGIENE AND HEALTH  
PROTECTION AT WORK  
- PERIOD 1987 -

(presented by the Commission)

CONTENTS

- I - Legal basis
  
- II - General remarks
  - a) Membership of the Committee
  - b) Structure
  - c) Number of meetings and number of meeting days  
1975/1987
  
- III - Activities
  - a) Summary
  - b) Detailed description
  - c) Other activities
  
- IV - Analysis of work (1987)
  
- V - Annexes
  - I - List of members of the Committee (1985-1988)
  - II - Composition of the ad hoc groups 1987
  - III - Structure of the Committee

I. LEGAL BASIS

Council Decision of 27 June 1974 on the setting up of an Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work (extracts) :

"The Council of the European Communities ... Whereas a standing body should be envisaged to assist the Commission in the preparation and implementation of activities in the field of safety, hygiene and health protection at work and to facilitate cooperation between national administrations, trade unions and employer's organizations ...

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS :

Article 1 :

An Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work is hereby established.

Article 2 :

The Committee shall have the task of assisting the Commission in the preparation and implementation of activities in the fields of safety, hygiene and health protection at work ...

Article 3

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".

## II. GENERAL REMARKS

### a) Membership of the Committee

#### Individual movements :

- Mr. GREENDALE, UK, full member of the "Workers" group, replaced by Mrs. MADDOCKS, Council Decision of 9.02.1987;
- Mr. HAMILTON, UK, alternate member of the "Workers" group, replaced by Mr. COYLE, Council Decision of 9.02.1987;
- Mr. BUCKTON, UK, alternate member of the "Workers" group, replaced by Mr. TUFFIN, Council Decision of 9.02.1987;
- Mr. H. F. WOLFF, D, full member of the "Government Representatives" group, replaced by Mr. GIESEN, Council Decision of 16.03.1987;
- Mr. BRANIGAN, IRL, full member of the "Workers" group, replaced by Mrs. O'DONOVAN, Council Decision of 9.06.1987;
- Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, DK, full member of the "Workers" group, replaced by Mrs. EBERHARD, Council Decision of 23.07.1987;
- Mr. DENONNE, B, full member of the "Government Representatives" group, replaced by Mr. DE GREVE, Council Decision of 14.09.1987;
- Mr. DE GREVE, B, alternate member of the "Government Representatives" group, replaced by Mr. LEHOUCQ, Council Decision of 14.09.1987.

b) Structure

- Seven ad hoc groups carried on their work (see Annex II for the terms of reference and membership of each of these groups).

