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DOCUMENT 1-1082/83

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-927/82 - COM(82) 690 final) for a draft Resolution on a second programme of action of the European Communities on safety and health at work

Rapporteur: Mrs C. SCRIVENER

PE 84.564/final

On 9 November 1982, the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament to deliver an opinion, pursuant to Article 235 of the EEC Treaty, on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a Resolution on a second programme of action of the European Communities on safety and health at work.

On 13 December 1982 the President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment for an opinion.

At its meeting of 25 November 1982, the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection appointed Mrs Scrivener rapporteur.

The committee considered the Commission proposal and the draft report at its meetings of 17 March and 2 November 1983.

At the latter meeting the committee unanimously decided to recommend that Parliament should adopt the Commission's proposal subject to the following amendments.

The committee then decided to reserve the right to propose that Parliament should apply Rule 36(2) of the Rules of Procedure.

The committee then unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution as a whole.

The following took part in the vote: Mr Collins, chairman; Mrs Weber, vice-chairman; Mrs Scrivener, rapporteur; Mr Alber, Mr Bombard, Mr Ghergo, Mrs Krouwel-Vlam, Mrs Lentz-Cornette, Mr Muntingh, Mrs Pantazi, Mr Protopapadakis (deputizing for Mr Ryan), Mr Provan (deputizing for Miss Hooper), Mrs Pruvot (deputizing for Mr Berkhouwer), Mrs Schleicher, Mrs Seibel-Emmerling, Dr Sherlock, Mrs Spaak, Mrs Squarcialupi, Mrs Van Hemeldonck and Sir Peter Vanneck (deputizing for Mr Johnson).

The opinion of the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment is attached.

The report was submitted on 16 November 1983.

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The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection hereby submits to the European Parliament the following amendments and motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

AMENDMENTS BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TEXT PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Proposal for a Council Resolution on a second programme of action of the European Communities on safety and health at work

AMENDMENT No.1

New recital, after 7th recital

'whereas the increasing rate of technological innovation and its relative impact on the organization of work call for maximum efforts at national and Community level to guarantee safety and health at work

AMENDMENT No.2

9th recital

'Whereas a considerable effort is needed at Community level to search for and implement suitable means for maintaining or creating a working environment tailored to the needs of man and his legitimate aspirations, and to this end, progress made in the sphere of scientific research and the industrial medicine sector should be exploited to the full - principally with the aim of removing risks';

AMENDMENT No.3

ACTION I

'PREVENTIVE MEASURES AND PROTECTION AGAINST DANGEROUS AGENTS'

9th recital

whereas a considerable effort is needed at Community level to search for and implement suitable means for maintaining or creating a working environment tailored to the needs of man and his legitimate aspirations;

ACTION I

PROTECTION AGAINST DANGEROUS AGENTS

AMENDMENT No.4

I. PROTECTION AGAINST DANGEROUS AGENTS

1. Propose directives based on Council Directive 80/1107/EEC of 27 November 1980 on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work; there should be a precise definition in these directives of the appropriate channels for obtaining the necessary information on the dangers to which workers are exposed at work

I. PROTECTION AGAINST DANGEROUS AGENTS

1. Propose directives based on Council Directive 80/1107/EEC of 27 November 1980 on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work

AMENDMENT NO.5

I. PROTECTION AGAINST DANGEROUS AGENTS

3. Develop a standard approach to establishing exposure limits for toxic agents; lay down the method for sampling and compiling statistics on the data obtained and the method for assessing exposure time

I. PROTECTION AGAINST DANGEROUS AGENTS

3. Develop a standard approach to establishing exposure limits for toxic agents. Make recommendations for the harmonization of exposure limits for a certain number of agents, taking into account existing exposure limits

AMENDMENT NO.6

ACTION II

Title to read

'Preventive measures and protection
against accidents and dangerous
occurrences

ACTION II

Protection against accidents and dangerous
occurrences

AMENDMENT No.7

IV. TRAINING AND INFORMATION

13. Encourage the collection and
dissemination of information at
national and Community level on
safety and health at work. Draw up
recommendations concerning information
notices and manuals on the handling
of certain dangerous substances, in
particular for those which are the
subject of Community Directives.
Include health and safety problems
in occupational training programmes.

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particular for those which are the
subject of Community Directives.

AMENDMENT No.8

VII. COLLABORATION

New paragraph 21

'21. Asks the Commission to report to the
Parliament every two years on action
accomplished in conformity with the
present resolution.'

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

closing the procedure for consultation of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a draft Resolution on a second programme of action of the European Communities on safety and health at work

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal for a Council directive on a second programme of action of the European Communities on safety and health at work (COM (82) 690 final),¹
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 235 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 1-927/82),
 - having regard to the first programme of action on safety and health at work adopted by the Council on 29 June 1978 and its resolution of 9 May 1978,
 - having regard to the motions for resolutions by Mr Peters on industrial medicine (Doc. 1-488/82) and Mrs Squarcialupi on industrial accidents (Doc. 1-1069/82),
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection and the opinion of the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment, (Doc. 1-1082/83),
 - having regard to the result of the vote on the Commission's proposal,
- A. whereas it is necessary to continue with the Community's measures on safety and health at work,
 - B. having regard to the results obtained in the implementation of the first programme and to the various difficulties encountered, which made it impossible to meet any of the objectives in full,
 - C. whereas the second programme basically re-iterates the aims set out in the first,
 - D. whereas, to be completely effective, Community action on safety and health at work must have precise aims, for which timetables must be laid down,
 - E. whereas these objectives must be carefully defined, taking into account:
 - . the social cost and the costs for undertakings arising from occupational accidents and diseases,
 - . the progress made possible by all preventive measures, whatever form they may take,
 - . the cost-effectiveness of such measures,

