

Official Journal

of the European Communities

ISSN 0378 - 6978

L 393

Volume 32

30 December 1989

English edition

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COUNCIL

COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

of 30 November 1989

concerning the minimum safety and health requirements for the workplace (first individual directive within the meaning of Article 16 (1) of Directive 89/391/EEC)

(89/654/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 118 a thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission ⁽¹⁾, submitted after consulting the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work,

In cooperation with the European Parliament ⁽²⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee ⁽³⁾,

Whereas Article 118 a of the Treaty provides that the Council shall adopt, by means of directives, minimum requirements for encouraging improvements, especially in the working environment, to ensure a better level of protection of the safety and health of workers;

Whereas, under the terms of that Article, those directives are to avoid imposing administrative, financial and legal constraints in a way which would hold back the creation and development of small and medium-sized undertakings;

Whereas the communication from the Commission on its programme concerning safety, hygiene and health at

work ⁽⁴⁾ provides for the adoption of a directive designed to guarantee the safety and health of workers at the workplace;

Whereas, in its resolution of 21 December 1987 on safety, hygiene and health at work ⁽⁵⁾, the Council took note of the Commission's intention of submitting to the Council in the near future minimum requirements concerning the arrangement of the place of work;

Whereas compliance with the minimum requirements designed to guarantee a better standard of safety and health at work is essential to ensure the safety and health of workers;

Whereas this Directive is an individual directive within the meaning of Article 16 (1) of Council Directive 89/391/EEC of 12 June 1989 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at work ⁽⁶⁾; whereas the provisions of the latter are therefore fully applicable to the workplace without prejudice to more stringent and/or specific provisions contained in the present Directive;

Whereas this Directive is a practical contribution towards creating the social dimension of the internal market;

Whereas, pursuant to Decision 74/325/EEC ⁽⁷⁾, as last amended by the 1985 Act of Accession, the Advisory

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 141, 30. 5. 1988, p. 6,
OJ No C 115, 8. 5. 1989, p. 34 and
OJ No C 284, 10. 11. 1989, p. 8

⁽²⁾ OJ No C 326, 19. 12. 1988, p. 123 and
OJ No C 256, 9. 10. 1988, p. 51.

⁽³⁾ OJ No C 175, 4. 7. 1988, p. 28.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ No C 28, 3. 2. 1988, p. 3.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ No C 28, 3. 2. 1988, p. 1.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ No L 183, 29. 6. 1989, p. 1.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ No L 185, 9. 7. 1974, p. 15.

Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work is consulted by the Commission on the drafting of proposals in this field,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

SECTION I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Subject

1. This Directive, which is the first individual directive within the meaning of Article 16 (1) of Directive 89/391/EEC, lays down minimum requirements for safety and health at the workplace, as defined in Article 2.

2. This Directive shall not apply to:

- (a) means of transport used outside the undertaking and/or the establishment, or workplaces inside means of transport;
- (b) temporary or mobile work sites;
- (c) extractive industries;
- (d) fishing boats;
- (e) fields, woods and other land forming part of an agricultural or forestry undertaking but situated away from the undertaking's buildings.

3. The provisions of Directive 89/391/EEC are fully applicable to the whole scope referred to in paragraph 1, without prejudice to more restrictive and/or specific provisions contained in this Directive.

Article 2

Definition

For the purposes of this Directive, 'workplace' means the place intended to house workstations on the premises of the undertaking and/or establishment and any other place within the area of the undertaking and/or establishment to which the worker has access in the course of his employment.

SECTION II

EMPLOYERS' OBLIGATIONS

Article 3

Workplaces used for the first time

Workplaces used for the first time after 31 December 1992 must satisfy the minimum safety and health requirements laid down in Annex I.

Article 4

Workplaces already in use

Workplaces already in use before 1 January 1993 must satisfy the minimum safety and health requirements laid down in Annex II at the latest three years after that date.

However, as regards the Portuguese Republic, workplaces used before 1 January 1993 must satisfy, at the latest four years after that date, the minimum safety and health requirements appearing in Annex II.

Article 5

Modifications to workplaces

When workplaces undergo modifications, extensions and/or conversions after 31 December 1992, the employer shall take the measures necessary to ensure that those modifications, extensions and/or conversions are in compliance with the corresponding minimum requirements laid down in Annex I.

Article 6

General requirements

To safeguard the safety and health of workers, the employer shall see to it that:

- traffic routes to emergency exits and the exits themselves are kept clear at all times,
- technical maintenance of the workplace and of the equipment and devices, and in particular those referred to in Annexes I and II, is carried out and any faults found which are liable to affect the safety and health of workers are rectified as quickly as possible,
- the workplace and the equipment and devices, and in particular those referred to in Annex I, point 6, and Annex II, point 6, are regularly cleaned to an adequate level of hygiene,
- safety equipment and devices intended to prevent or eliminate hazards, and in particular those referred to in Annexes I and II, are regularly maintained and checked.

Article 7

Information of workers

Without prejudice to Article 10 of Directive 89/391/EEC, workers and/or their representatives shall be informed of all measures to be taken concerning safety and health at the workplace.

*Article 8***Consultation of workers and workers' participation**

Consultation and participation of workers and/or of their representatives shall take place in accordance with Article 11 of Directive 89/391/EEC on the matters covered by this Directive, including the Annexes thereto.

SECTION III**MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS***Article 9***Amendments to the Annexes**

Strictly technical amendments to the Annexes as a result of:

- the adoption of Directives on technical harmonization and standardization of the design, manufacture or construction of parts of workplaces, and/or
- technical progress, changes in international regulations or specifications and knowledge with regard to workplaces,

shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 17 of Directive 89/391/EEC.

*Article 10***Final provisions**

1. Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to

comply with this Directive by 31 December 1992. They shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.

However, the date applicable for the Hellenic Republic shall be 31 December 1994.

2. Member States shall communicate to the Commission the texts of the provisions of national law which they have already adopted or adopt in the field governed by this Directive.

3. Member States shall report to the Commission every five years on the practical implementation of the provisions of this Directive, indicating the points of view of employers and workers.

The Commission shall inform the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Advisory Council on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work.

4. The Commission shall submit periodically to the European Parliament, the Council and the Economic and Social Committee a report on the implementation of this Directive, taking into account paragraphs 1 to 3.

Article 11

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 30 November 1989.

For the Council

The President

J. P. SOISSON

ANNEX I

MINIMUM SAFETY AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR WORKPLACES USED FOR THE FIRST TIME, AS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 3 OF THE DIRECTIVE**1. Preliminary note**

The obligations laid down in this Annex apply whenever required by the features of the workplace, the activity, the circumstances or a hazard.

2. Stability and solidity

Buildings which house workplaces must have a structure and solidity appropriate to the nature of their use.

3. Electrical installations

Electrical installations must be designed and constructed so as not to present a fire or explosion hazard; persons must be adequately protected against the risk of accidents caused by direct or indirect contact.

The design, construction and choice of material and protection devices must be appropriate to the voltage, external conditions and the competence of persons with access to parts of the installation.

4. Emergency routes and exits

4.1. Emergency routes and exits must remain clear and lead as directly as possible to the open air or to a safe area.

4.2. In the event of danger, it must be possible for workers to evacuate all workstations quickly and as safely as possible.

4.3. The number, distribution and dimensions of the emergency routes and exits depend on the use, equipment and dimensions of the workplaces and the maximum number of persons that may be present.

4.4. Emergency doors must open outwards.

Sliding or revolving doors are not permitted if they are specifically intended as emergency exits.

Emergency doors should not be so locked or fastened that they cannot be easily and immediately opened by any person who may require to use them in an emergency.

4.5. Specific emergency routes and exits must be indicated by signs in accordance with the national regulations transposing Directive 77/576/EEC ⁽¹⁾ into law.

Such signs must be placed at appropriate points and be made to last.

4.6. Emergency doors must not be locked.

The emergency routes and exits, and the traffic routes and doors giving access to them, must be free from obstruction so that they can be used at any time without hindrance.

4.7. Emergency routes and exits requiring illumination must be provided with emergency lighting of adequate intensity in case the lighting fails.

5. Fire detection and fire fighting

5.1. Depending on the dimensions and use of the buildings, the equipment they contain, the physical and chemical properties of the substances present and the maximum potential number of people present, workplaces must be equipped with appropriate fire-fighting equipment and, as necessary, with fire detectors and alarm systems.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 229, 7. 9. 1977, p. 12.

- 5.2. Non-automatic fire-fighting equipment must be easily accessible and simple to use.

The equipment must be indicated by signs in accordance with the national regulations transposing Directive 77/576/EEC into law.

Such signs must be placed at appropriate points and be made to last.

6. Ventilation of enclosed workplaces

- 6.1. Steps shall be taken to see to it that there is sufficient fresh air in enclosed workplaces, having regard to the working methods used and the physical demands placed on the workers.

If a forced ventilation system is used, it shall be maintained in working order.

Any breakdown must be indicated by a control system where this is necessary for workers' health.

- 6.2. If air-conditioning or mechanical ventilation installations are used, they must operate in such a way that workers are not exposed to draughts which cause discomfort.