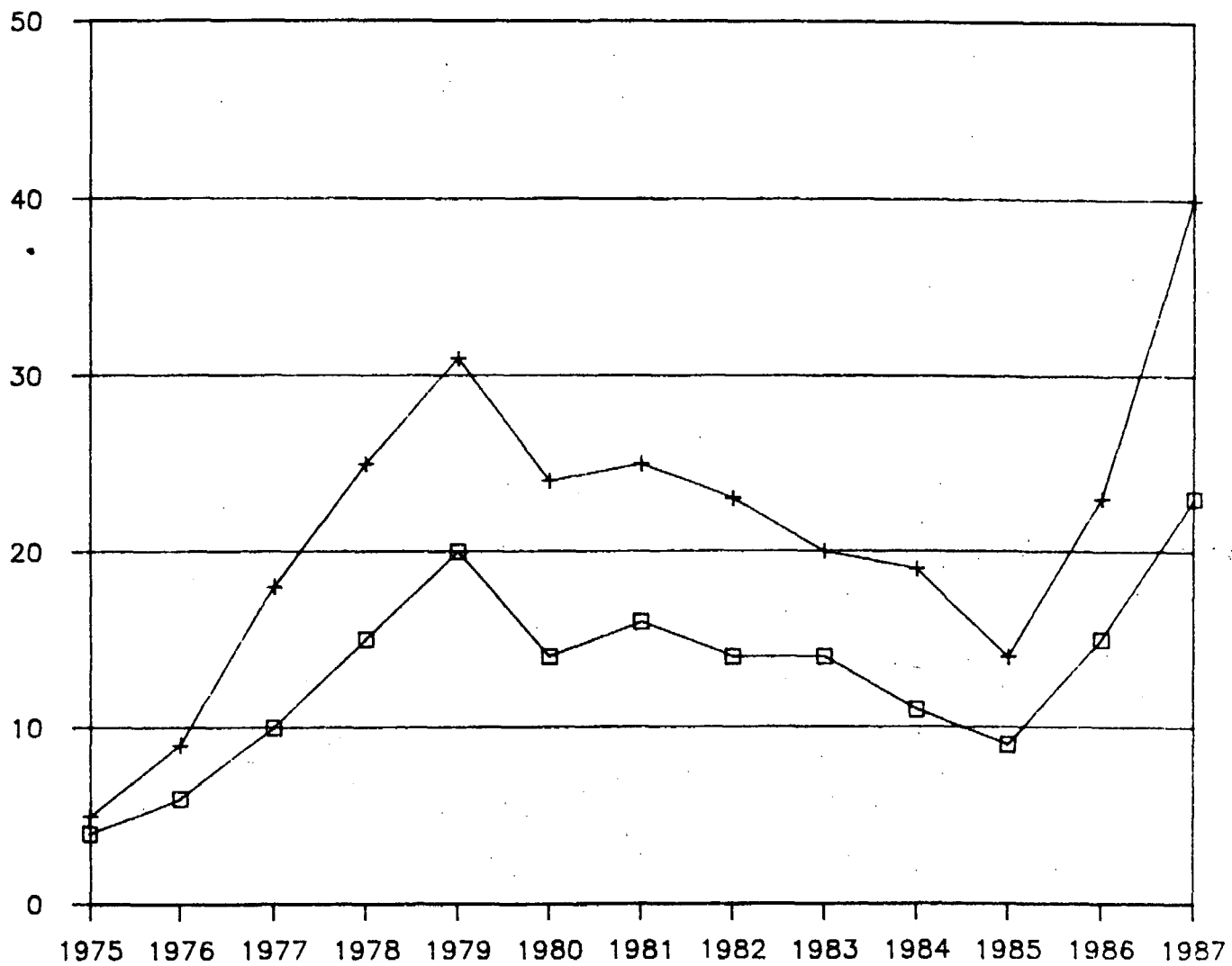
- The Intermediate Group (membership shown at Annex III) held two meetings during the year.

Minutes of the meeting of 23.2.87, Doc. No V/LUX/7190/87.

Minutes of the meeting of 3.11.87, Doc. No V/LUX/8183/87.

- Pursuant to a Commission Decision of 10 November 1987 the Committee's secretariat became a sector of activity in its own right and, as such, now appears for the first time in the Commission's official Directory.

PERIOD 75-87



- 5 bis -

□ NUMBER OF MEETINGS

+ NUMBER OF MEETING DAYS

### III. ACTIVITIES

#### a) Summary

##### Opinions delivered

- 1) Pathogens.
- 2) Draft Directive on machines (technical harmonization and placing on the market).
- 3) Draft Directives on the technical harmonization, placing on the market and use of personal protective equipment.
- 4) Third Programme of Action on Safety and Health at Work.
- 5) Occupational health.

##### Activities of the ad hoc groups

- 6) Ad hoc Group on Occupational Diseases.
- 7) Ad hoc Group on Carcinogens.

##### Other activities

- 8) Meeting of the Intermediate Group.
- 9) Extension of the Committee's terms of reference to cover nuclear safety.
- 10) Information activities.

b) Detailed description

1) Pathogens

The Committee delivered a favourable opinion on the draft produced by the ad hoc group concerning the protection of workers against the risks arising from exposure to microbiological agents at work. The Committee considered only the technical questions and delivered an opinion indicating what the content of a draft directive in this field should be. The Commission took the Committee's observations into account in its preparation of the draft Directive.

2) Directive on machines (technical harmonization and placing on the market).

The Committee delivered a favourable opinion on the draft prepared by the ad hoc group. The group was able to follow the work of DG III (Internal Market and Industrial Affairs) throughout the preparation of this Directive and to have a say in the drafting of the text.