¹ OJ No. C 308 of 25.11.1982

- F. whereas the second programme of action was drawn up without sufficient comparative data on the question of safety and health at work,
- G. whereas, nevertheless, the information available indicates considerable disparities between the regions and the countries of the Community and the various branches of industry;
1. Welcomes the Commission's proposal on a second programme of action of the Communities on safety and health at work;
 2. Considers that Community action on safety and health at work is an essential facet of the Community's social policy;
 3. Stresses that progress in safety and health contribute to improving both the situation of workers and the efficiency of undertakings;
 4. Endorses the proposed objectives but notes the lack of any timetable;
 5. Stresses the need to define precisely the Community's field of action with regard to safety and health at work;
 6. Considers that a survey on safety and health in the Community should be prepared with a view to a better understanding in particular of:
 - the incidence of occupational accidents and diseases (by type of accident, industrial disease, branch of industry, type of undertaking, category of workers, region and country),
 - a break-down of applications for certification of industrial disease and the instances where such applications have been granted;
 - the cost of such occupational accidents and diseases both at social level and at the level of the undertakings and the cost of preventive measures and policies,
 - what progress has been made and what can be expected in the future;
 7. Stresses that the lack of such a survey makes it difficult to establish what priorities the Community should adopt;
 8. Invites the Commission to prepare such a survey as quickly as possible, collecting together in particular the information available from Member States and international organizations;

9. Considers it appropriate, for the immediate future, to emphasize certain aspects of Community action;
10. Notes from the outset that the framework directive on toxic substances will not become fully effective until it has been followed up by supplementary directives and calls on the Commission to draw up a timetable to this end;
11. Proposes that research should be conducted at Community level into cancer of industrial origin by geographical area and occupational sector with a view to establishing the true significance of the problem and adopting priority measures in the Community;
12. Considers, with regard to accidents at work, that attention should be drawn to the considerable disparities which exist and that these should be counteracted by means of a Community programme;
13. Stresses the difficulties encountered by small and medium-sized undertakings in implementing protection measures and proposes that they should be awarded aid to promote both investment and safety;
14. Draws attention to the importance of compliance with protection measures which can be ensured above all by the widespread dissemination of information;
15. Proposes the setting up of a data bank to provide undertakings with information on safety and health;
16. Calls for the Community list of occupational diseases to be updated as quickly as possible;
17. Instructs its President to forward to the Council and Commission, as Parliament's opinion, the Commission's proposal as voted by Parliament and the corresponding resolution.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENTI. Introduction

1. The aim of the Commission's proposal for a second programme of action of the European Communities for safety and health at work is to extend Community action in this field.

On 29 June 1978 the Council approved the first programme of action submitted by the Commission and in so doing decided on a number of actions to be undertaken by the end of 1982.

2. Much like its forerunner, the second programme is a delineatory text defining the fields proposed for Community action until 1988. To make an appraisal of the programme, the priorities and aims selected and the resources envisaged, a balance sheet has to be drawn up of past Community action and, in particular, of the results obtained and the difficulties encountered under the first programme.

II. The preliminary efforts and first achievements of the Community in the field of safety and health at work

3. The first programme gave tangible form to one of the aims of the social action programme adopted by the Council in 1974; it drew on several articles of the EEC Treaty, in particular Article 118 which stipulates 'prevention of occupational accidents and diseases', those relating to the establishment of the Common Market and the approximation of economic policies (Article 2) and, lastly, Article 235.
4. Community action has already taken concrete form with the setting up of the 'European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions' and the 'Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work'.

Such action enjoyed special prominence in the framework of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) and the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) which both assigned major responsibility to the Community in matters of health and safety. More specifically, the EURATOM Treaty, devotes an entire chapter to this field which, given the degree of risk linked to the industrial activities concerned, is fully understandable.

III. The first action programme

5. The first action programme defined several general aims:
- improvement of the working situation with a view to increased safety and with due regard to health requirements in the organisation of the work;
 - improvement of knowledge in order to identify and assess risks and perfect prevention and control methods;
 - improvement of human attitudes in order to promote and develop safety and health consciousness.
6. Six concrete initiatives were planned within various time limits:
- a. incorporation of safety aspects into the various stages of design, production and operation;
 - b. determination of exposure limits for workers with regard to pollution and harmful substances present or likely to be present at the workplace;
 - c. more extensive monitoring of workers' safety and health;
 - d. accident and disease aetiology and assessment of the risks connected with work;
 - e. coordination and promotion of research on occupational safety and health;
 - f. development of safety and health consciousness by education and training.
7. It is no exaggeration to say that the programme was ambitious. Starting out from the consideration that 'the number of accidents and diseases resulting from work remains high' that 'the human and social consequences of occupational accidents and diseases are incalculable' and that, in addition to the action which they take themselves, the Member States 'must also agree to shoulder a joint programme of positive and effective actions', the proposed aim was 'not only to harmonize ideas and basic principles' but also to plan and guide technical progress and the organization of work in such a way as to take account of the requirements of health and safety.
- It was therefore the duty of the Commission to initiate, promote and develop a common preventative policy with regard to all occupational risks'.

8. In a resolution which it adopted on 9 May 1978 on the basis of a report by Mrs SQUARCIALUPI, the European Parliament welcomed the presentation of this action programme as a genuine attempt to tackle one of the most difficult aspects of economic activity and, in so doing, laid particular stress on the following:
- urgent need to perfect valid methods of statistical research enabling a picture to be formed of the real number of accidents at work and of the incidence of occupational diseases:
 - priority for the elimination of risks or at least a greater awareness of their existence and their frequency;
 - greater consideration for safety in the design and maintenance of machinery;
 - conditions for the use of toxic and dangerous substances;
 - special attention for young people, women, the specific problems of migrant workers and the position of small and medium-sized undertakings;
 - collaboration between all the social partners and large-scale dissemination of knowledge and information;
 - underlining the need to provide the funds and personnel required to implement this programme, it considered it essential in the interests of programme efficiency that Parliament should receive regular, perhaps annual, progress reports:
9. The first action programme adopted by the Council in 1978 set out measures to be taken by the end of 1982. It was impossible to implement this programme in its entirety by the end of 1982 since the actions involved were for the most part long-term measures, the main features of which have moreover been incorporated into the second programme.
10. The adoption of the second programme is, therefore an appropriate moment to make an assessment of the progress made and the difficulties encountered before setting out the guidelines for elaboration at a later stage.

Two annual progress reports on the implementation of this programme have been drawn up by the Commission in accordance with the Council decision^{1,2}.

IV. Accomplishments under the first action programme

11. The Council subdivided the Commission's guidelines and decided on 14 actions:

Research

Actions 1 and 2

These two measures aimed on the one hand at establishing a 'common statistical methodology' concerning accidents at work and illnesses linked to work and on the other at promoting the exchange of knowledge. Statistics are needed to measure the degree of the various risks of accident and disease in each field of occupational activity. They also make it possible to gauge what progress has been made.

12. However the compilation of statistics does raise some difficulties. National statistics are not always comparable because the statistical bases are not the same.