Any deposit or dirt likely to create an immediate danger to the health of workers by polluting the atmosphere must be removed without delay.

7. Room temperature

- 7.1. During working hours, the temperature in rooms containing workplaces must be adequate for human beings, having regard to the working methods being used and the physical demands placed on the workers.

- 7.2. The temperature in rest areas, rooms for duty staff, sanitary facilities, canteens and first aid rooms must be appropriate to the particular purpose of such areas.

- 7.3. Windows, skylights and glass partitions should allow excessive effects of sunlight in workplaces to be avoided, having regard to the nature of the work and of the workplace.

8. Natural and artificial room lighting

- 8.1. Workplaces must as far as possible receive sufficient natural light and be equipped with artificial lighting adequate for the protection of workers' safety and health.

- 8.2. Lighting installations in rooms containing workplaces and in passageways must be placed in such a way that there is no risk of accident to workers as a result of the type of lighting fitted.

- 8.3. Workplaces in which workers are especially exposed to risks in the event of failure of artificial lighting must be provided with emergency lighting of adequate intensity.

9. Floors, walls, ceilings and roofs of rooms

- 9.1. The floors of workplaces must have no dangerous bumps, holes or slopes and must be fixed, stable and not slippery.

Workplaces containing workstations must be adequately insulated, bearing in mind the type of undertaking involved and the physical activity of the workers.

- 9.2. The surfaces of floors, walls and ceilings in rooms must be such that they can be cleaned or refurbished to an appropriate standard of hygiene.

- 9.3. Transparent or translucent walls, in particular all-glass partitions, in rooms or in the vicinity of workplaces and traffic routes must be clearly indicated and made of safety material or be shielded from such places or traffic routes to prevent workers from coming into contact with walls or being injured should the walls shatter.

- 9.4. Access to roofs made of materials of insufficient strength must not be permitted unless equipment is provided to ensure that the work can be carried out in a safe manner.

10. Windows and skylights

- 10.1. It must be possible for workers to open, close, adjust or secure windows, skylights and ventilators in a safe manner. When open, they must not be positioned so as to constitute a hazard to workers.
- 10.2. Windows and skylights must be designed in conjunction with equipment or otherwise fitted with devices allowing them to be cleaned without risk to the workers carrying out this work or to workers present in and around the building.

11. Doors and gates

- 11.1. The position, number and dimensions of doors and gates, and the materials used in their construction, are determined by the nature and use of the rooms or areas.
- 11.2. Transparent doors must be appropriately marked at a conspicuous level.
- 11.3. Swing doors and gates must be transparent or have see-through panels.
- 11.4. If transparent or translucent surfaces in doors and gates are not made of safety material and if there is a danger that workers may be injured if a door or gate should shatter, the surfaces must be protected against breakage.
- 11.5. Sliding doors must be fitted with a safety device to prevent them from being derailed and falling over.
- 11.6. Doors and gates opening upwards must be fitted with a mechanism to secure them against falling back.
- 11.7. Doors along escape routes must be appropriately marked.
It must be possible to open them from the inside at any time without special assistance.
It must be possible to open the doors when the workplaces are occupied.
- 11.8. Doors for pedestrians must be provided in the immediate vicinity of any gates intended essentially for vehicle traffic, unless it is safe for pedestrians to pass through; such doors must be clearly marked and left permanently unobstructed.
- 11.9. Mechanical doors and gates must function in such a way that there is no risk of accident to workers.
They must be fitted with easily identifiable and accessible emergency shut-down devices and, unless they open automatically in the event of a power failure, it must also be possible to open them manually.

12. Traffic routes — danger areas

- 12.1. Traffic routes, including stairs, fixed ladders and loading bays and ramps, must be located and dimensioned to ensure easy, safe and appropriate access for pedestrians or vehicles in such a way as not to endanger workers employed in the vicinity of these traffic routes.
- 12.2. Routes used for pedestrian traffic and/or goods traffic must be dimensioned in accordance with the number of potential users and the type of undertaking.
If means of transport are used on traffic routes, a sufficient safety clearance must be provided for pedestrians.
- 12.3. Sufficient clearance must be allowed between vehicle traffic routes and doors, gates, passages for pedestrians, corridors and staircases.
- 12.4. Where the use and equipment of rooms so requires for the protection of workers, traffic routes must be clearly identified.
- 12.5. If the workplaces contain danger areas in which, owing to the nature of the work, there is a risk of the worker or objects falling, the places must be equipped, as far as possible, with devices preventing unauthorized workers from entering those areas.
Appropriate measures must be taken to protect workers authorized to enter danger areas.
Danger areas must be clearly indicated.

13. Specific measures for escalators and travelators

Escalators and travelators must function safely.

They must be equipped with any necessary safety devices.

They must be fitted with easily identifiable and accessible emergency shut-down devices.

14. Loading bays and ramps

14.1. Loading bays and ramps must be suitable for the dimensions of the loads to be transported.

14.2. Loading bays must have at least one exit point.

Where technically feasible, bays over a certain length must have an exit point at each end.

14.3. Loading ramps must as far as possible be safe enough to prevent workers from falling off.

15. Room dimensions and air space in rooms — freedom of movement at the workstation

15.1. Workrooms must have sufficient surface area, height and air space to allow workers to perform their work without risk to their safety, health or well-being.

15.2. The dimensions of the free unoccupied area at the workstation must be calculated to allow workers sufficient freedom of movement to perform their work.

If this is not possible for reasons specific to the workplace, the worker must be provided with sufficient freedom of movement near his workstation.

16. Rest rooms

16.1. Where the safety or health of workers, in particular because of the type of activity carried out or the presence of more than a certain number of employees, so require, workers must be provided with an easily accessible rest room.

This provision does not apply if the workers are employed in offices or similar workrooms providing equivalent relaxation during breaks.

16.2. Rest rooms must be large enough and equipped with an adequate number of tables and seats with backs for the number of workers.

16.3. In rest rooms appropriate measures must be introduced for the protection of non-smokers against discomfort caused by tobacco smoke.

16.4. If working hours are regularly and frequently interrupted and there is no rest room, other rooms must be provided in which workers can stay during such interruptions, wherever this is required for the safety or health of workers.

Appropriate measures should be taken for the protection of non-smokers against discomfort caused by tobacco smoke.

17. Pregnant women and nursing mothers

Pregnant women and nursing mothers must be able to lie down to rest in appropriate conditions.

18. Sanitary equipment

18.1. *Changing rooms and lockers*

18.1.1. Appropriate changing rooms must be provided for workers if they have to wear special work clothes and where, for reasons of health or propriety, they cannot be expected to change in another room.

Changing rooms must be easily accessible, be of sufficient capacity and be provided with seating.

- 18.1.2. Changing rooms must be sufficiently large and have facilities to enable each worker to lock away his clothes during working hours.

If circumstances so require (e.g. dangerous substances, humidity, dirt), lockers for work clothes must be separate from those for ordinary clothes.

- 18.1.3. Provision must be made for separate changing rooms or separate use of changing rooms for men and women.

- 18.1.4. If changing rooms are not required under 18.1.1, each worker must be provided with a place to store his clothes.

18.2. *Showers and washbasins*

- 18.2.1. Adequate and suitable showers must be provided for workers if required by the nature of the work or for health reasons.

Provision must be made for separate shower rooms or separate use of shower rooms for men and women.

- 18.2.2. The shower rooms must be sufficiently large to permit each worker to wash without hindrance in conditions of an appropriate standard of hygiene.

The showers must be equipped with hot and cold running water.

- 18.2.3. Where showers are not required under the first subparagraph of 18.2.1, adequate and suitable washbasins with running water (hot water if necessary) must be provided in the vicinity of the workstations and the changing rooms.

Such washbasins must be separate for, or used separately by, men and women when so required for reasons of propriety.

- 18.2.4. Where the rooms housing the showers or washbasins are separate from the changing rooms, there must be easy communication between the two.

18.3. *Lavatories and washbasins*

Separate facilities must be provided in the vicinity of workstations, rest rooms, changing rooms and rooms housing showers or washbasins, with an adequate number of lavatories and washbasins.

Provision must be made for separate lavatories or separate use of lavatories for men and women.

19. *First aid rooms*

- 19.1. One or more first aid rooms must be provided where the size of the premises, type of activity being carried out and frequency of accidents so dictate.

- 19.2. First aid rooms must be fitted with essential first aid installations and equipment and be easily accessible to stretchers.

They must be signposted in accordance with the national regulations transposing Directive 77/576/EEC into law.

- 19.3. In addition, first aid equipment must be available in all places where working conditions require it.

This equipment must be suitably marked and easily accessible.

20. *Handicapped workers*

Workplaces must be organized to take account of handicapped workers, if necessary.

This provision applies in particular to the doors, passageways, staircases, showers, washbasins, lavatories and workstations used or occupied directly by handicapped persons.

21. *Outdoor workplaces (special provisions)*

- 21.1. Workstations, traffic routes and other areas or installations outdoors which are used or occupied by the workers in the course of their activity must be organized in such a way that pedestrians and vehicles can circulate safely.