3) Draft Directive on the technical harmonization, placing on the market and use of personal protective equipment.

The Committee adopted the ad hoc group's draft opinion. The fact that the group had followed DG III's work in this field meant that it was able to prepare the opinions on the DG V proposal and the DG III proposal in parallel. The group's work is now completed.



4) Third Programme of Action on Safety and Health at Work.

The Advisory Committee held an extraordinary meeting in order to be able to deliver an opinion on the Third Programme of Action within the time-limit allowed. A joint opinion was adopted by the Committee, to which were added three supplementary opinions delivered by the interest groups.

5) Occupational health

At the November meeting the Committee delivered a favourable opinion on the section relating to the function of the services responsible for health surveillance. The ad hoc group will continue its work on the "organization" section taking into account the draft Directive on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at the workplace.

6) Ad hoc Group on Occupational Diseases

The ad hoc group has not yet completed its work on the European list of occupational diseases. The experts having produced a new list, this will need to be verified and commented on, if necessary, by the members of the group.

The draft recommendation will also be reviewed by the ad hoc group during 1988.

The group's work should be completed in the course of 1988.

7) Ad hoc Group on Carcinogens

The Committee adopted the draft opinion prepared by the ad hoc group describing the strategy to be followed with regard to the protection of workers against carcinogens.

The Commission took account of this opinion when preparing the draft Council Directive (OJ C 34 of 8 February 1988). The ad hoc group will continue its work, specifically with a view to defining the procedure to be followed for incorporating other carcinogenic agents into the draft Directive.

Other activities

8) Intermediate Group.

At its meeting on 23.2.1987 the Intermediate Group heard the reports of the chairmen of each ad hoc group and examined proposals for the creation of new groups. On the basis of this, it drew up the draft agenda and established the programme for the plenary meeting. The extension of the activities of the Committee to cover the radiation protection of workers was also discussed at the plenary meeting held on 2 and 3 July 1987.

9) Extension of the Committee's terms of reference to cover nuclear safety.

The aim of this extension is to make good the lack of consultation between workers and employers, within the framework of a standing advisory committee on protection of workers against ionizing radiation.

At its plenary meeting on 4 and 5 November the Committee delivered a favourable opinion on this amendment to the internal regulations. The members of the Committee wanted the wording of the amendment to specify "ionizing radiation at the workplace" so as to encompass all places where workers are threatened by radiation. Furthermore, the Committee stressed that the financial and documentary resources needed for the new activities entailed by this Decision should be made available.

The Commission proposed an amendment to the Council Decision (1) on the setting up of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work, designed to extend its present terms of reference to radiation protection.

---

(1) OJ L 185 of 9.7.74.

IV. ANALYSIS OF WORK

- 1 - 1987 saw a further intensification of the Committee's activities.

The intensification can be expressed in quantitative terms : 40 days of meetings compared with 23 in 1986, and 23 meetings compared with 15 in 1986. There were three plenary meetings of the Committee. This is the highest number of meetings held by the Committee since its establishment in 1974 (see Table on page ).

- 2 - The increase in activity is mainly attributable to the implementation of Article 118 A of the Single Act (1), and in particular to the adoption of the "Commission Communication on its programme concerning safety, hygiene and health at work" (2). This Communication demonstrates the Commission's wish to exploit rapidly all the resources opened up by this legal provision in order to reinforce the social aspect of completion of the internal market. To show the importance of this action, the Council, at its meeting of 2 December 1987, adopted a Resolution on Safety, Hygiene and Health at Work (3).

---

(1) see 11th Progress Report, section IV (c).  
(2) OJ C 28 of 3 February 1988, p.  
(3) OJ C 28 of 3 February 1988, p.

- 3 - The Committee was informed of this new programme of work at its 20th plenary meeting held on 3 and 4 July (1) and the text of the Commission's communication to the Council was formally submitted to the Committee for its opinion at the 21st plenary meeting held on 8 and 9 September 1987, which was convened specifically for that purpose.

This was the major event of the year, judging by the fundamental discussions it provoked and the consequences it had on the Committee's working methods.