This is true in the case of accidents at work although figures are available in every Member State; the table in Annex 1 shows disparities which can probably be accounted for in part by the non-homogeneous nature of the series.

The difficulty is greater in the field of occupational diseases. In this case, it is connected with the statistical sources themselves and the difficulty of establishing a link between the disease and the occupational factors which may have caused it. This problem is not inconsiderable; in fact in the case of cancer, assessments vary greatly inasmuch as some bodies consider occupational causes to be responsible for 6% of cases and others for 40% of cases. Despite the difficulties involved there is therefore clearly a need for figures which are as reliable as possible.

13. In addition to these very real problems, we are faced with the fact that, as the Commission's second report points out, no real start has

¹ COM(80) 32 final
² COM(82) 520 final.

yet been made on the compilation of Community statistics, a situation which the Commission attributes to a shortage of staff at the Statistical Office of the Communities. Partial studies have been carried out in the building, agriculture and sea fisheries sectors. A preponderance of falls was noted in the building industry. As regards agriculture 'the results of investigations are as yet too fragmentary to be able to define preventive guidelines'. The investigations carried out within the framework of the ECSC in relation to the steel industry have however clearly demonstrated the importance which the ECSC attaches to prevention.

Protection against dangerous substances

Actions 3 to 7

14. These concerned:

- exposure limits (action 3)
- carcinogens (action 4)
- toxic substances (action 5)
- assessment of risks (action 6)
- information (action 7)

The Council's adoption on 27 November 1980 of the Directive 'on the protection of workers from harmful exposure to chemical, physical, and biological agents at work' was a major event and certainly the most notable achievement under the first action programme.

This was a framework directive pursuing two aims:

- the elimination or limitation of exposure to chemical, physical or biological agents at work;
- organization of protection in cases of exposure.

15. To this end short-term measures in the information field had to be taken: Article 5, paragraph 5: access/participation of workers and/or their representatives at the place of work to/in appropriate information of a nature to improve their knowledge of the dangers to which they are exposed.

In practice these short-term measures presuppose the adoption of

specific directives provided for in the text with regard to eleven products. The long-term measures concern the technical measures to be taken in order to prevent exposure.

To date only one specific directive has been adopted by the Council, that relating to lead, which was adopted on 28 July 1982³. It should be noted however that the proposal was forwarded to the Council by the Commission as early as 1979. The proposal for a directive on asbestos is still awaiting Council consideration. The European Parliament however adopted a resolution on the dangers of asbestos to human health as early as 1977 but it was only in 1980 that a proposal for a directive was forwarded by the Commission to the Council.

Other proposals have to be made concerning acrylonitrile, arsenic, benzene, cadmium, mercury, nickel, chloroform, paradichlorobenzene and carbon tetrachloride.

17. Council Directive on the risk of major accidents in connection with certain industrial activities.

Several serious accidents such as those which occurred in Flixborough in 1974, in Manfredonia and in Seveso in 1976 deeply shocked public opinion and attracted the attention of the European Parliament. It was following a European Parliament debate on the Seveso accident that, in June 1982, at the proposal of the Commission, the Council adopted a directive aimed at preventing such accidents and at reducing the consequences which may result from such accidents both as regards health and as regards the environment. In addition to preventive measures, this directive lays stress on information for workers and the population concerned.

18. Carcinogens (action 4)

A working document on carcinogens was adopted by the Commission in preparation for the directive on vinyl chloride monomer.

The proportion of cancers which are occupational in origin is today a matter of controversy, various studies have been carried out, particularly by the World Health Organisation.

³ OJ L 247

The European Parliament's examination of the asbestos question has demonstrated the difficulty of dealing with this substance but, in the light of the progress made towards a fuller understanding of the diseases caused by this substance and their treatment, it is likely that positive developments can be expected in the future.

Prevention of the dangers and harmful effects of machines

Actions 8 to 10

19. Action 8 concerns the setting of limits for noise and vibration at places of work. The European Parliament will shortly have cause to express its opinion on this matter in connection with a Commission proposal for a directive.

Prevention of accidents at work

20. This action made provision for a joint study of the application of the principles of prevention and of the ergonomics of plant and machinery. Part-studies have been carried out but at present it is difficult to gauge the level, distribution and evolution of accidents at work. A number of results drawn from the part-statistics are set out below but these must be treated with caution.
21. A number of very useful lessons are to be learnt from the work carried out in the framework of the ECSC. Statistics relating to the Community of Six show a considerable fall in the number of fatal accidents in the coal-mining sector⁴. More specifically between 1958 and 1975, the degree of risk was almost halved, the number of deaths per million hours falling from 0.610 to 0.35. Stability is however to be noted in the number of serious accidents, which can be doubtless attributed to the gradual broadening of the definition of such accidents; these figures relate to a field of activity, where risks are high and prevention extremely costly. Nevertheless note must be taken of the results obtained which can doubtless be attributed to the major progress made both in colliery design and in the implementation of protection measures and to greater awareness of the latter and of the dangers faced by miners.

⁴See Annex 2

22. This favourable pattern is also to be found in other branches of the economy. On the basis once again of statistics for fatal accidents which, in view of their unfortunately very precise nature, are the most reliable, the number of accidents in France can be seen to have fallen from 2,246 in 1973 to 1,423 in 1980⁵ despite an increase in the working population during the same period. This average development nonetheless conceals a number of major disparities, progress having, for example, been limited in the timber, transport and goods-handling industries.
23. It has not been possible to obtain statistics for each branch of the economy in each country of the Community. The figures available for the building sector, which show a high degree of risk, also reveal major disparities from one country to another and depending on the situation⁶. Thus in Ireland and the Netherlands the degree of risk, which was already lower at the start of the period under consideration, fell much faster than in France or Germany. Assuming that these figures reflect the real situation, measures should of course be taken to improve the situation in the countries where it is worse since the example of the other countries shows that this is possible.
24. Lastly, it should be noted that the degree of risk varies greatly according to the size of the undertaking concerned. This can be seen from the data relating to the iron and steel industry.⁷ For example, in Italy and Germany the degree of risk has been assessed as twice as high in undertakings employing less than 500 people than in those employing more than 8,000 people.

Community action in the health and safety field must be directed at reducing these disparities.

