Basic information

1996/2175(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Public health: integration of health protection requirements in Community policies. 2nd report 1995 **Subject** 4.20 Public health	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	FLEMMING Marialiese (PPE)	17/12/1996

Council of the European Union	**Council configuration**	**Meetings**	**Date**
	Health	1961	1996-11-12
	Health	1890	1995-11-30

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
30/11/1995	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		
04/09/1996	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1996)0407	Summary
12/11/1996	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		
13/12/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
21/01/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
21/01/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0022/1998	
10/03/1998	Debate in Parliament		
11/03/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
06/04/1998	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1996/2175(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)

Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 148
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENVI/4/08217

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0022/1998 OJ C 080 16.03.1998, p. 0003	21/01/1998	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0142/1998 OJ C 104 06.04.1998, p. 0104-0148	11/03/1998	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(1996)0407	04/09/1996	Summary

Public health: integration of health protection requirements in Community policies. 2nd report 1995

1996/2175(COS) - 11/03/1998 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

In adopting the report by Mrs Marialiese FLEMMING (PPE, A) on the integration of health protection requirements in Community policies, Parliament welcomed the numerous aspects of the Commission report on this subject but regretted the fact that the Commission's statements concerning the internal market, agriculture and foodstuffs remained general and incomplete. It called on the Commission to continue to present an annual report on health and to step up health protection requirements, particularly in food legislation. Parliament called, inter alia, for: - the ban on the use of growth hormones in livestock farming to be continued, - the same health requirements to be applied to imported foodstuffs as to Community products, - greater freedom of movement for doctors, - enhancement of patients' rights, particularly by means of the submission of a study of national provisions for compensation in the event of medical errors, - adoption of more stringent legislation in the nuclear field, - a communication on the situation regarding products containing vitamins and mineral salts in the Union, - special preventive health measures concerning older workers to ensure that they were not prematurely forced out of gainful employment, - a higher level of protection than that permitted by Codex alimentarius recommendations. On the subject of tobacco, Parliament considered that both the ideas put forward by the Agriculture Council, with the aim of reducing aid for quantity, and the subsidies for the conversion of tobacco growing would contribute to better health protection. It urged the Commission to put forward a reform plan for the tobacco industry taking account of the harm done to human health by tobacco consumption, but did not endorse the rapporteur's proposal that, as a long-term objective, support for tobacco growing in Europe should be abolished within ten years at most. Parliament called on the Council to adopt a more constructive approach to the role of the Union in the field of public health cooperation, and on the Commission, when drawing up the preliminary draft budget for 1999, to take account of the growing importance of public health at European level. In this connection, it called on the Commission to submit a report on the future of health policy after Amsterdam.

Public health: integration of health protection requirements in Community policies. 2nd report 1995

1996/2175(COS) - 04/09/1996 - Non-legislative basic document

OBJECTIVE: This, the second report on the integration of health requirements in Community policies gives an overview of the activities of the Community and the Member States with repercussions on health in 1995 . In publishing this report, the Commission wishes to stimulate public debate on how best to integrate health requirements in drawing up all Community policies and to ensure that this dimension is better taken into account in achieving the objectives of the communities SUBSTANCE: The report builds on the first report on the integration of health protection requirements in

Community policies (COM(95)0196), published in 1995, and concentrates on a number of key policy areas in which the most important health-related developments have taken place: social policy; internal market; agriculture, fisheries and food; research and development; environment and energy; transport; and international cooperation. It also includes the work of relevant agencies and other outside bodies connected to the Community. The report shows that major progress has been made in raising awareness of the numerous links with and effects on health which the vast majority of Community policy areas have - and therefore of the importance of integrating health issues early on in the preparatory work for drafting policies and action programmes - both within the Community institutions and in the Member States. Furthermore, the fact that health issues also tend to generate considerable media attention and raise major concerns among the population is another reason why they need to be taken into account at an early stage of policy formulation. At the strictly Community level, the report makes clear that health is a consideration running through Community policy. For example, tobacco features in the preventive programme "Europe against cancer" and in agricultural policy which grants subsidies for planting less harmful tobacco varieties. Similarly, drugs are the subject of public health measures and of cooperation in internal and justice affairs and development cooperation. At the same time, the Commission point out that several important health-related issues are not directly administered by the Community but by independent agencies (European Agency for Safety and Health at Work, the European Medicines Evaluation Agency, the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, etc.). Noting the separation between the action taken and the location of the decision-making, the Commission renews the emphasis it placed in its first report on the need for complementarity. It is important to incorporate the public-health dimension, particularly in areas where the legislative ground work has been prepared, and to study its possible impact. Overall, health protection requirements are gaining in importance both as a result of the consultation process installed inside the Commission and because of growing public awareness of the health implications of other policy areas. However, the Commission believes that this trend must be reinforced and hopes that publication of this report will provide an opportunity for debate with all the authorities concerned including those in the regions and the Member States.