- 4 - Despite the extremely short deadlines the Committee analysed the Commission's communication methodically and delivered a joint opinion to which each interest group added its own observations (2).
- 5 - In drafting this opinion the Committee proved its ability to react rapidly to Commission initiatives in difficult circumstances and justified its role as a crucial forum for the social dialogue, as recognized in the Commission's communication and the Council Resolution.
- 6 - At the same meeting the working methods were questioned and clarified. The situation now is that the Committee must give its opinion on all the proposals produced by various departments of the Commission concerning the safety and health of workers.

---

(1) see minutes of the 20th plenary meeting (Doc. V/LUX/7635/87).  
(2) see minutes of the 21st plenary meeting (Doc. V/LUX/7639/87).

- 7 - The Committee will need to adjust its structures and its working methods in order to adapt to this new situation, the main features of which are :

- the high number of documents to be examined,
- the technical and scientific nature of the documents,
- the very short time allowed for an opinion to be delivered.

This matter will be discussed during the forthcoming year.

- 8 - In general, the Committee can be considered to have fulfilled its function, which is to assist the Commission in defining and pursuing its activities in this field.

In so doing, it has confirmed the crucial role which it plays in the social dialogue desired by the Commission in the preparation of its decisions.

- 9 - As regards the extension of the Committee's terms of reference to cover the Euratom Treaty, the dossier was placed before the Working Party on Social Questions at the meeting of 22 June 1987, and then COREPER on 3 November 1987; the formal final decision must be taken by the Council, which has yet to be presented with the dossier.

- 10 - Finally, at its 21st meeting the Committee paid tribute to M. BENNETT, who has requested a transfer to another department in the Commission. The Director-General, Mr. DEGIMBE, thanked Mr. BENNETT warmly, emphasizing the value of the scientific work which had been performed and the quality of the human relationships which had prevailed during Mr. BENNETT's time with the Health and Safety Directorate.

**List of full and alternate members of the  
Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work  
(OJ C 355 of 31.12.85 and OJ C 296 of 22.11.86)**

(for the period 17 December 1985 to 16 December 1988)

**I. GOVERNEMENT REPRESENTATIVES**

**a) Full members**

Belgium	Mr G. BENS	Mr J.M. DE GREVE
Denmark	Mr H. GROVE	Mr E. ANDERSEN
Germany	Mr M. NÖTHLICH	Mr T. GIESEN
Spain		
Greece	Mr C. VASILOPOULOS	Mrs H. GEORGOPOULOU
France	Mr J. BRUN	Mr M. LAROQUE
Ireland	Mrs MR O'CALLAGHAN	Mr T. WALSH
Italy	Mr N. FIORE	Mr A. FREDELLA
Luxembourg	Mr A. SCHUSTER	M N. RUME
Netherlands	Mr A.J. DE ROOS	Mr E.H. SICCAMI
Portugal	Mrs J. da E. PINTO MARVÃO	Mr A.A. VAREJÃO CASTELO BRANCO de SOUSA
U.K.	Mr A.B. MARTIN	Mr C.D. BURGESS

**b) Alternates**

Belgium	Mr A. LEHOUCQ	Mr P. CAJOT
Denmark	Mrs C. SKJOLDAGER	Mr K. OVERGAARD-HANSEN
Germany	Mr R. OPFERMANN	Mr K. HORNEFFER
Spain		
Greece	Mrs A. KAFETZOPOULOU	Mr A. ZORBAS
France	Mr A. ERNST	Mr G. ROBERT
Ireland	Mr B. NEVILLE	M T. O'BRIEN
Italy	Mrs G. ROCCA	Mr M. GUERRIERI
Luxembourg	Mr M. GLOTT	Mr J.P. DEMUTH
Netherlands	Mr I.L. RIKMENSPOEL	Mr C.J. VOS
Portugal	Mr C. CARDOSO PINTO	Mr E. PESTANA MARGUES
U.K.	Mrs P.G. CATTO	Mr J.T. CARTER