Sections 12, 13 and 14 also apply to main traffic routes on the site of the undertaking (traffic routes leading to fixed workstations), to traffic routes used for the regular maintenance and supervision of the undertaking's installations and to loading bays.

Section 12 is also applicable to outdoor workplaces.

- 21.2. Workplaces outdoors must be adequately lit by artificial lighting if daylight is not adequate.
- 21.3. When workers are employed at workstations outdoors, such workstations must as far as possible be arranged so that workers:
- (a) are protected against inclement weather conditions and if necessary against falling objects;
 - (b) are not exposed to harmful noise levels nor to harmful external influences such as gases, vapours or dust;
 - (c) are able to leave their workstations swiftly in the event of danger or are able to be rapidly assisted;
 - (d) cannot slip or fall.
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ANNEX II

MINIMUM HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR WORKPLACES ALREADY IN USE, AS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 4 OF THE DIRECTIVE

1. Preliminary note

The obligations laid down in this Annex apply wherever required by the features of the workplace, the activity, the circumstances or a hazard.

2. Stability and solidity

Buildings which have workplaces must have a structure and solidity appropriate to the nature of their use.

3. Electrical installations

Electrical installations must be designed and constructed so as not to present a fire or explosion hazard; persons must be adequately protected against the risk of accidents caused by direct or indirect contact.

Electrical installations and protection devices must be appropriate to the voltage, external conditions and the competence of persons with access to parts of the installation.

4. Emergency routes and exits

4.1. Emergency routes and exits must remain clear and lead as directly as possible to the open air or to a safe area.

4.2. In the event of danger, it must be possible for workers to evacuate all workstations quickly and as safely as possible.

4.3. There must be an adequate number of escape routes and emergency exits.

4.4. Emergency exit doors must open outwards.

Sliding or revolving doors are not permitted if they are specifically intended as emergency exits.

Emergency doors should not be so locked or fastened that they cannot be easily and immediately opened by any person who may require to use them in an emergency.

4.5. Specific emergency routes and exits must be indicated by signs in accordance with the national regulations transposing Directive 77/576/EEC into law.

Such signs must be placed at appropriate points and be made to last.

4.6. Emergency doors must not be locked.

The emergency routes and exits, and the traffic routes and doors giving access to them, must be free from obstruction so that they can be used at any time without hindrance.

4.7. Emergency routes and exits requiring illumination must be provided with emergency lighting of adequate intensity in case the lighting fails.

5. Fire detection and fire fighting

5.1. Depending on the dimensions and use of the buildings, the equipment they contain, the physical and chemical characteristics of the substances present and the maximum potential number of people present, workplaces must be equipped with appropriate fire-fighting equipment, and, as necessary, fire detectors and an alarm system.

5.2. Non-automatic fire-fighting equipment must be easily accessible and simple to use.

It must be indicated by signs in accordance with the national regulations transposing Directive 77/576/EEC into law.

Such signs must be placed at appropriate points and be made to last.

6. Ventilation of enclosed workplaces

Steps shall be taken to see to it that there is sufficient fresh air in enclosed workplaces, having regard to the working methods used and the physical demands placed on the workers.

If a forced ventilation system is used, it shall be maintained in working order.

Any breakdown must be indicated by a control system where this is necessary for the workers' health.

7. Room temperature

7.1. During working hours, the temperature in rooms containing workplaces must be adequate for human beings, having regard to the working methods being used and the physical demands placed on the workers.

7.2. The temperature in rest areas, rooms for duty staff, sanitary facilities, canteens and first aid rooms must be appropriate to the particular purpose of such areas.

8. Natural and artificial room lighting

8.1. Workplaces must as far as possible receive sufficient natural light and be equipped with artificial lighting adequate for workers' safety and health.

8.2. Workplaces in which workers are especially exposed to risks in the event of failure of artificial lighting must be provided with emergency lighting of adequate intensity.

9. Doors and gates

9.1. Transparent doors must be appropriately marked at a conspicuous level.

9.2. Swing doors and gates must be transparent or have see-through panels.

10. Danger areas

If the workplaces contain danger areas in which, owing to the nature of the work, there is a risk of the worker or objects falling, the places must be equipped, as far as possible, with devices preventing unauthorized workers from entering those areas.

Appropriate measures must be taken to protect workers authorized to enter danger areas.

Danger areas must be clearly indicated.

11. Rest rooms and rest areas

11.1. Where the safety or health of workers, in particular because of the type of activity carried out or the presence of more than a certain number of employees, so require, workers must be provided with an easily accessible rest room or appropriate rest area.

This provision does not apply if the workers are employed in offices or similar workrooms providing equivalent relaxation during breaks.

11.2. Rest rooms and rest areas must be equipped with tables and seats with backs.

11.3. In rest rooms and rest areas appropriate measures must be introduced for the protection of non-smokers against discomfort caused by tobacco smoke.

12. Pregnant women and nursing mothers

Pregnant women and nursing mothers must be able to lie down to rest in appropriate conditions.

13. Sanitary equipment**13.1. *Changing rooms and lockers***

- 13.1.1. Appropriate changing rooms must be provided for workers if they have to wear special work clothes and where, for reasons of health or propriety, they cannot be expected to change in another room.

Changing rooms must be easily accessible and of sufficient capacity.

- 13.1.2. Changing rooms must have facilities to enable each worker to lock away his clothes during working hours.

If circumstances so require (e.g. dangerous substances, humidity, dirt), lockers for work clothes must be separate from those for ordinary clothes.

- 13.1.3. Provision must be made for separate changing rooms or separate use of changing rooms for men and women.

13.2. *Showers, lavatories and washbasins*

- 13.2.1. Workplaces must be fitted out in such a way that workers have in the vicinity:

- showers, if required by the nature of their work,
- special facilities equipped with an adequate number of lavatories and washbasins.

- 13.2.2. The showers and washbasins must be equipped with running water (hot water if necessary).

- 13.2.3. Provision must be made for separate showers or separate use of showers for men and women.

Provision must be made for separate lavatories or separate use of lavatories for men and women.

14. First aid equipment

Workplaces must be fitted with first aid equipment.

The equipment must be suitably marked and easily accessible.

15. Handicapped workers

Workplaces must be organized to take account of handicapped workers, if necessary.

This provision applies in particular to the doors, passageways, staircases, showers, washbasins, lavatories and workstations used or occupied directly by handicapped persons.

16. Movement of pedestrians and vehicles

Outdoor and indoor workplaces must be organized in such a way that pedestrians and vehicles can circulate in a safe manner.

17. Outdoor workplaces (special provisions)

When workers are employed at workstations outdoors, such workstations must as far as possible be organized so that workers:

- (a) are protected against inclement weather conditions and if necessary against falling objects;
- (b) are not exposed to harmful noise levels nor to harmful external influences such as gases, vapours or dust;
- (c) are able to leave their workstations swiftly in the event of danger or are able to be rapidly assisted;
- (d) cannot slip or fall.

COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

of 30 November 1989

concerning the minimum safety and health requirements for the use of work equipment by workers at work (second individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16 (1) of Directive 89/391/EEC)

(89/655/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 118a thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission ⁽¹⁾, submitted after consulting the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work,

In cooperation with the European Parliament ⁽²⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee ⁽³⁾,

Whereas Article 118a of the Treaty provides that the Council shall adopt, by means of directives, minimum requirements for encouraging improvements, especially in the working environment, to guarantee a better level of protection of the safety and health of workers;

Whereas, pursuant to the said Article, such directives must avoid imposing administrative, financial and legal constraints in a way which would hold back the creation and development of small and medium-sized undertakings;

Whereas the communication from the Commission on its programme concerning safety, hygiene and health at work ⁽⁴⁾ provides for the adoption of a directive on the use of work equipment at work;

Whereas, in its resolution of 21 December 1987 on safety, hygiene and health at work ⁽⁵⁾, the Council took note of the Commission's intention of submitting to the Council in the near future minimum requirements concerning the organization of safety and health at work;

Whereas compliance with the minimum requirements designed to guarantee a better standard of safety and health in the use of work equipment is essential to ensure the safety and health of workers;

Whereas this Directive is an individual directive within the meaning of Article 16 (1) of Council Directive 89/391/EEC of 12 June 1989 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at work ⁽⁶⁾; whereas, therefore, the provisions of the said Directive are fully applicable to the scope of the use of work equipment by workers at work without prejudice to more restrictive and/or specific provisions contained in this Directive;

Whereas this Directive constitutes a practical aspect of the realization of the social dimension of the internal market;

Whereas, pursuant to Directive 83/189/EEC ⁽⁷⁾, Member States are required to notify the Commission of any draft technical regulations relating to machines, equipment and installations;

Whereas, pursuant to Decision 74/325/EEC ⁽⁸⁾, as last amended by the 1985 Act of Accession, the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work is consulted by the Commission on the drafting of proposals in this field,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

SECTION I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

*Article 1***Subject**

1. This Directive, which is the second individual directive within the meaning of Article 16 (1) of Directive 89/391/EEC, lays down minimum safety and health requirements for the use of work equipment by workers at work, as defined in Article 2.

