

Safety at work: protection of workers against exposure to carcinogens agents

1995/0229(SYN) - 07/11/1996 - Commission communication on Council's position

In its opinion on the Council's common position on the amendment of Directive 90/394/EEC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens at work, the Commission stated that it supported the text adopted by the Council. However, it also pointed out that: - it would possibly put forward other proposals to define the biological limit value for the levels of specific substances, as requested by the European Parliament; - it would discuss the introduction of a uniform measuring procedure. At the same time, the Commission pointed out to Parliament that the Council hoped to pursue its policy to simplify legislation in this field and make it more coherent so that all carcinogenic agents defined as such in the directives were listed together in a single and easily accessible source. It also stated that the Council had expressly requested that a new proposal to amend this directive be submitted before 31 December 1997 with a view to including the risks associated with mutagenic substances. Similarly, it was hoped that the scope of Directive 90/394/EEC could eventually be extended to include hardwood dust, after the Scientific Committee for Occupational Exposure Limits had given its opinion on whether or not these substances were carcinogenic.