Monitoring and inspection: Improvement of human attitudes

25. The aim of the first programme was to draw up a common methodology for monitoring pollutant concentrations and to establish the use of 'sensitive biological indicators'. This field is covered

⁵ see Annex 3

⁶ see Annex 4

⁷ see Annex 5

partly by the framework directive of 1980 relating to chemical agents and by the specific directives which are designed to extend it. Studies have been carried out relating in particular to the design of monitoring systems and the display of information.

26. Training and information in matters of safety

A directive on safety notices at places of work was adopted as early as 1977. This was the first step towards encouraging greater safety and health consciousness. It amounted to a medium and long-term action which had to be developed both within undertakings and in a broader context (education for example). This action would be helped by means of a better knowledge of risks and protection against risks. The rapporteur has found moreover that these protection measures which have been implemented are unevenly respected, a fact which would seem to demonstrate the great importance of risk-consciousness.

27. It is to be noted for example that very important safety measures have been taken in the nuclear industry. In the main they are respected most scrupulously and both those employed in nuclear power stations and trade union organizations frequently report any irregular situations which may be discovered. However, in other branches, failure to respect protection measures is widespread.

During visits to certain factories, the rapporteur noticed that the obligation to wear protective helmets was not respected. In the building sector where a large number of accidents are due to falls, safety harnesses are provided but little use is made of them. In contrast to the situation in the nuclear industry, safety is not regarded as a basic aspect of activity in the building sector despite the fact that the figures show the dangers in that sector are far greater

V. The second action programme

28. This programme takes the form of 20 actions which have to be implemented before 1988 and which, with a few minor differences, extend the 14 actions provided for in the first programme. For the most part, the differences amount to measures designed to lend a sharper definition to the first programme, to take account of what has already been achieved and, in some cases, to make the set goals more realistic.

29. Protection against dangerous substances

Limits for exposure to toxic substances: the first programme provided for the standardization of terminology and concepts and for the harmonization of exposure limits. The second programme appears less ambitious. It proposes to develop a standard approach to the definition of exposure limits and to make recommendations for the harmonization of exposure limits. In the matter of carcinogens, the proposals contained in the first programme are incorporated and extended to include other dangerous substances which may have serious harmful effects.

Assessment of risk: same text proposing a common methodology.

Noise and vibrations: in the first programme this heading was included under the section entitled 'Prevention of dangers and harmful effects of machines. At that time it was a matter of establishing limit levels for noise and vibrations at the work place whereas the new text does not go so far in that it proposes to 'limit exposure to noise and vibrations'.

30. Protection against accidents and dangerous occurrences

Stress is laid on the concept of accidents and a proposal is made to impose protection measures at Community level in particular for those branches of the economy where risks are greatest (metal working industries, buildings and garbage collection). Specific measures should be taken with regard to accidents caused by falling, lifting or handling.

31. Organizational aspects and monitoring

Stress is laid on the role of health services in SMUs and on groups of workers exposed to serious risk (maintenance and repair teams, workers undertaking sub-contract or temporary work, laboratory workers and those involved with biotechnology and other new technologies). The first programme was not so clearly defined. It devoted special attention to women, pregnant women and adolescents, a fact which seemingly was a subject of controversy. Presenting her report on

12 June 1978, Mrs SQUARCIALUPI pointed out that women were being penalized in the employment sector and that they should be protected throughout their child-bearing years. The second programme does not cover these various cases.

32. Statistics

The new text is more precise and less ambitious. The first programme envisaged a common methodology concerning the frequency, gravity and causes of accidents at work: the second programme calls for the establishment of comparable data on mortality connected with work and the collation of existing data on accidents.

33. The second programme therefore retains the aims set out in the first programme together with the actions planned. It cannot fail to obtain the approval of the European Parliament, which has often expressed the importance it attaches to the improvement of safety and health at places of work.

This approval may be accompanied by a number of ideas and suggestions prompted above all by the implementation of the first programme.

VI. Ideas and suggestions

34. Although defining the framework of Community action for six years to come, the second programme says nothing as regards deadlines for the implementation of actions and priorities ultimately decided on by the Commission. These priorities could certainly have been defined in a manner which takes account of real possibilities and the difficulties encountered in recent years. The priorities could have been more clearly defined on the basis of a balance sheet of progress already made.
35. It is perhaps appropriate to suggest a number of areas deserving priority. The framework directive relating to toxic agents was a major achievement under the first programme. However it will only come fully into effect with the adoption of specific directives. Experience has shown that the process of drawing up and adopting each of these demands a great deal of time and raises difficulties. At all events

this programme must be completed as soon as possible. It is appropriate to stress the importance and urgent nature of each individual directive.

36. Special attention should be accorded to carcinogenic substances. Could this matter not be the subject of research at Community level aimed primarily at compiling the available data and using these as a basis for defining areas for more intense research? How high is the incidence of occupational cancer? There is no clear answer to this question but an answer has to be sought as a guideline for preventive action. Certain alarming results of studies carried out under the aegis of the World Health Organization should perhaps be subject to closer scrutiny and put into relative terms as regards their conclusions. At all events the Community could decide to attach priority to this matter primarily for the sake of public health. However the results would be used and appreciated in a far wider context.
37. Community action proper in the field of accidents at work has hitherto been limited whereas major progress, albeit uneven, has been made in the Member States. A framework directive aimed at strengthening and lending greater convergence to action in this field would in particular make it possible to reduce the disparities between the countries, branches and enterprises of different sizes.
38. Small and medium-sized undertakings often find it difficult to implement the most advanced protection measures or to use the least dangerous machinery. In the present economic crisis the main concern of these firms and of their workers is frequently to remain in operation. Safety is a secondary consideration and figures show that the risk of accident in such firms is high.
- Community aid would enable firms in this category to adopt the same methods of protection and use the safest equipment. Such aid, by improving safety, would at the same time encourage investment, thereby combatting the frequently expressed idea that safety is incompatible with economic viability.
39. The problem of the effectiveness of preventive and protective measures

cannot be avoided in this connection. It requires the participation of all concerned, particularly the heads of firms, workers and trade unions. It is essential that everyone should be fully informed both of the potential dangers and risks and of all existing protective devices. Major progress could be made towards better use of these devices. More stringent rules could be established concerning protective clothing, helmets, footwear and safety harnesses. The safety of machinery could be improved by better maintenance.

In many industries, particularly the chemical industry, tolerance thresholds for products are defined and must not be exceeded. It is essential that all firms should use identical measuring methods. In each draft directive, the European Commission should take account of this important aspect for the protection of health.