2. The provisions of Directive 89/391/EEC are fully applicable to the whole scope referred to in paragraph 1, without prejudice to more restrictive and/or specific provisions contained in this Directive.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ No L 183, 29. 6. 1989, p. 1.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ No L 109, 26. 4. 1983, p. 8.

⁽⁸⁾ OJ No L 185, 9. 7. 1974, p. 15.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 114, 30. 4. 1988, p. 3;
OJ No C 106, 26. 4. 1989, p. 13 and
OJ No C 287, 15. 11. 1989, p. 12.

⁽²⁾ OJ No C 326, 19. 12. 1988, p. 132 and
OJ No C 256, 9. 10. 1989, p. 65.

⁽³⁾ OJ No C 318, 12. 12. 1988, p. 26.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ No C 28, 3. 2. 1988, p. 3.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ No C 28, 3. 2. 1988, p. 1.

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Directive, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

- (a) 'work equipment': any machine, apparatus, tool or installation used at work;
 - (b) 'use of work equipment': any activity involving work equipment such as starting or stopping the equipment, its use, transport, repair, modification, maintenance and servicing, including, in particular, cleaning;
 - (c) 'danger zone': any zone within and/or around work equipment in which an exposed worker is subject to a risk to his health or safety;
 - (d) 'exposed worker': any worker wholly or partially in a danger zone;
 - (e) 'operator': the worker or workers given the task of using work equipment.
- (a) work equipment which, if provided to workers in the undertaking and/or establishment for the first time after 31 December 1992, complies with:
 - (i) the provisions of any relevant Community directive which is applicable;
 - (ii) the minimum requirements laid down in the Annex, to the extent that no other Community directive is applicable or is so only partially;
 - (b) work equipment which, if already provided to workers in the undertaking and/or establishment by 31 December 1992, complies with the minimum requirements laid down in the Annex no later than four years after that date.

2. The employer shall take the measures necessary to ensure that, throughout its working life, work equipment is kept, by means of adequate maintenance, at a level such that it complies with the provisions of paragraph 1 (a) or (b) as applicable.

Article 5

Work equipment involving specific risks

When the use of work equipment is likely to involve a specific risk to the safety or health of workers, the employer shall take the measures necessary to ensure that:

- the use of work equipment is restricted to those persons given the task of using it;
- in the case of repairs, modifications, maintenance or servicing, the workers concerned are specifically designated to carry out such work.

Article 6

Informing workers

1. Without prejudice to Article 10 of Directive 89/391/EEC, the employer shall take the measures necessary to ensure that workers have at their disposal adequate information and, where appropriate, written instructions on the work equipment used at work.

2. The information and the written instructions must contain at least adequate safety and health information concerning:

- the conditions of use of work equipment,
- foreseeable abnormal situations,
- the conclusions to be drawn from experience, where appropriate, in using work equipment.

3. The information and the written instructions must be comprehensible to the workers concerned.

SECTION II

EMPLOYERS' OBLIGATIONS

Article 3

General obligations

1. The employer shall take the measures necessary to ensure that the work equipment made available to workers in the undertaking and/or establishment is suitable for the work to be carried out or properly adapted for that purpose and may be used by workers without impairment to their safety or health.

In selecting the work equipment which he proposes to use, the employer shall pay attention to the specific working conditions and characteristics and to the hazards which exist in the undertaking and/or establishment, in particular at the workplace, for the safety and health of the workers, and/or any additional hazards posed by the use of work equipment in question.

2. Where it is not possible fully so to ensure that work equipment can be used by workers without risk to their safety or health, the employer shall take appropriate measures to minimize the risks.

Article 4

Rules concerning work equipment

1. Without prejudice to Article 3, the employer must obtain and/or use:

*Article 7***Training of workers**

Without prejudice to Article 12 of Directive 89/391/EEC, the employer shall take the measures necessary to ensure that:

- workers given the task of using work equipment receive adequate training, including training on any risks which such use may entail,
- workers referred to in the second indent of Article 5 receive adequate specific training.

*Article 8***Consultation of workers and workers' participation**

Consultation and participation of workers and/or of their representatives shall take place in accordance with Article 11 of Directive 89/391/EEC on the matters covered by this Directive, including the Annexes thereto.

SECTION III**MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS***Article 9***Amendment to the Annex**

1. Addition to the Annex of the supplementary minimum requirements applicable to specific work equipment referred to in point 3 thereof shall be adopted by the Council in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 118a of the Treaty.
2. Strictly technical adaptations of the Annex as a result of:
 - the adoption of directives on technical harmonization and standardization of work equipment, and/or

- technical progress, changes in international regulations or specifications or knowledge in the field of work equipment

shall be adopted, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 17 of Directive 89/391/EEC.

*Article 10***Final provisions**

1. Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive by 31 December 1992. They shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.

2. Member States shall communicate to the Commission the texts of the provisions of national law which they have already adopted or adopt in the field governed by this Directive.

3. Member States shall report to the Commission every five years on the practical implementation of the provisions of this Directive, indicating the points of view of employers and workers.

The Commission shall accordingly inform the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee, and the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work.

4. The Commission shall submit periodically to the European Parliament, the Council and the Economic and Social Committee a report on the implementation of this Directive, taking into account paragraphs 1 to 3.

Article 11

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 30 November 1989.

For the Council
The President
J. P. SOISSON

ANNEX

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 4 (1) (a) (ii) and (b)

1. General comment

The obligations laid down in this Annex apply having regard to the provisions of the Directive and where the corresponding risk exists for the work equipment in question.

2. General minimum requirements applicable to work equipment

2.1. Work equipment control devices which affect safety must be clearly visible and identifiable and appropriately marked where necessary.

Except where necessary for certain control devices, control devices must be located outside danger zones and in such a way that their operation cannot cause additional hazard. They must not give rise to any hazard as a result of any unintentional operation.

If necessary, from the main control position, the operator must be able to ensure that no person is present in the danger zones. If this is impossible, a safe system such as an audible and/or visible warning signal must be given automatically whenever the machinery is about to start. An exposed worker must have the time and/or the means quickly to avoid hazards caused by the starting and/or stopping of the work equipment.

Control systems must be safe. A breakdown in, or damage to, control systems must not result in a dangerous situation.

2.2. It must be possible to start work equipment only by deliberate action on a control provided for the purpose.

The same shall apply:

- to restart it after a stoppage for whatever reason,
 - for the control of a significant change in the operating conditions (e.g. speed, pressure, etc.),
- unless such a restart or change does not subject exposed workers to any hazard.

This requirement does not apply to restarting or a change in operating conditions as a result of the normal operating cycle of an automatic device.

2.3. All work equipment must be fitted with a control to stop it completely and safely.

Each work station must be fitted with a control to stop some or all of the work equipment, depending on the type of hazard, so that the equipment is in a safe state. The equipment's stop control must have priority over the start controls. When the work equipment or the dangerous parts of it have stopped, the energy supply of the actuators concerned must be switched off.

2.4. Where appropriate, and depending on the hazards the equipment presents and its normal stopping time, work equipment must be fitted with an emergency stop device.

2.5. Work equipment presenting risk due to falling objects or projections must be fitted with appropriate safety devices corresponding to the risk.

Work equipment presenting hazards due to emissions of gas, vapour, liquid or dust must be fitted with appropriate containment and/or extraction devices near the sources of the hazard.

2.6. Work equipment and parts of such equipment must, where necessary for the safety and health of workers, be stabilized by clamping or some other means.

2.7. Where there is a risk of rupture or disintegration of parts of the work equipment, likely to pose significant danger to the safety and health of workers, appropriate protection measures must be taken.

- 2.8. Where there is a risk of mechanical contact with moving parts of work equipment which could lead to accidents, those parts must be provided with guards or devices to prevent access to danger zones or to halt movements of dangerous parts before the danger zones are reached.

The guards and protection devices must:

- be of robust construction,
- not give rise to any additional hazard,
- not be easily removed or rendered inoperative,
- be situated at sufficient distance from the danger zone,
- not restrict more than necessary the view of the operating cycle of the equipment,
- allow operations necessary to fit or replace parts and for maintenance work, restricting access only to the area where the work is to be carried out and, if possible, without removal of the guard or protection device.

- 2.9. Areas and points for working on, or maintenance of, work equipment must be suitably lit in line with the operation to be carried out.

- 2.10. Work equipment parts at high or very low temperature must, where appropriate, be protected to avoid the risk of workers coming into contact or coming too close.

- 2.11. Warning devices on work equipment must be unambiguous and easily perceived and understood.

- 2.12. Work equipment may be used only for operations and under conditions for which it is appropriate.

- 2.13. It must be possible to carry out maintenance operations when the equipment is shut down. If this is not possible, it must be possible to take appropriate protection measures for the carrying out of such operations or for such operations to be carried out outside the danger zones.

If any machine has a maintenance log, it must be kept up to date.

- 2.14. All work equipment must be fitted with clearly identifiable means to isolate it from all its energy sources.