**II. WORKERS' REPRESENTATIVES**

**a) Full members**

Belgium	Mr P. SILON	Mr P.-P. MAETER
Denmark	Mr S. BØGH	Mrs S. EBERHARD
Germany	Mr R. KONSTANTY	Mr H. PARTIKEL
Spain		
Greece	Mr S. LAIMOS	Mrs L. VASSILAKOU
France	Mr M. MARTIN	Mr R. GUEVEL
Ireland	Mrs O'DONOVAN	Mr D. O'SULLIVAN
Italy	Mr L. LELI	Mrs R. TOMASSINI
Luxembourg	Mr R. NURENBERG	Mr A. GROBEN
Netherlands	Mr E.R. BUNT	M D. VAN DE KAMP
Portugal	Mr J.M. LEITÃO RIBEIRO ARENGA	Mr M.A. CABRAL SARAMAGO FERREIRA
U.K.	Mrs A. MADDOCKS	Mr P. JACQUES



b) Alternates

Belgium	Mr S. KENNES	Mr G. HAAZE
Denmark	Mr O. HEEGAARD	Mrs K.L. SVANHOLT
Germany	Mr K. HINNE	Mr W. EGELKRAUT
Spain		
Greece	Mr G. CHRISTODOULOU	Mr A. YERANIOS
France	Mr M. SATU	Mr M. SEDES
Ireland	Mr M. O'HALLORAN	Mr P. KEATING
Italy	Mr C. STANZANI	Mrs C. BRIGHI
Luxembourg	Mr H. DUNKEL	Mr A. GIARDIN
Netherlands	Mr H.P.W. SCHMITZ	Mr W.W. MULLER
Portugal	Mr J. do DIAS GONÇALVES	Mr A. TAVARES
U.K.	Mr A. TUFFIN	Mr R. COYLE

III. EMPLOYERS' REPRESENTATIVES

a) Full members

Belgium	Mr A. CORDY	Mr R. LEONARD
Denmark	Mr M. KJEMS FALK	Mr T. JEPSEN
Germany	Mr J.-D. VON HASSELL	Mr U. BÖSHAGEN
Spain		
Greece	Mr I. TSAMOUSSOPOULOS	Mr E. ZIMALIS
France	Mr J.P. PEYRICAL	Mr J. TASSIN
Ireland	Mr A.F. RICE	Mr W.H. O'CONNOR
Italy	Mr F. GIUSTI	Mr E. BUSSETTI
Luxembourg	Mr R. FERRY	Mr P. OLINGER
Netherlands	Mr A.M. DEN BOER	Mrs C. DE MEESTER
Portugal	Mr M. de LIMA AMORIM	Mr J.H.L. da COSTA TAVARES
U.K.	Mrs A.M. MACKIE	Mr P.J. DAVIS

b) Alternates

Belgium	Mr J. BORMANS	Mr P.J. HARDY
Denmark	Mr K. LINIUS	Mr P.S. TALPERG
Germany	Mr E. MÜLLER	Mr P. HARTMANN
Spain		
Greece	Mr A. KALDIS	Mr B. VGONTZAS
France	Mrs V. CORMAN	Mr A. JEROME
Ireland	Mrs C. CARROLL	Mr M. CASSIDY
Italy	Mr T. GARLANDA	Mr A. SCARFINI
Luxembourg	Mr VANDERDONCKT	Mr R. BEFFORT
Netherlands	Mr M.P.H. KORTEN	Mr N.J. STENSTRA
Portugal	Mrs J. ROLA ROQUE	Mr M.G. TEVES COSTA
United Kingdom	Mr R.F. EBERLIE	Mrs F.E. WEBSTER