40. The contribution made to safety by the Community decisions would be reinforced by monitoring their application on the one hand and by regular updating making it possible to take account of the results of research on the other.
41. Research is a field which should progress preferably at Community level. Notification of results obtained at various levels by research institutes, specialized bodies, firms, etc. could be greatly improved by the setting up of a Community data bank operating in conjunction with a technical centre which could answer enquiries from firms but also contact them direct. Such a centre could also be responsible for carrying out research under the aegis of the Community on the basis of the priorities selected.
42. As regards occupational diseases, it should be noted that no recent list exists at Community level. The establishment of such a list is extremely desirable. Measuring methods would also be in an appropriate area for harmonization.

VII. Conclusion

43. The second programme of action of the European Communities on safety

and health at work, which commits the Community until 1988, is a text of great importance and constitutes an essential addition to the Community's social policy. In a prolonged economic crisis during which social policy is clearly reduced in line with growth, the second programme confirms the Community's desire to pursue its action in the social field. This desire would certainly become even more apparent if the second programme were to set out the priorities for Community action more clearly.

Statistics on accidents at work and safety in the Community (National Sources)

	IRL	L	B	GR	DK	I	GB	NL	F	D	EG
1. Number of employers	224 000	130 000	2 000 000	1 310 000	1 440 000	19 600 000	20 700 000	5 300 000	23 000 000	22 300 000	96 000 000
2. Number of firms	20 000	10 000	150 000	207 000	139 000	2 000 000	1 200 000	500 000	1 800 000	1 800 000	7 800 000
3. Number of accidents at work in one year	4 330	16 530	210 000	47 500	33 900	1 600 000	400 000	90 000	971 301	2 158 000	5 530 000
3 a Incidence of accidents per 1000 employed	19	127	105	36	23	82	19	17	42	98	-
4. Number of fatal accidents in one year	30	17	250	250	75	2 200	700	80	1 423	3 998	9 000
4a Number of fatal accidents per 100,000 employed	13	13	13	19	5	11	3	2	6	18	
5. Inspection of safety at work											
5.1. Number of experts in charge of safety at work at the Government Ministry	47	-	15	30	380	40	80	75	-	32	695
5.2. Numbers of inspectors of work safety in work inspection bodies	47	16	150	430	415	1 300	1 400	375	2 000	5 000	11 132
6. Work safety institutes											
6.1. Number of institutes	1	-	2	1	1	2	-	1	-	8	16
6.2. Staff employed by the institutes.	5	-	70	15	94	3 950	-	100	-	400	4 634
7. Number of inspections into industrial work safety in one year	14 000	3 600	108 000	157 000	69 000	120 000	850 000	102 000	300 000	1 400 000	3 100 000
8. Number of irregularities noted during inspections of firms in one year.	73	1 100	-	-	34 760	160 000	16 000	-	700 000	3 300 000	4 200 000

Community of Six

1958 - 1975

Year	Production on thousands of tonnes	Output in kg per hour	Hours worked in millions	Number of deaths	Number of seriously injured (more than 8 wks)	Number of deaths per million tonnes	Number of seriously injured per million tonnes	Number of deaths per million hours	Number of seriously injured per million hours
1958	252 278	200	1.260	770	17 074	3,052	67,68	0,610	13,551
1959	240 602	214	1 122	622	14 539	2,585	60,43	0,590	12,950
1960	239 967	231	1 037	526	13 459	2,192	56,09	0,507	12,986
1961	235 848	245	962	527	12 720	2,235	53,93	0,548	13,227
1962	233 233	259	901	840(3) 541(4)	12 418	3,602(3) 2,320(4)	53,24	0,932(3) 0,600(4)	13,781
1963	229 769	270	849	465	11 686	2,024	50,86	0,547	13,761
1964	235 007	279	841	411	11 726	1,749	48,89	0,493	13,860
1965	224 249	286	784	410	10 595	1,828	47,25	0,522	13,506
1966	210 189	301	698	374	9 247	1,779	43,99	0,536	13,242
1967	189 484	322	587	269	7 781	1,420	41,06	0,457	13,246
1968	181 016	346	522	240	7 501	1,326	41,44	0,460	14,370
1969	176 749	371	476	209	7 222	1,181	40,82	0,438	15,160
1970	170 355	388	438	188	6 591	1,104	38,69	0,429	15,047
1971	164 910	398	414	182	6 249	1,104	37,89	0,440	15,088
1972	151 809	411	369	147	5 763	1,033	26,34	0,399	15,60
1973	139 700	421	332	137	5 560	0,981	39,80	0,413	16,77
1974	133 300	426	313	143	5 054	1,073	37,91	0,456	16,12
1975	129 100	405	319	110	4 795	0,852	37,14	0,35	15,05

(1) Net extraction, sludge and dust included.
(2) Victims disabled for more than 56 days
(3) Luisenthal explosion included
(4) Luisenthal explosion excluded

Table taken from 18th report by the Miners Safety and Health Commission.

SAFETY REVUE: NOVEMBER 1982

1.

	STAFF							
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Metal-working	2.974.901	2.933.151	2.914.575	2.898.943	2.888.863	2.831.954	2.824.118	2.771.991
Building and public works	1.840.302	1.829.592	1.778.652	1.743.627	1.713.451	1.634.676	1.619.150	1.598.865
Timber	389.298	390.961	378.754	379.914	387.944	376.669	383.916	383.806
Chemicals	377.435	380.250	379.162	366.825	359.075	361.492	356.443	350.311
Quarrying and refractory materials	277.322	278.090	274.229	271.303	265.621	256.442	249.348	248.581
Rubber, paper, cardboard	265.742	266.839	251.359	250.034	249.757	240.619	236.379	235.520
Books	233.826	231.321	227.614	221.936	219.922	224.211	228.115	229.926
Textiles	395.414	384.154	352.188	338.781	325.042	310.233	301.056	282.998
Clothing	392.141	370.450	362.312	356.076	349.397	337.938	340.157	328.565
Leathers and skins	147.258	141.679	140.234	134.541	131.328	128.380	125.925	123.509
Foodstuffs	1.058.331	1.045.229	1.067.893	1.073.192	1.090.251	1.083.314	1.126.314	1.139.025
Transport and handling	490.764	500.372	493.477	505.060	516.752	519.451	538.127	551.545
Utilities (without EGF or GDF)	44.272	48.609	48.471	44.166	44.793	45.607	46.195	51.835
Commerce	1.117.632	1.154.965	1.177.264	1.194.371	1.208.666	1.372.895	1.412.199	1.442.658
Interoccupational sector	3.537.546	3.620.057	3.779.584	3.864.176	4.005.582	3.984.228	4.168.746	4.336.070
GRAND TOTAL	13.492.184	13.575.719	13.625.768	13.642.945	13.756.444	13.708.109	13.956.188	14.075.205

.../...