Reconnection must be presumed to pose no risk to the workers concerned.

- 2.15. Work equipment must bear the warnings and markings essential to ensure the safety of workers.

- 2.16. Workers must have safe means of access to, and be able to remain safely in, all the areas necessary for production, adjustment and maintenance operations.

- 2.17. All work equipment must be appropriate for protecting workers against the risk of the work equipment catching fire or overheating, or of discharges of gas, dust, liquid, vapour or other substances produced, used or stored in the work equipment.

- 2.18. All work equipment must be appropriate for preventing the risk of explosion of the work equipment or of substances produced, used or stored in the work equipment.

- 2.19. All work equipment must be appropriate for protecting exposed workers against the risk of direct or indirect contact with electricity.

3. Minimum additional requirements applicable to specific work equipment,

as referred to in Article 9 (1) of the Directive.

COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

of 30 November 1989

on the minimum health and safety requirements for the use by workers of personal protective equipment at the workplace (third individual directive within the meaning of Article 16 (1) of Directive 89/391/EEC)

(89/656/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and in particular Article 118a thereof,

Having regard to the Commission proposal ⁽¹⁾, submitted after consultation with the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work,

In cooperation with the European Parliament ⁽²⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee ⁽³⁾,

Whereas Article 118a of the Treaty provides that the Council shall adopt, by means of directives, minimum requirements designed to encourage improvements, especially in the working environment, to guarantee greater protection of the health and safety of workers;

Whereas, under the said Article, such directives shall avoid imposing administrative, financial and legal constraints in a way which would hold back the creation and development of small and medium-sized undertakings;

Whereas the Commission communication on its programme concerning safety, hygiene and health at work ⁽⁴⁾ provides for the adoption of a directive on the use of personal protective equipment at work;

Whereas the Council, in its resolution of 21 December 1987 concerning safety, hygiene and health at work ⁽⁵⁾, noted the Commission's intention of submitting to it in the near future minimum requirements concerning the organization of the safety and health of workers at work;

Whereas compliance with the minimum requirements designed to guarantee greater health and safety for the user of personal protective equipment is essential to ensure the safety and health of workers;

Whereas this Directive is an individual directive within the meaning of Article 16 (1) of Council Directive 89/391/EEC of 12 June 1989 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at work ⁽⁶⁾; whereas, consequently, the provisions of the said Directive apply fully to the use by workers of personal protective equipment at the workplace, without prejudice to more stringent and/or specific provisions contained in this Directive;

Whereas this Directive constitutes a practical step towards the achievement of the social dimension of the internal market;

Whereas collective means of protection shall be accorded priority over individual protective equipment; whereas the employer shall be required to provide safety equipment and take safety measures;

Whereas the requirements laid down in this Directive should not entail alterations to personal protective equipment whose design and manufacture complied with Community directives relating to safety and health at work;

Whereas provision should be made for descriptions which Member States may use when laying down general rules for the use of individual protective equipment;

Whereas, pursuant to Decision 74/325/EEC ⁽⁷⁾, as last amended by the 1985 Act of Accession, the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work is consulted by the Commission with a view to drawing up proposals in this field,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

SECTION I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Subject

1. This Directive, which is the third individual directive within the meaning of Article 16 (1) of Directive

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 161, 20. 6. 1988, p. 1,
OJ No C 115, 8. 5. 1989, p. 27 and
OJ No C 287, 15. 11. 1989, p. 11.

⁽²⁾ OJ No C 12, 16. 1. 1989, p. 92 and
OJ No C 256, 9. 10. 1989, p. 61.

⁽³⁾ OJ No C 318, 12. 12. 1988, p. 30.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ No C 28, 3. 2. 1988, p. 3.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ No C 28, 3. 2. 1988, p. 1.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ No L 183, 29. 6. 1989, p. 1.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ No L 185, 9. 7. 1974, p. 15.

89/391/EEC, lays down minimum requirements for personal protective equipment used by workers at work.

2. The provisions of Directive 89/391/EEC are fully applicable to the whole scope referred to in paragraph 1, without prejudice to more restrictive and/or specific provisions contained in this Directive.

Article 2

Definition

1. For the purposes of this Directive, personal protective equipment shall mean all equipment designed to be worn or held by the worker to protect him against one or more hazards likely to endanger his safety and health at work, and any addition or accessory designed to meet this objective.

2. The definition in paragraph 1 excludes:

- (a) ordinary working clothes and uniforms not specifically designed to protect the safety and health of the worker;
- (b) equipment used by emergency and rescue services;
- (c) personal protective equipment worn or used by the military, the police and other public order agencies;
- (d) personal protective equipment for means of road transport;
- (e) sports equipment;
- (f) self-defence or deterrent equipment;
- (g) portable devices for detecting and signalling risks and nuisances.

Article 3

General rule

Personal protective equipment shall be used when the risks cannot be avoided or sufficiently limited by technical means of collective protection or by measures, methods or procedures of work organization.

SECTION II

EMPLOYERS' OBLIGATIONS

Article 4

General provisions

1. Personal protective equipment must comply with the relevant Community provisions on design and manufacture with respect to safety and health.

All personal protective equipment must:

- (a) be appropriate for the risks involved, without itself leading to any increased risk;
- (b) correspond to existing conditions at the workplace;
- (c) take account of ergonomic requirements and the worker's state of health;
- (d) fit the wearer correctly after any necessary adjustment.

2. Where the presence of more than one risk makes it necessary for a worker to wear simultaneously more than one item of personal protective equipment, such equipment must be compatible and continue to be effective against the risk or risks in question.

3. The conditions of use of personal protective equipment, in particular the period for which it is worn, shall be determined on the basis of the seriousness of the risk, the frequency of exposure to the risk, the characteristics of the workstation of each worker and the performance of the personal protective equipment.

4. Personal protective equipment is, in principle, intended for personal use.

If the circumstances require personal protective equipment to be worn by more than one person, appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure that such use does not create any health or hygiene problem for the different users.

5. Adequate information on each item of personal protective equipment, required under paragraphs 1 and 2, shall be provided and made available within the undertaking and/or establishment.

6. Personal protective equipment shall be provided free of charge by the employer, who shall ensure its good working order and satisfactory hygienic condition by means of the necessary maintenance, repair and replacements.

However, Member States may provide, in accordance with their national practice, that the worker be asked to contribute towards the cost of certain personal protective equipment in circumstances where use of the equipment is not exclusive to the workplace.

7. The employer shall first inform the worker of the risks against which the wearing of the personal protective equipment protects him.

8. The employer shall arrange for training and shall, if appropriate, organize demonstrations in the wearing of personal protective equipment.

9. Personal protective equipment may be used only for the purposes specified, except in specific and exceptional circumstances.

It must be used in accordance with instructions.

Such instructions must be understandable to the workers.

Article 5

Assessment of personal protective equipment

1. Before choosing personal protective equipment, the employer is required to assess whether the personal protective equipment he intends to use satisfies the requirements of Article 4 (1) and (2).

This assessment shall involve:

- (a) an analysis and assessment of risks which cannot be avoided by other means;
- (b) the definition of the characteristics which personal protective equipment must have in order to be effective against the risks referred to in (a), taking into account any risks which this equipment itself may create;
- (c) comparison of the characteristics of the personal protective equipment available with the characteristics referred to in (b).

2. The assessment provided for in paragraph 1 shall be reviewed if any changes are made to any of its elements.

Article 6 (*)

Rules for use

1. Without prejudice to Articles 3, 4 and 5, Member States shall ensure that general rules are established for the use of personal protective equipment and/or rules covering cases and situations where the employer must provide the personal protective equipment, taking account of Community legislation on the free movement of such equipment.

These rules shall indicate in particular the circumstances or the risk situations in which, without prejudice to the priority to be given to collective means of protection, the use of personal protective equipment is necessary.

Annexes I, II and III, which constitute a guide, contain useful information for establishing such rules.

2. When Member States adapt the rules referred to in paragraph 1, they shall take account of any significant

changes to the risk, collective means of protection and personal protective equipment brought about by technological developments.

3. Member States shall consult the employers' and workers' organization on the rules referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2.

Article 7

Information for workers

Without prejudice to Article 10 of Directive 89/391/EEC, workers and/or their representatives shall be informed of all measures to be taken with regard to the health and safety of workers when personal protective equipment is used by workers at work.

Article 8

Consultation of workers and workers' participation

Consultation and participation of workers and/or of their representatives shall take place in accordance with Article 11 of Directive 89/391/EEC on the matters covered by this Directive, including the Annexes thereto.

SECTION III

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Article 9

Adjustment of the Annexes

Alterations of a strictly technical nature to Annexes I, II and III resulting from:

- the adoption of technical harmonization and standardization directives relating to personal protective equipment, and/or
- technical progress and changes in international regulations and specifications or knowledge in the field of personal protective equipment,

shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 17 of Directive 89/391/EEC.

Article 10

Final provisions

1. Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive not later than 31 December 1992. They shall immediately inform the Commission thereof.

(*) See the Commission communication (OJ No C 328, 30. 12. 1989, p. 3).

