

European Parliament –2005 January 19

International Declaration on diseases due to chemical pollution

UNESCO, Paris, France, 2004 May 7

THE PARIS APPEAL

Links to the appeal: [EN](#) / [FR](#)

Pr.Dominique Belpomme, Chairman of ARTAC

[**www.artac.info**](http://www.artac.info)



THE PARIS APPEAL

International Declaration on diseases due to chemical pollution

3 articles

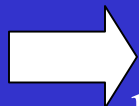
- **Article 1** : The development of numerous current diseases is a result of the deterioration of the environment
- **Article 2** : Chemical pollution represents a serious threat to children and to Man's survival.
- **Article 3** : As our own health, that of our children and future generations, is under threat, *the Human race itself is in serious danger.*

THE PARIS APPEAL

Signatories :

500 scientists from Europe : France, U.K, Belgium, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and from USA, Canada, Switzerland, Japan, India

Including several medicine **Nobel Prize winners** as François Jacob and Jean Dausset, **Right livelihood award winners**, and members of the different **national Academies** of Medicine and Science



International scientific demonstration of a causal link between chemicals and the genesis of present diseases

POLLUTION INDUCED PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEMS IN EUROPE

Cancer¹:

- a leading cause of death before 65 years
- 25% of cancers due to smoking / 75% due to mutations induced by environmental factors, mainly chemical.

Infertility^{2,3} :

- 15% of sterile couple in Europe.
- Drastic increase in male infertility since 50 years : 1% yearly decrease in spermatic count in polluted area by chemicals.

Allergy⁴ :

- Doubling number of cases since 15-20 years.
- 20% of citizens – Role of atmospheric pollution demonstrated.

1- *Cancer as an environmental disease*, Nicolopoulou-Stamati, P.; Hens, L.; Howard, V.C.; Van Larebeke, N. (Hrsg.) a book 2004, 236 p., Geb.Ed Springer , 2-Carlsen E. et al Br.Med.J.,1992 305 609-613, 3-Van Waeleghem K, De Clercq N, Vermeulen L, Comhaire F (1996), Human Reproduction 112 pp 325-329
4-www.allergique.org

THE LIFE OF CHILDREN IN DANGER

In Europe, environmental factors cause 1 / 3 of disease among children and adolescents¹ - Fœtus contamination : chemical pollutants pass the placental barrier

Cancer² :

- 1% yearly increase of incidence of children cancers in Europe. A second cause of mortality.

Leukaemia³ :

- X 2 increase in number since 20 years

Congenital malformations of the reproductive tract⁴

- X3 increase in number in agricultural area polluted by pesticides

Asthma and allergies⁵

- Drastic increase since 15–20 years of asthma and allergies
- 10% of children with symptoms
- 1 child out 7 with asthma

1- Valent F et al, The Lancet, 2004, 363, (9426), 2- IARC, E.Steliarova-Foucher et al, The Lancet , 2004, 364 ; 3- Pr.Alan Preece, University of Bristol, 2004; 4- INSERM; 5- WHO Regional Office for Europe. Copenhagen, European Environment Agency. Tamburlini G et al., 2002:44–47 (Environmental issue report, No. 29).

ESTIMATED INCIDENCE AND COST OF CHEMICALLY-INDUCED DISEASES IN EUROPE

- Based on the World-wide Bank :
0,6% to 2.5% of chemically induced diseases.
- According to the European Commission :
50 billions euros
- Based on a new scientific expertise including the
growing incidence of cancers, infertility and allergies :
2.5% to 25% of chemically induced diseases