2.

	Accidents incurring work stoppage							
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Metal-working	339.172	342.758	327.290	309.997	290.956	278.312	259.030	247.233
Building and public works	305.991	307.334	298.039	277.360	259.902	250.733	237.526	239.408
Timber	45.261	46.485	41.118	41.558	41.591	40.901	40.582	40.210
Chemicals	24.411	24.807	23.668	22.603	21.584	21.633	20.911	19.375
Quarrying and refractory materials	39.319	40.292	35.181	34.334	32.088	30.330	29.276	28.132
Rubber, paper, cardboard	25.780	26.891	23.090	22.777	21.642	20.708	20.007	19.089
Books	11.211	10.860	10.591	10.005	9.632	10.558	9.966	9.723
Textiles	23.815	23.812	20.276	20.584	19.378	17.973	17.728	16.325
Clothing	12.181	11.522	11.486	11.287	11.194	10.864	10.640	10.426
Leathers and skins	6.886	6.634	6.555	5.729	5.823	5.376	5.270	5.152
Foodstuffs	89.474	91.032	93.183	89.485	87.267	89.789	90.484	90.236
Transport and handling	55.208	54.567	52.562	52.671	51.052	52.712	53.838	52.707
Utilities (without EGF or GDF)	2.858	2.978	3.380	3.450	3.300	3.518	3.543	3.511
Commerce	52.041	53.753	52.909	52.845	51.930	54.948	53.784	54.276
Interoccupational sector	104.196	110.646	113.796	117.660	118.629	125.696	126.993	135.498
GRAND TOTAL	1.137.804	1.154.371	1.113.124	1.072.345	1.025.968	1.014.051	979.578	971.301

3.

	Accidents having resulted in permanent disablement							
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Metal-working	28.431	29.185	28.717	26.899	25.911	23.35	22.881	21.883
Building and public works	33.883	34.738	35.092	34.766	32.781	29.916	29.045	28.267
Timber	4.836	5.070	4.875	4.521	4.340	4.207	4.063	4.138
Chemicals	2.821	2.825	2.705	2.833	2.628	2.442	2.380	2.256
Quarrying and refractory materials	3.876	3.396	3.860	3.516	3.407	3.182	3.093	2.832
Rubber, paper, cardboard	2.431	2.429	2.337	2.125	2.140	1.895	1.898	1.750
Books	1.308	1.409	1.315	1.330	1.243	1.252	1.245	1.198
Textiles	2.081	2.057	1.915	1.646	1.648	1.477	1.430	1.277
Clothing	863	877	878	831	821	754	771	747
Leathers and skins	580	596	575	561	510	492	431	406
Foodstuffs	8.388	8.624	8.730	8.654	8.290	7.957	8.086	8.056
Transport and handling	7.284	7.422	7.233	7.286	7.046	6.861	6.889	6.838
Utilities (without EGF or GDF)	353	358	386	439	355	395	449	400
Commerce	5.961	6.458	6.505	6.585	6.528	6.754	6.574	6.556
Interoccupational sector	12.505	13.752	13.873	14.658	14.498	14.210	14.971	15.217
GRAND TOTAL	115.601	119.796	118.996	116.650	112.146	105.529	104.206	101.821

.../...

4.

	DEATHS							
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Metal-working	316	317	293	232	239	225	187	171
Building and public works	824	837	773	724	590	500	522	468
Timber	35	52	32	42	46	30	28	36
Chemicals	51	46	44	44	49	31	30	30
Quarrying and refractory Materials	95	83	74	78	61	54	39	59
Rubber, paper, cardboard	15	19	24	19	16	20	17	12
Books	17	9	17	9	10	11	10	9
Textiles	18	10	12	5	9	15	8	9
Clothing	6	4	11	6	7	9	4	7
Leathers and skins	7	7	6	7	8	3	3	6
Foodstuffs	149	125	144	131	118	112	108	94
Transport and handling	300	248	225	266	233	225	218	234
Utilities (without EGF or GDF)	6	13	8	12	9	4	6	6
Commerce	139	111	104	113	91	124	111	89
Interoccupational Sector	268	236	219	219	223	204	193	193
GRAND TOTAL	2.246	2.117	1.986	1.907	1.709	1.567	1.484	1.423

.../...

Building Sector: Rate of fatal injuries

	France	FRG.	Ireland	Netherlands	UK
1971	0,499	0,440	0,250	0,130	0,196
1972	0,476	0,390	0,140	0,130	0,187
1973	0,448	0,370	0,150	0,120	0,216
1974	0,457	0,330	0,150	0,080	0,177
1975	0,435	0,350	0,080	0,100	0,153
1976	0,415	0,390	0,090	0,100	0,131
1977	0,344	0,380		0,100	0,120
1978	0,306	0,330		0,080	0,120
1979	0,322	0,350		0,052	0,130

(number of fatal injuries per 1000 people in one year)

(Source: Eurostat)