2. Member States shall communicate to the Commission the text of the provisions of national law which they adopt, as well as those already adopted, in the field covered by this Directive.

3. Member States shall report to the Commission every five years on the practical implementation of the provisions of this Directive, indicating the points of view of employers and workers.

The Commission shall inform the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee, and the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work.

4. The Commission shall report periodically to the European Parliament, the Council and the Economic and

Social Committee on the implementation of the Directive in the light of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3.

Article 11

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 30 November 1989.

For the Council

The President

J. P. SOISSON

ANNEX I

SPECIMEN RISK SURVEY TABLE FOR THE USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

RISKS																			
PHYSICAL										CHEMICAL				BIOLOGICAL					
MECHANICAL						THERMAL		RADIATION		AEROSOLS			LIQUIDS		GASES, VAPOURS	Harmful bacteria	Harmful fungi	Non-microbiological antigens	
Falls from a height	Blows, cuts, impact, crushing	Stabs, cuts, grazes	Vibration	Slipping, falling over	Heat, fire	Cold	ELECTRICAL	Non-ionizing	Ionizing	NOISE	Dust, fibres	Fumes	Vapours	Immersion					Splashes, spurts
PARTS OF THE BODY	HEAD	Cranium																	
		Ears																	
		Eyes																	
		Respiratory tract																	
		Face																	
		Whole head																	
UPPER LIMBS	Hands																		
	Arms (parts)																		
LOWER LIMBS	Foot																		
	Legs (parts)																		
VARIOUS	Skin																		
	Trunk/abdomen																		
	Parenteral passages																		
	Whole body																		

PARTS OF THE BODY

HEAD

UPPER LIMBS

LOWER LIMBS

VARIOUS

ANNEX II

NON-EXHAUSTIVE GUIDE LIST OF ITEMS OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

HEAD PROTECTION

- Protective helmets for use in industry (mines, building sites, other industrial uses).
- Scalp protection (caps, bonnets, hairnets — with or without eye shade).
- Protective headgear (bonnets, caps, sou'westers, etc. in fabric, fabric with proofing, etc.).

HEARING PROTECTION

- Earplugs and similar devices.
- Full acoustic helmets.
- Earmuffs which can be fitted to industrial helmets.
- Ear defenders with receiver for LF induction loop.
- Ear protection with intercom equipment.

EYE AND FACE PROTECTION

- Spectacles.
- Goggles.
- X-ray goggles, laser-beam goggles, ultra-violet, infra-red, visible radiation goggles.
- Face shields.
- Arc-welding masks and helmets (hand masks, headband masks or masks which can be fitted to protective helmets).

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

- Dust filters, gas filters and radioactive dust filters.
- Insulating appliances with an air supply.
- Respiratory devices including a removable welding mask.
- Diving equipment.
- Diving suits.

HAND AND ARM PROTECTION

- Gloves to provide protection:
 - from machinery (piercing, cuts, vibrations, etc.),
 - from chemicals,
 - for electricians and from heat.
- Mittens.
- Finger stalls.
- Oversleeves.
- Wrist protection for heavy work.
- Fingerless gloves.
- Protective gloves.

FOOT AND LEG PROTECTION

- Low shoes, ankle boots, calf-length boots, safety boots.
- Shoes which can be unlaced or unhooked rapidly.

- Shoes with additional protective toe-cap.
- Shoes and overshoes with heat-resistant soles.
- Heat-resistant shoes, boots and overboots.
- Thermal shoes, boots and overboots.
- Vibration-resistant shoes, boots and overboots.
- Anti-static shoes, boots and overboots.
- Insulating shoes, boots and overboots.
- Protective boots for chain saw operators.
- Clogs.
- Kneepads.
- Removable instep protectors.
- Gaiters.
- Removable soles (heat-proof, pierce-proof or sweat-proof).
- Removable spikes for ice, snow or slippery flooring.

SKIN PROTECTION

- Barrier creams/ointments.

TRUNK AND ABDOMEN PROTECTION

- Protective waistcoats, jackets and aprons to provide protection from machinery (piercing, cutting, molten metal splashes, etc.).
- Protective waistcoats, jackets and aprons to provide protection from chemicals.
- Heated waistcoats.
- Life jackets.
- Protective X-ray aprons.
- Body belts.

WHOLE BODY PROTECTION

- **Equipment designed to prevent falls**
 - Fall-prevention equipment (full equipment with all necessary accessories).
 - Braking equipment to absorb kinetic energy (full equipment with all necessary accessories).
 - Body-holding devices (safety harness).
- **Protective clothing**
 - 'Safety' working clothing (two-piece and overalls).
 - Clothing to provide protection from machinery (piercing, cutting, etc.).
 - Clothing to provide protection from chemicals.
 - Clothing to provide protection from molten metal splashes and infra-red radiation.
 - Heat-resistant clothing.
 - Thermal clothing.
 - Clothing to provide protection from radioactive contamination.
 - Dust-proof clothing.
 - Gas-proof clothing.
 - Fluorescent signalling, retro-reflecting clothing and accessories (armbands, gloves, etc.).
 - Protective coverings.

ANNEX III

NON-EXHAUSTIVE GUIDE LIST OF ACTIVITIES AND SECTORS OF ACTIVITY WHICH MAY REQUIRE THE PROVISION OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

1. HEAD PROTECTION (SKULL PROTECTION)

Protective helmets

- Building work, particularly work on, underneath or in the vicinity of scaffolding and elevated workplaces, erection and stripping of formwork, assembly and installation work, work on scaffolding and demolition work.
- Work on steel bridges, steel building construction, masts, towers, steel hydraulic structures, blast furnaces, steel works and rolling mills, large containers, large pipelines, boiler plants and power stations.
- Work in pits, trenches, shafts and tunnels.
- Earth and rock works.
- Work in underground workings, quarries, open diggings, coal stock removal.
- Work with bolt-driving tools.
- Blasting work.
- Work in the vicinity of lifts, lifting gear, cranes and conveyors.
- Work with blast furnaces, direct reduction plants, steelworks, rolling mills, metalworks, forging, drop forging and casting.
- Work with industrial furnaces, containers, machinery, silos, bunkers and pipelines.
- Shipbuilding.
- Railway shunting work.
- Slaughterhouses.

2. FOOT PROTECTION

Safety shoes with puncture-proof soles

- Carcase work, foundation work and roadworks.
- Scaffolding work.
- The demolition of carcase work.
- Work with concrete and prefabricated parts involving formwork erection and stripping.
- Work in contractors' yards and warehouses.
- Roof work.

Safety shoes without pierce-proof soles

- Work on steel bridges, steel building construction, masts, towers, lifts, steel hydraulic structures, blast furnaces, steelworks and rolling mills, large containers, large pipelines, cranes, boiler plants and power stations.
- Furnace construction, heating and ventilation installation and metal assembly work.
- Conversion and maintenance work.
- Work with blast furnaces, direct reduction plants, steelworks, rolling mills, metalworks, forging, drop forging, hot pressing and drawing plants.
- Work in quarries and open diggings, coal stock removal.
- Working and processing of rock.
- Flat glass products and container glassware manufacture, working and processing.
- Work with moulds in the ceramics industry.
- Lining of kilns in the ceramics industry.

- Moulding work in the ceramic ware and building materials industry.
- Transport and storage.
- Work with frozen meat blocks and preserved foods packaging.
- Shipbuilding.
- Railway shunting work.

Safety shoes with heels or wedges and pierce-proof soles

- Roof work.

Protective shoes with insulated soles

- Work with and on very hot or very cold materials.

Safety shoes which can easily be removed

- Where there is a risk of penetration by molten substances.

3. EYE OR FACE PROTECTION

Protective goggles, face shields or screens

- Welding, grinding and separating work.
- Caulking and chiselling.
- Rock working and processing.
- Work with bolt-driving tools.
- Work on stock removing machines for small chippings.
- Drop forging.
- The removal and breaking up of fragments.
- Spraying of abrasive substances.
- Work with acids and caustic solutions, disinfectants and corrosive cleaning products.
- Work with liquid sprays.
- Work with and in the vicinity of molten substances.
- Work with radiant heat.
- Work with lasers.

4. RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

Respirators/breathing apparatus

- Work in containers, restricted areas and gas-fired industrial furnaces where there may be gas or insufficient oxygen.
- Work in the vicinity of the blast furnace charge.
- Work in the vicinity of gas converters and blast furnace gas pipes.
- Work in the vicinity of blast furnace taps where there may be heavy metal fumes.
- Work on the lining of furnaces and ladles where there may be dust.
- Spray painting where dedusting is inadequate.
- Work in shafts, sewers and other underground areas connected with sewage.
- Work in refrigeration plants where there is a danger that the refrigerant may escape.

5. HEARING PROTECTION

Ear protectors

- Work with metal presses.
- Work with pneumatic drills.

- The work of ground staff at airports.
- Pile-driving work.
- Wood and textile working.

