

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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ORAL QUESTION (O-53/76)

with debate pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure
by Mr FELLERMAIER, Mr CORONA, Mr BERMANI, Mr DELLA
BRIOTTA, Mr CONCAS, Mr ARISOTO, on behalf of the
Socialist Group

to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Dioxin pollution in Seveso

The escape of a toxic cloud containing dioxin from the ICMESA company installations in Seveso in Italy is endangering the health and even the genetic future of a large region of Italy. The threat to the environment is vastly more serious than any other form of chemical pollution.

The Commission is requested, as part of its environmental protection activities, to answer the following questions:

1. Has the Commission been able to gather reliable scientific information on dioxin pollution in Seveso?
2. What steps does it intend to take to prevent similar occurrences, which endanger the health and even the genetic pattern of European populations?
3. Does it feel that the directives on the production and use of toxic substances highly dangerous to the environment are adequate, or does it see a need to submit new proposals to the Council?

4. Does it intend to commission the Joint Research Centre, whose principle establishment, ISPRA, is situated a few miles from Seveso, to undertake studies, in particular of safety measures?
5. With a view to coordinating the efforts being made by the governments of certain Member States, universities, private organizations and individual scientists, does it not believe that it would be opportune to organize an international symposium on dioxin in the near future?
6. If other meetings of specialists are organized to study this problem, will the Commission send its own experts to represent it?