Safety, hygiene and health at work: 4th Community programme(SAVE) 1996-2000

1995/0155(CNS) - 12/07/1995 - Legislative proposal

- OBJECTIVE: to implement non-legislative measures which aim to improve safety and health at work and to support the legislative objectives defined by the directives which have been adopted in this field. - SUBSTANCE: The programme, which relates to the period 01.01.1996 to 31.12.2000, comprises: - a first part which is composed of: . guideline notes and basic information material designed to promote the correct application of Community legislation (preparation of non-binding legislative guides and studies on the needs of SMEs in respect of health and safety), . information, education and training (awareness campaigns, dissemination of Community documents on this theme, organisation of a European Health and Safety Week), . studies of the main problems affecting this sector. The measures are to be undertaken by the Community, the Member States, the two sides of industry and public and private organisations; - a second part establishing a new programme: SAFE (European action programme on safety), which is devoted to the needs of SMEs. This programme provides aid for practical projects which seek to improve the health and safety aspects of the working environment and the organisation of the workplace, in order to reduce accidents at work and occupational diseases. Aid will be focused on those projects which involve an improvement of the workplace environment, the promotion of innovative approaches to emerging areas of occupational risk and the organisation of information campaigns in this sector. The projects can be implemented by Member States, by the two sides of industry and by public and private organisations, as well as by individual companies, employers and workers. - Implementation: the Commission is to implement the measures with the assistance of an advisory committee and in close collaboration with the Member States and the institutions which are active in this field. It will be responsible for ensuring cohesion and complementarity with other Community initiatives. A list of criteria for project eligibility is given in the Annex. - Cooperation: cooperation with non-member countries (associated CEECs and EFTA States), and with other international organisations, is encouraged. - Reports: regular information will be provided on the projects being funded and the Commission will be responsible for drawing up an interim and a final report (31.12.2001) on the programme, which will be forwarded to Parliament, to the Council and to the ESC.