6. BODY, ARM AND HAND PROTECTION

Protective clothing

- Work with acids and caustic solutions, disinfectants and corrosive cleaning substances.
- Work with or in the vicinity of hot materials and where the effects of heat are felt.
- Work on flat glass products.
- Shot blasting.
- Work in deep-freeze rooms.

Fire-resistant protective clothing

- Welding in restricted areas.

Pierce-proof aprons

- Boning and cutting work.
- Work with hand knives involving drawing the knife towards the body.

Leather aprons

- Welding.
- Forging.
- Casting.

Forearm protection

- Boning and cutting.

Gloves

- Welding.
- Handling of sharp-edged objects, other than machines where there is a danger of the glove's being caught.
- Unprotected work with acids and caustic solutions.

Metal mesh gloves

- Boning and cutting.
- Regular cutting using a hand knife for production and slaughtering.
- Changing the knives of cutting machines.

7. WEATHERPROOF CLOTHING

- Work in the open air in rain and cold weather.

8. REFLECTIVE CLOTHING

- Work where the workers must be clearly visible.

9. SAFETY HARNESES

- Work on scaffolding.
- Assembly of prefabricated parts.
- Work on masts.

10. SAFETY ROPES

- Work in high crane cabs.
- Work in high cabs of warehouse stacking and retrieval equipment.
- Work in high sections of drilling towers.
- Work in shafts and sewers.

11. SKIN PROTECTION

- Processing of coating materials.
 - Tanning.
-

COUNCIL DECISION

of 18 December 1989

establishing an action programme to promote innovation in the field of vocational training
resulting from technological change in the European Community (Eurotecnet)

(89/657/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 128 thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision 63/266/EEC of 2 April 1963 laying down general principles for implementing a common vocational training policy ⁽¹⁾, and in particular the second, fifth, sixth, seventh, ninth and tenth principles set out therein,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission ⁽²⁾, drawn up following consultation of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament ⁽³⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee ⁽⁴⁾,

Whereas, at its meetings in London on 5 and 6 December 1986 and Madrid on 26 and 27 June 1989, the European Council emphasized both the importance of Community actions directed towards the improvement of training and the fundamental nature of the upgrading of human resources through training for economic and social development;

Whereas the Council, in its resolution of 22 December 1986 on an action programme on employment growth ⁽⁵⁾, took the view that an indispensable element in employment growth was the upgrading of vocational training, an improvement in the level of qualifications and the development of cooperation between the social partners;

Whereas the Council, in its resolution of 5 June 1989 on continuing vocational training ⁽⁶⁾, stressed the essential role of continuing vocational training in making full use of human resources with a view to completion of the internal market;

Whereas, in the context of the social dialogue, a joint opinion adopted on 6 March 1987 stressed the need for effective training for workers and managerial staff in the new technologies;

Whereas, in its Decision 87/569/EEC ⁽⁷⁾, the Council adopted an action programme for the vocational training of young people and their preparation for adult and working life, stressing the need to develop the capacity of vocational training systems to adapt to rapid technological, economic and social change;

Whereas, in its Decision 89/27/EEC (Comett II) ⁽⁸⁾, the Council reiterated the importance it attached to cooperation between universities and industry regarding vocational training in the field of advanced technology;

Whereas technological and industrial cooperation in the field of research and development, was the subject of Decisions 88/279/EEC (Esprit) ⁽⁹⁾, 85/196/EEC (Brite/Euram) ⁽¹⁰⁾, 88/419/EEC (Science) ⁽¹¹⁾, 88/417/EEC (Delta) ⁽¹²⁾ and 89/286/EEC (Sprint) ⁽¹³⁾;

Whereas measures to supplement the instruments adopted by the Council should be adopted in order to promote the adaptability of vocational training systems to technological change and in order to contribute to the achievement of the principle of economic and social cohesion;

Whereas the Commission work programme for 1985 to 1988, which was the subject of a Commission communication to the Council on 18 April 1985, made consequent to the Council resolution of 2 June 1983 concerning vocational training measures relating to new information technologies ⁽¹⁴⁾ demonstrated the importance of developing cooperation between the Member States with a view to making full use of the possibilities offered by new technologies in vocational training systems;

Whereas the usefulness of technological development for industry depends on the adaptability of the qualifications and the spirit of enterprise of the workforce; whereas it is necessary to reinforce Community initiatives directed towards making optimum use, within this programme, of

⁽¹⁾ OJ No 63, 20. 4. 1963, p. 1338/63.

⁽²⁾ OJ No C 242, 22. 9. 1989, p. 7.

⁽³⁾ OJ No C 323, 27. 12. 1989.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ No C 329, 30. 12. 1989.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ No C 340, 31. 12. 1986, p. 2.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ No C 148, 15. 6. 1989, p. 1.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ No L 346, 16. 12. 1987, p. 31.

⁽⁸⁾ OJ No L 13, 17. 1. 1989, p. 28.

⁽⁹⁾ OJ No L 118, 6. 5. 1988, p. 32.

⁽¹⁰⁾ OJ No L 83, 25. 3. 1985, p. 8.

⁽¹¹⁾ OJ No L 206, 30. 7. 1988, p. 34.

⁽¹²⁾ OJ No L 206, 30. 7. 1988, p. 20.

⁽¹³⁾ OJ No L 112, 25. 4. 1989, p. 12.

⁽¹⁴⁾ OJ No C 166, 25. 6. 1983, p. 1.

human resources and investment in vocational training; whereas vocational training plays an important role in the strategy of achieving the internal market;

Whereas in extending the Council resolution of 3 November 1986 concerning the action programme for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) ⁽¹⁾, provision should be made for such enterprises to participate in the implementation of this programme and in the dissemination of the results achieved;

Whereas both sides of industry at Community level have repeatedly asked to be fully associated in the implementation of such programmes.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Establishment of the Eurotecnet programme

1. The European Community action programme to promote innovation in the field of vocational training resulting from technological change is hereby adopted.
2. The programme, hereinafter referred to as the 'Eurotecnet programme', shall be implemented with effect from 1 January 1990 for a period of five years.

Article 2

Objective

The objective of the Eurotecnet programme shall be to promote innovation in the fields of basic and also of continuing vocational training with a view to taking account of current and future technological changes and their impact on employment, work and necessary qualifications and skills.

Article 3

Content

The Eurotecnet programme shall comprise:

- (a) a network of national or transnational innovatory projects which take account of a common framework of guidelines as set out in Article 4 and which are designed to develop and improve vocational training policies and systems for the new technologies in the Member States;
- (b) a series of Community measures, as set out in Articles 5 and 6 and in the Annex, which are designed to support and supplement those measures taken by and within Member States.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 287, 14. 11. 1986, p. 1.

Article 4

Common framework of guidelines

1. The common framework of guidelines referred to in Article 3 (a) shall take account of the following objectives:

- (a) extending cooperation with public and private bodies at all levels;
- (b) analysing the impact of technological change on the qualifications and skills of the groups of persons concerned, such as managerial staff, employees and the unemployed; specific account should be taken of the situation of small and medium-sized undertakings as regards both managers and employees;
- (c) implementing national or transnational demonstration projects making it possible to innovate in the provision for vocational training;
- (d) providing for the entry into working life of young people and the unemployed, in particular those whose qualifications are inadequate or unsuitable, through measures which provide them with training both in the new technologies and in mastering technological development;
- (e) promoting equal opportunities for men and women, in particular the access of women to types of training with significant technological content, as well as the retraining or re-entry into employment of women, whose professional activities are affected by technological change;
- (f) developing the training and retraining of trainers in technical, educational and social skills;
- (g) disseminating relevant information.

2. Both sides of industry shall be fully associated in the implementation of the common framework of guidelines referred to in Article 3 (a), in accordance with national practices.

Article 5

Community measures

The Community measures referred to in Article 3 (b) shall be aimed at:

- (a) setting up at Community level a network of innovatory projects in the fields of basic and also of continuing training;
- (b) strengthening cooperation, the exchange and transfer of methodologies and the development of transnational projects;
- (c) encouraging measures to ensure the basic and also continuing vocational training of trainers;
- (d) launching research and analytical work concerning the qualification requirements created by technological change;

- (e) developing the use of open and flexible methods of learning, paying, *inter alia*, attention to the promotion of self-training;
- (f) disseminating relevant information within the Community.

Article 6

Support measures

1. In order to support and supplement the efforts of Member States to improve the quality and level of vocational training and of the necessary qualifications and skills in line with technological change, the Commission shall implement various measures as indicated in the Annex, taking account of the differing needs and situations which exist in the Member States, with particular regard to the level of technological advancement in each Member State and to the respective provisions for vocational training.

2. Both sides of industry shall be fully associated, according to the appropriate procedures, in the implementation of the measures referred to in paragraph 1.

Article 7

Financing

1. The funds estimated as necessary for the financing of the Eurotecnet programme in the first three years of the five-year period referred to in Article 1 (2) amount to ECU 7,5 million.

2. The necessary annual appropriations shall be authorized in the annual budgetary procedure in accordance with the financial outlook decided on jointly by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission and on the basis of the way it develops.

Article 8

Consistency and complementarity

1. The Commission shall ensure that there is consistency and complementarity between the Community actions to be implemented under the Eurotecnet programme and other Community programmes involving vocational training and/or technological development.