Iron and Steel Industry: Number of days lost per thousand working days

	EUROPE	B.F. DEUTSCH- LAND	FRANCE	ITALIA	NEDE- LAND	BELGIE BELGIQUE	LUXEM- BOURG	UNITED KINGDOM	IRELAND	DANMARK
	- 9									
CLASS I <500										
1977	6.66	9.18	9.45	14.40	-	7.35	-	3.12	-	-
1978	6.91	8.49	9.66	14.55	-	10.44	-	3.04	-	-
1979	7.13	8.85	8.88	14.28	-	12.07	-	2.63	-	-
1980	--	9.83	--	13.06	-	8.78	-	2.03	(-)	-
CLASS II 500-999										
1977	7.47	5.27	7.50	13.59	-	14.80	-	2.22	5.44	-
1978	7.19	6.37	7.55	14.76	-	6.44	-	2.94	5.70	-
1979	6.36	4.66	7.15	11.30	-	7.74	-	3.04	8.18	-
1980	--	5.90	--	10.44	-	8.52	-	2.12	(-)	-
CLASS III 1000-1999										
1977	5.96	6.74	7.36	7.81	3.94	-	-	3.61	-	-
1978	6.82	6.55	8.11	13.99	5.98	-	-	3.59	-	-
1979	6.58	7.80	7.59	7.99	3.60	-	7.84	3.65	-	-
1980	--	7.30	--	6.84	4.00	-	6.40	2.59	(-)	-
CLASS IV 2000-3999										
1977	5.22	3.96	6.82	7.02	-	5.52	5.53	3.24	-	4.82
1978	5.34	4.65	6.75	7.13	-	5.96	5.52	2.46	-	5.23
1979	5.75	5.42	7.86	6.48	-	6.16	7.15	2.88	-	4.50
1980	--	5.90	--	6.44	-	6.75	7.89	1.85	(-)	5.83
CLASS V 4000-7999										
1977	5.69	4.72	6.84	7.94	-	6.34	6.90	3.15	-	-
1978	5.73	5.32	7.89	7.56	-	6.06	6.90	1.95	-	-
1979	6.39	5.31	7.65	7.93	-	7.06	8.34	2.52	-	-
1980	--	5.92	--	7.62	-	6.37	7.50	2.79	(-)	-
CLASS VI >8000										
1977	4.01	4.48	4.19	7.53	2.17	-	-	2.35	-	-
1978	3.95	4.63	3.74	6.71	2.70	-	-	2.41	-	-
1979	4.15	5.02	4.05	6.93	3.43	-	-	2.27	-	-
1980	--	4.71	--	4.81	3.57	-	-	1.72	(-)	-
CLASS TOTAL										
1977	5.11	4.69	6.28	8.49	2.32	6.59	6.33	2.84	5.44	4.82
1978	5.23	5.12	6.59	8.68	2.98	6.17	6.35	2.54	5.70	5.23
1979	5.46	5.37	6.81	8.23	3.45	6.95	7.97	2.60	8.18	4.50
1980	5.31	5.37	6.30	7.22	3.69	6.67	7.31	2.07	(-)	5.83

7 JULY 1982

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

DOCUMENT 1-488/82

tabled by Mr PETERS

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on industrial medicine and safety at the place of work

The European Parliament,

- A - whereas, on the one hand, extensive scientific research efforts in the last two decades in the field of industrial medicine have led to new discoveries that could prove highly beneficial to the health and safety of workers in undertakings and firms,
- B - whereas, on the other hand, actual developments in industrial medicine in the Member States of the Community are nevertheless finding only limited practical applications, and have not everywhere led to comprehensive legislation, although the latter could contribute fundamentally to the humanization of work,
1. Takes the view that
- (a) it is now a matter of some urgency to take steps to develop common and uniform principles for the Member States, embracing the practice of industrial medicine and safety at the place of work,
- (b) industrial medicine and safety at the place of work must be tackled as a coherent whole, since a great number of questions relating to the safety and protection of the worker at his place of work extend into the field of industrial medicine,
- (c) common arrangements in the field of industrial medicine and safety at the place of work are necessary for socio-political reasons, since both the individual interests of particular workers and collective interests of a social nature can best be served by common procedures,

- (d) there is a close relationship with the principle, already operative, of free movement of labour, in relation to which national legislation on the practice of industrial medicine must be approximated, since continuing discrepancies are liable to be detrimental to workers availing themselves of free movement, in one country or another, thereby obstructing the proper functioning of the Common Market,
 - (e) there is an undeniable common health-policy aspect in the fact that increasing numbers of undertakings and firms in the Community have legal or economic contacts with each other, and that for this reason discrepancies in provisions governing industrial medicine can no longer be justified,
 - (f) the general call for humanization of work can be the better complied with the more uniform and progressive are safety provisions for workers,
 - (g) further research in the field of industrial medicine would be facilitated if it could be based on more common objectives,
2. Calls on the Commission to begin work, or speed up any existing work, on a proposal for a directive in the field of industrial medicine and safety at work.

The legal basis for a proposal for a directive could be Article 100 of the Treaty in conjunction with Article 118.

A proposal for a directive should include arrangements for the following as first measures of approximation of national legal provisions:

1. The concept of 'industrial medicine' must be given a commonly acknowledged definition and cover safety at the place of work. Only if there is uniform definition of the concept can it be expected to lead to real improvements in workers' working and living conditions;
2. Industrial medicine must be geared to the individual work place and cover all areas relevant to workers' health and safety (medical care, working methods, work hygiene, ergonomics). In its preventive role it must also help to eliminate or improve bad working conditions detrimental to workers' health;

3. It is essential that all firms be required to provide an employee health care service. Smaller firms and undertakings should be helped to finance the necessary facilities jointly. The cost of employing qualified staff, preferably on a teamwork basis, should be borne by the employers. This staff must be allowed to operate in complete independence of management and/or employers.
4. All categories of workers must be covered by a single set of arrangements. Since they are the ones directly concerned, they and their representatives must be given their full say on matters of industrial medicine and safety at the place of work, and in running the facilities provided;
5. As a further measure of approximation of medical provisions, it will be essential for industrial medicine to address itself more directly to industrial illness. The first step must be to draw up a common list of all recognized industrial illnesses in the Community.

PETERS

21 December 1982

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

DOCUMENT 1-1069/82

tabled by Mrs SQUARCIALUPI

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on industrial accidents and occupational diseases

The European Parliament,

- (a) whereas the question tabled on this subject on 15 March 1982 was not put on the agenda,
 - (b) whereas the number of industrial accidents and occupational diseases has not gone down in some Community countries in spite of the steady increase in unemployment and the reduction in hours worked,
 - (c) whereas, because of the economic crisis, many workers prefer not to declare minor accidents sustained while moonlighting or doing a second job and in many cases come to a private agreement with the employer,
1. Asks the Commission to state;
- what is the general trend in industrial accidents and occupational diseases in relation to the various sectors of industry and the size of firms,
 - what is the relationship between them and the present levels of unemployment in the countries of the European Community,

- to what extent illness results from lack of job security or from unemployment,

- what results have so far been achieved by the action programme on safety and health at work (OJ No. C9, 11.1 1978, p.2),

- when the Commission intends to report on this programme to Parliament as requested in Parliament's resolution (Res. 97/78 of 13.6.1978);

2. Requests the President to forward this resolution to the Commission and Council.

OPINION
of the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment

Draftsman: Mr. F. DAMETTE

On 18 January 1983, the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment appointed Mr Félix DAMETTE draftsman.

At its meeting of 25 and 26 May 1983, the committee considered the draft opinion and adopted its conclusions at the meeting of 13 and 14 June 1983, by 12 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.

