

Dangerous preparations: classification, packaging and labelling

1996/0200(COD) - 23/09/1997 - Modified legislative proposal

The Commission's amended proposal incorporates, wholly or in part, 16 of the 26 amendments adopted by Parliament at first reading. These amendments relate mainly to labelling, classification and packaging. a) Regarding labelling, the amended proposal: - emphasizes the need for a study of label comprehensibility and a review of the existing rules on labelling if necessary; - introduces the possibility of not requiring full labelling on preparations classified as dangerous for the environment, when they are supplied in small packages (volume less than 125 ml); - prohibits using on labels of preparations covered by the Directive expressions such as 'environmentally friendly' and 'ecological' or expressions that lead to the danger being underestimated In the case of Annex V, Part C, the amendments accepted are those which: - address the specific warning on sensitizing effects to all persons; - modify the phrase to be used on packages of non-classified preparations for which a safety data sheet is available on request; - propose an addition to Annex V, consisting of specific rules on the labelling of plant protection products. b) Regarding classification, the amended proposal: - introduces restrictions on animal testing where alternative methods are available, and adds provisions concerning data on effects on man; - expresses a clear preference for the conventional method or in vitro methods (alternative methods) for the classification of preparations; - introduces a lower concentration limit (0.1% instead of 0.5%) for classification of preparations containing ozone depleting substances. c) Finally, on the subject of packaging, the amended proposal: - enshrines a well-established practice, namely the need to adapt packaging to the mode of transport and delivery; - removes, from Annex IV, Part B, paragraph 2, the requirement for a tactile danger warning (a special warning for blind persons) on aerosols classified as extremely flammable or highly flammable.