2. The Commission shall draw upon the assistance of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) in the implementation of the Eurotecnet programme, subject to the conditions laid down in Council Regulation (EEC) No 337/75 of 10 February 1975 establishing a European centre for the development of vocational training ⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 39, 13. 2. 1975, p. 1.

Article 9

Briefing of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training

The Commission shall keep the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training regularly informed of the development of the Eurotecnet programme.

Article 10

Committee

1. The Commission shall be assisted by a committee of an advisory nature composed of the representatives of the Member States and chaired by the representative of the Commission.

Three representatives of both sides of industry, appointed by the Commission on the basis of proposals from the organizations representing both sides of industry at Community level, shall participate in the work of the committee as observers.

2. The representative of the Commission shall submit to the committee a draft of the measures concerning:

- (a) the general guidelines governing the Eurotecnet programme;
- (b) questions relating to the overall balance of the Eurotecnet programme, including the breakdown between the various actions.

3. The committee shall deliver its opinion on the draft, within a time limit which the chairman may lay down according to the urgency of the matter, if necessary by taking a vote.

4. The opinion shall be recorded in the minutes; in addition, each Member State shall have the right to ask to have its position recorded in the minutes.

5. The Commission shall take the utmost account of the opinion delivered by the committee. It shall inform the committee of the manner in which its opinion has been taken into account.

Article 11

Assessment

1. The results of the national or transnational projects undertaken by the Member States pursuant to Article 4 and of the measures taken by the Commission pursuant to Articles 5 and 6 and the Annex shall be subject to objective external assessment in accordance with criteria established in

consultation between the Commission and the Member States:

- (a) for the first time, during the first six months of 1992;
- (b) for the second time, during the first six months of 1994.

2. The Commission shall, in consultation with the Member States, coordinate the assessments referred to in paragraph 1 and report to the European Parliament, the Council and the Economic and Social Committee on the results of these assessments, highlighting the financing procedures for the Eurotecnet programme.

- (a) in the case referred to in paragraph 1 (a), by 30 June 1992 at the latest;
- (b) in the case referred to in paragraph 1 (b), by 30 June 1994 at the latest.

Article 12

Final report

1. The Commission shall by 30 June 1995 submit to the European Parliament, the Council and the Economic and Social Committee a final report on the results of the Eurotecnet programme.

2. By 31 December 1994 the Member States shall forward to the Commission the relevant information to enable it to draw up the final report referred to in paragraph 1.

Done at Brussels, 18 December 1989.

For the Council
The President
R. DUMAS

ANNEX

Support measures

(Article 6)

I

1. Promoting the use of innovative approaches for adapting basic and also continuing vocational training to technological change:

- (a) The Eurotecnet programme brings together in a Community network innovative demonstration projects devised in the Member States and aimed at improving the definition and propagation of programmes for basic or continuing vocational training in order to respond to technological change.

In addition the network will be used to support all possible forms of cooperation between the parties involved, at various levels, in order to seek solutions to issues of common concern.

Projects for possible inclusion in the network will be selected on the basis of the guidelines laid down in Article 4.

Cooperation between the public and private sectors, where they put new forms of vocational training into practice, and transnational cooperation to set up demonstration projects, will be especially encouraged.

The launching of demonstration projects will remain the responsibility of the Member States.

Community support measures will be aimed at improving the links at Community level between the various projects in order to back up and supplement the measures taken by and in the Member States, in particular by means of promotion, coordination and dissemination activities.

Community support measures will cover the whole network and will be funded by the Community.

- (b) In the light of technological change and its effect on vocational skills and qualifications, demonstration programmes for the vocational training of trainers will be developed.

Appropriate exchange instruments will be implemented in order to promote the transfer of the contents of the Eurotecnet programme.

- (c) The setting up of European training and technology consortia will be encouraged, involving small and medium-sized undertakings and larger undertakings and vocational training bodies and, in accordance with national practice, both sides of industry to develop and innovate vocational technology training for the undertakings and job seekers.

- (d) A Community clearing house will be set up in close liaison with the network of demonstration projects to facilitate the exploitation and exchange of learning materials for basic or continuing vocational training, in order to respond to technological change.

Those Member States that so wish may receive advice from the clearing house.

- (e) At the Commission's request, Cedefop will organize transnational study visits for those involved in demonstration projects or other aspects of the programme.

It will develop its own study visits scheme for vocational training specialists.

- (f) The Community will support the measures taken by the Member States pursuant to Article 4 by means of appropriate activities such as the dissemination of its results or support for transnational exchanges or transfers.

2. Undertaking research and analysis, in order to adapt the provision of basic or continuing vocational training to the consequences of technological change:

- (a) in conjunction with the demonstration projects, research and analysis work will be initiated, to give scientific support to the programme;

- (b) in this connection, the following topics will be given priority:

— developing new pedagogic approaches and models which may be integrated into schemes for basic or continuing vocational training, adapted in the light of technological change, meeting the necessary skill and qualification requirements, and drawing in particular on multi-media learning approaches,

- improving methodologies and access to basic or continuing vocational training in the new technologies for disadvantaged or marginalized groups,
- analysing the results of research and technology development programmes, particularly those sponsored by the Community, in order to evaluate qualification and skill requirements, enabling the necessary measures to be taken in the fields of basic or continuing vocational training.

3. Organizing a series of information campaigns and activities:

- (a) conferences at Community level or in the Member States on key issues to study the links between vocational training and technology;
- (b) European seminars, specialized colloquia, interproject exchange workshops and round tables;
- (c) Community cooperation between the various Member States and the various information providers on types of qualification and the qualifications offered;
- (d) preparation of publications in the official Community languages to provide information on the Eurotecnet programme and activities planned.

II

The work undertaken within the framework of the Eurotecnet programme will receive the necessary technical assistance at Community level in order that it may proceed successfully, in particular as regards support and continuing evaluation of the programme and dissemination and transfer of the results obtained.

COUNCIL DECISION

of 18 December 1989

concerning the further development of the Handynet system in the context of the Helios programme

(89/658/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Articles 128 and 235 thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision 88/231/EEC of 18 April 1988 establishing a second Community action programme for disabled people (Helios) ⁽¹⁾, and in particular, Article 4 (2) thereof, and point 2 (d) of the Annex thereto,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament ⁽²⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee ⁽³⁾,

Whereas the Council, in accordance with point 2 (d) of the Annex to Decision 88/231/EEC will review the Handynet system on the basis of a Commission report and, on the basis of a Commission proposal, will decide on the conditions for continuing the system after that date;

Considering the Commission report;

Whereas the Commission's consultations with the members of the Advisory Committee (Helios) and the Liaison Group (Helios) set up by Articles 6 and 7 of Decision 88/231/EEC as well as the cooperation with the representatives of users and suppliers of information and with international experts have made it possible to define, in the light of studies and the experience of existing data bases in certain Member States, the general design of the Handynet system;

Whereas, during the initial phase relating to the coordination and further development of the Handynet system (May 1988 to end of 1989), the Commission has, in accordance with the

Helios programme, applied priority to the further development and updating of Handy aids as the first module of the Handynet system;

Whereas the first module of the Handynet system could have implications on the social level by making a contribution towards improving the conditions for the integration of the disabled, since technical aids constitute an indispensable factor in the training and vocational rehabilitation, employment, education, and autonomous living of persons in this category, in particular from the point of view of their mobility, and their return home;

Whereas, on the economic level, information plays an important role in the development and coherence of the European economy as a whole; whereas this first module of the Handynet system is likely to ensure transparency in a specific sector of the European market and will probably have beneficial effects for the disabled in terms of quality and price of products by stimulating consumption, production and competition, thus giving rise to economies of scale at the level of both production and distribution; whereas the effects of the transparency of the Community market will also serve the interests of those in charge of social policy who, at national, regional or local level, assume a considerable part of the burden of financing technical aids;

Whereas, with a view to ensuring efficiency, the fields of the Handynet system to be implemented by way of priority in the years 1990 and 1991 should be defined; whereas the first step therefore should be the finalization and entry into operation of the Handy aids module during first half of 1990;

Whereas the amount necessary for carrying out the priority activities provided for under the Handynet system in the years 1990 and 1991 is comprised in the amount estimated necessary for the activities of the Helios programme as a whole,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The European Community computerized information system on disability questions, known as Handynet shall be continued in consultation with the Member States pursuant to the Helios programme and in particular pursuant to Article 6 of Decision 88/231/EEC for the period 1 January 1990 to 31 December 1991.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 104, 23. 4. 1988, p. 38.

⁽²⁾ OJ No C 323, 27. 12. 1989.

⁽³⁾ Opinion delivered on 16 November 1989 (not yet published in Official Journal).

Article 2

Done at Brussels, 18 December 1989.

Within the amount estimated necessary for the Helios programme, priority shall be given to the activities of completion and putting into operation of the Handyaids module on technical aids intended for persons affected by impaired motor, visual, hearing, mental or communication faculties.

*For the Council**The President*

R. DUMAS