The following took part in the vote: Mr Peters, vice-chairman; Mr Frischmann, vice-chairman; Mr Damette, draftsman; Mr Brok, Mr Calvez, Mr Ceravolo, Mr Chanterie, Miss De Valera, Mrs Duport, Mr Eisma, Mr Ghergo, Mrs Kellett-Bowman (deputizing for Sir David Nicolson), Mrs Maij-Weggen, Mrs Nielsen, Mr Patterson, Dame Shelagh Roberts (deputizing for Mr Simpson), Mr Tuckman, Mr Vandewiele (deputizing for Mr Estgen), and Mr Vgenopoulos (deputizing for Mrs Charzat).

At the express request of the Members concerned, it is specified that Mr Damette, draftsman, Mr Frischmann, vice-chairman, Mr Calvez, Mrs Duport and Mr Vgenopoulos voted against the conclusions.

This opinion deals with the following documents:

- (a) the proposal for a Council resolution on a second programme of action of the European Communities on safety and health at work (COM(82) 690 final);
- (b) motion for a resolution tabled by Mr PETERS, pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure, on industrial medicine and safety at the place of work;
- (c) motion for a resolution, tabled by Mrs SQUARCIALUPI; pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure, on industrial accidents and occupational diseases.

Introduction

The proposal for a Council resolution on a second programme of action of the European Communities on safety and health at work is mainly concerned with continuing the policy set out in the first Community action programme, which came to an end in 1982. For the second programme - to be spread over six years - there are twenty projects under seven headings.

General observations

The legal basis for the European Community's responsibility for health and safety at work is contained in Articles 117 and 118 of the EEC Treaty. These articles fully justify the implementation of a Community policy in this area, and there is no need to refer to other provisions of the Treaty. Consequently there is no point in seeking a legal justification in Article 235 of the Treaty, as suggested in the twelfth recital of the proposal for a resolution.

When the first programme on which Parliament was asked to give an opinion was drawn up, some criticism was expressed by the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment.

The committee regretted that the Commission had not proposed a greater number of specific legislative measures likely to put firmly expressed political intentions into effect. Furthermore, it observed

that there was a fundamental omission in the document submitted, which, it felt, did not fulfil the requirements of a broad framework programme, on the basis of which a number of specific measures would be carried out.

3. The criticisms of the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment have proved to be fully justified in view of the meagre results that the Commission can show at the end of four years. Its work was in fact confined to two directives:

- . Framework-Directive 80/1107/EEC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work;
- . Directive 82/501/EEC on major-accident hazards.

It will be noted that in the context of the framework directive 80/1107/EEC, only one toxic product (lead) has been the subject of a specific directive whereas twelve products were to be regulated.

The effectiveness of Directive 82/501/EEC might also be queried in the light of recent events concerning the disposal of dioxin waste from Seveso.

4. The second programme does not describe achievements during the four preceding years or set out any precise objectives involving specific measures, and it is open to the same criticisms as the first.

In fact it is not possible to speak of a programme when the document in question more closely resembles a list of hopes for the future. Consequently the Commission should draw up a new, genuine programme - with commitments, a timetable and a definition of appropriate measures - which would be based on the Caro opinion of 1978, and the motions for resolutions tabled by Mr PETERS (Doc. 1-488/82) and Mrs SQUARCIALUPI (Doc. 1-1069/82).

Conclusions

In these circumstances, the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment asks the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection to incorporate the following points into its resolution:

1. Calls on the Commission to draw up a genuine programme for health and safety at work as soon as possible, incorporating precise objectives, a timetable and a financial statement;
2. Considers it essential to set up statistical machinery based on standard criteria for accidents at work and occupational diseases, to ensure comparability of data. In this connection it is also necessary to define methodologies for the taking of samples and the calculation of exposure limits;
3. Considers, in accordance with the motions for resolutions tabled by Mr PETERS (Doc. 1-488/82) and Mrs SQUARCIALUPI (Doc. 1-1069/82) that the Commission should draw up a directive embodying the following points in particular:
 - a realistic definition of industrial medicine, adapted to the present level of knowledge of occupational diseases, and particularly incorporating the epidemiology of a noxious working environment and techniques;
 - consultation of workers' representative bodies on the adoption of safety measures at the place of work;
 - the definition of rules to guarantee the independence of doctors working in industry, as regards both recruitment and working conditions, including calling in an outside opinion;
 - intervention by the public authorities to encourage the setting up of inter-company health centres, which would be adapted to conditions in the small and medium-sized undertakings;
 - the introduction of standard procedures for the supervision of working conditions and intervention on technical-medical grounds, on the basis of health and safety criteria, with regard to both the design and use of working implements and products;

- an exchange of experiences and information among Member States;
- the publication of biennial reports on progress made in each country and the difficulties encountered.

The Committee on Social Affairs and Employment also asks the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection to consider the following amendments to the proposal for a Council resolution on a second programme of action of the European Communities on safety and health at work:

Amendment No. 1

Insert the following new recital after the 7th recital:

'whereas the increasing pace of the development of technological innovations and the related impact this has on the organization of work demand maximum effort at national and Community level to guarantee safety and health at work;'

Amendment No. 2

Amend the 9th recital to read as follows:

'whereas a considerable effort is needed at Community level to search for and implement suitable means for maintaining or creating a working environment tailored to the needs of man and his legitimate aspirations and its is necessary for this purpose - especially for the advance identification of risks - to make maximum use of the progress achieved in scientific research and in the field of occupational medicine;'

Amendment No. 3

12th recital

Delete.

Amendment No. 4

I. PROTECTION AGAINST DANGEROUS AGENTS

Action 1.

Amendment to read as follows:

'Propose directives based on Council Directive 80/1107/EEC of 27 November 1980 on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work. Specify clearly in such directives the means of information most appropriate for furnishing the necessary details on the risks to which workers are exposed at their place of work;'

Amendment No. 5

I. PROTECTION AGAINST DANGEROUS AGENTS

Action 3.

Amend point 3 to read as follows:

'Develop a standard approach to establishing exposure limits for toxic agents. Specify the method of taking samples and of statistical presentation of the data collected, as well as the method of calculating Exposure limits' (Delete the rest).

Amendment No. 6

VII. COLLABORATION

Action 21

Add the following new point 21:

'The Commission shall report every two years to the European Parliament on the actions carried out pursuant to this resolution.'