AD HOC GROUPS - 1987

Title of the Ad hoc Group	Carcinogenic Agents	Occupational Diseases (cont.)	Safety: Technical Aspects	Safety: Organization and Information	Pathogenic Agents	Occupational Health Services
Terms of reference	Determination of the policy for carcinogenic agents	Updating of the list of occupational diseases (Recs 62 & 66)	Machines (DG III)	Framework Directive: Safety	Protective measures necessary for workers in the field of biotechnology and measures against harmful pathogens	Organization of health surveillance in labour policy
Membership						
- Chairman	Bormans (Empl. BE)	Cordy (Empl. - BE)	Jean (Gov. FR)	Horneffer (Gov. - DE)	Clare (Empl. UK)	Silon (Worker BE)
- Govt. members	Palk (UK) Klein (DE) Roelfzema (NL) ... (Expert)	Costermans (BE) Fredella (IT) Georgopoulou (GR) ... (Expert)	Chairman Birden (L) Van Hyfte (BE) De Jong (Expert)	Chairman Neville (Ir) Sheye (DK) Nuyts (Expert)	Svane (DK) Fredella (IT) Ager (UK) ...	Buma (NL) De Greve (BE) Wood (IRL) ...
- Workers' reps.	Coyle (UK) Heegaard (DK) Konstanty (DE) Silon (Expert)	Leli (IT) Martin (FR) Nurenberg (LX) O'Sullivan (Expert)	Kennes (BE) Sedes (FR) Stanzani (IT) Sapir (Expert)	Guevel (FR) Kennes (BE) Stanzani (IT) Schmitz (Expert)	Konstanty (DE) Brighi (IT) Owen (UK) Sapir (Expert)	Chairman Partikel (DE) Schmitz (NL) Bogh (Expert)
- Empl. reps.	Garlanda (IT) Hartmann (DE) Chairman (BE)  Aubrun (Expert)	Chairman (BE) Grunnet (DK) Müller (DE)  Fauchois (Expert)	Léonard (BE) Giusti (IT) Peyrical (FR)  Griffiths (Exp.)	Peyrical (FR) Rice (IR) Tsamosopoulos (GR) Chairman  Giusti (Expert)	Mauler (DE)  Aubrun (FR) Chairman (UK)  Malher (Exp.)	Mackie (UK) Linus (DK) Giusti (IT)  Givelet (expert)
DG V/E Official	Aresini C4/117 Tel: 2260	Hunter C4/113 Tel: 2719	Berlin C4/85 Tel: 2724	Goeminne C4/80 Tel: 2697	Cardoso C4/115 Tel: 2313	Aresini C4/117 Tel: 2260

- 17 -

ANNEX II

AD HOC GROUPS 1987

Title of the Ad hoc Group	Personal protective equipment	
Terms of reference		
Membership - Chairman - Govt. members	Tsamoussopoulos (Empl. GR) Wall (IR) Buckley (UK) Mertens (DE) Overgaard-Hansen (Expert)	
- Workers' reps.	Batista (PO) Kienappel (DE) Sedes (FR) Sapir (Expert)	
- Empl. reps.	Chairman Leonard (BE) Giusti (IT) Claire (Expert)	
DG V/E Official	Goeminne C4/97 Tel: 2697	

- 18 -

**Structure du Comité  
Structure of the Committee  
Struktur des Ausschusses**

---

**M. Manuel MARIN,**  
Vice-président de La Commission des Communautés Européennes -  
Vicepresident of the Commission of the European Communities -  
Vizepräsident der Kommission der Europäischen Gemeinschaften

Président du Comité -  
Chairman of the Committee -  
Vorsitzender des Ausschusses

**Dr. E. BENNETT (1.1.1987 - 31.7.1987)**  
Directeur - Director - Direktor V/E  
bureau, office, Büro : C4/74  
tél., Tel. : 2705

**Dr. W. HUNTER (1.8.1987 - 31.12.1987)**  
Directeur f.f. - Director acting - Direktor i.V. V/E  
bureau, office, Büro : C4/113  
tél., Tel. : 2719

**M. Y. MORETTINI**  
Secrétaire du Comité - Secretary of the Committee -  
Sekretär des Ausschusses  
bureau, office, Büro : C4/70  
tél., Tel. : 2737

**M. A. GAUTHIER**  
Assistent, Assistant  
bureau, office, Büro : C4/78  
tél., Tel. : 2802

**Mme M. VAN RIEL-PLOKKER**  
Secrétariat du Comité - Secretariat of the Committee -  
Sekretariat des Ausschusses  
bureau, office, Büro : C4/80  
tél., Tel. : 2345