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Commission de l'emploi et des affaires sociales

2011/2072(INI)

1.6.2011

AMENDEMENTS

1 - 32

Projet d'avis
Pervenche Berès
(PE464.779v01-00)

on facing the challenge of the safety of offshore oil and gas activities
(2011/2072(INI))

AM_Com_NonLegOpinion

Amendment 1
Elizabeth Lynne

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Stresses that offshore oil and gas production involves extremely high risks for worker health and safety, owing to the at times extreme environmental conditions, the 12-hour shift patterns and the isolated working environment, and *considers* that working conditions *should* be regulated, *in particular in view of the* human errors *they may cause*;

Amendment

1. Stresses that offshore oil and gas production involves extremely high risks for worker health and safety, owing to the at times extreme environmental conditions, the 12-hour shift patterns and the isolated working environment and *recognises* that working conditions *are, and must continue to* be, regulated *to minimise* human errors *and protect workers*;

Or. en

Amendment 2
Csaba Óry

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Stresses that offshore oil and gas production involves extremely high risks for worker health and safety, owing to the at times extreme environmental conditions, the 12-hour shift patterns and the isolated working environment, and considers that working conditions should be regulated, *in particular in view of the human errors they may cause*;

Amendment

1. Stresses that offshore oil and gas production involves extremely high risks for worker health and safety, owing to the at times extreme environmental conditions, the 12-hour shift patterns and the isolated working environment, and considers that *the specific* working conditions *and especially the psychological stress* should be regulated;

Or. en

Amendment 3
Philippe Boulland

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 1**

Draft opinion

1. Stresses that offshore oil and gas production involves extremely high risks for worker health and safety, owing to the at times extreme environmental conditions, the 12-hour shift patterns and the isolated working environment, and considers that working conditions should be regulated, in particular in view of the human errors they may cause;

Amendment

1. Stresses that offshore oil and gas production involves extremely high risks for worker health and safety, owing to the at times extreme environmental conditions, the 12-hour shift patterns and the isolated working environment, and considers that working conditions should be regulated, in particular in view of the human errors they may cause; ***therefore recommends that workers could benefit of a system of insurance as well as a mutual insurance company in adequacy to the risks occurred;***

Or. en

**Amendment 4
Elizabeth Lynne**

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 2**

Draft opinion

2. Welcomes the fact that the Commission intends to review Directive 92/91/EEC, and calls for ***an*** approach ***based on maximum, and not minimum,*** harmonisation, ***given that the latter may give rise to disparities in treatment between workers within the same company, depending on their place of work;***

Amendment

2. Welcomes the fact that the Commission intends to review Directive 92/91/EEC, and calls for ***a full and open*** approach, ***assessing both the effectiveness of existing legislation and the possibilities for future*** harmonisation of ***legislation;***

Or. en

**Amendment 5
Csaba Óry**

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 2**

Draft opinion

2. Welcomes the fact that the Commission intends to review Directive 92/91/EEC, and calls for ***an approach based on maximum, and not minimum, harmonisation, given that the latter may give rise to disparities in treatment between workers within the same company, depending on their place of work;***

Amendment

2. Welcomes the fact that the Commission intends to review Directive 92/91/EEC, and calls for ***a transparent, efficient and consistent rule which needs to apply to all employees working in the offshore sector;***

Or. en

**Amendment 6
Thomas Mann**

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)**

Draft opinion

2a. Emphasises that some Member States already have excellent security mechanisms in comparison to the international and European level;

Amendment

Or. en

**Amendment 7
Thomas Mann**

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 b (new)**

Draft opinion

2b. Stresses that it is of highest importance to identify best practices in health and safety as well as in training and qualification;

Amendment

Amendment 8
Jutta Steinruck

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Emphasises the need for systems providing for effective checks by inspection bodies, using innovative methods such as specific audits of working time or rescue operations;

Amendment

3. Emphasises the need for systems providing for effective checks by inspection bodies, using innovative methods such as specific audits of working time or rescue operations ***and sanctions can be applied by violations of health and safety of workers;***

Amendment 9
Pervenche Berès

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Believes that a health and safety culture needs to be developed by engaging employers and securing the active participation of workers, in particular by consulting them, involving them in devising and applying safety procedures, and informing them of the potential risk involved;

Amendment

4. Believes that a ***preventive*** health and safety culture needs to be developed by engaging employers and securing the active participation of workers, in particular by consulting them, involving them in devising and applying safety procedures, and informing them of the potential risk involved; ***highlights the importance of testing and monitoring these procedures throughout the command chain so as to ensure high management is also trained and liable in case of accidents or safety failures;***

Amendment 10
Thomas Mann

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Believes that a health and safety culture needs to be developed by engaging employers and securing the active participation of workers, in particular by consulting them, involving them in devising and applying safety procedures, and informing them of the potential risk involved;

Amendment

4. Believes that a health and safety culture needs to be developed by engaging employers *as well as trade unions* and securing the active participation of workers, in particular by consulting them, involving them in devising and applying safety procedures, and informing them of the potential risk involved;

Or. en

Amendment 11
Pervenche Berès

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4a. Calls on the EU to promote the application of the ILO Guidelines on Occupational Safety and Health Management Systems (ILO-OSH 2001) across the oil and gas industry;

Or. en

Amendment 12
Thomas Mann

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4a. Calls on the Member States to allow only certified inhouse or external training, asks the Commission to develop European standards for this certification;

Or. en

Amendment 13
Jean Lambert

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4a. Considers that all workers, whatever their task or contractual status, should also be fully informed as to health and safety procedures when working on off-shore installations;

Or. en

Amendment 14
Rolandas Paksas

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

Amendment

5. Calls on the Commission to consider the possibility of laying down training requirements for workers involved in high-risk tasks;

5. Calls on the Commission to consider the ***common high safety standards and systems to counter and limit threats in order to minimize the risks and, when necessary, enable a swift and effective response,*** and the possibility of laying down training requirements for workers involved in high-risk tasks;

Or. en

Amendment 15
Pervenche Berès

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Calls on the Commission to consider the possibility of laying down training requirements for workers involved in high-risk tasks;

Amendment

5. Calls on the Commission to consider the possibility of laying down training requirements for workers, ***including contractors and subcontractors***, involved in high-risk tasks ***and harmonising them so as to ensure coherent implementation in all European waters***;

Or. en

Amendment 16
Elizabeth Lynne

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Calls on the Commission to consider the possibility of laying down training requirements for workers involved in high-risk tasks;

Amendment

5. Calls on the Commission to consider the possibility of laying down training requirements for workers involved in high-risk tasks ***and engage positively with international partners to explore the possibility of achieving a global initiative on workers' health and safety rules***;

Or. en

Amendment 17
Jutta Steinruck

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Calls on the Commission to consider the possibility of laying down training requirements for workers involved in high-risk tasks;

Amendment

5. Calls on the Commission to consider the possibility of laying down training requirements for workers involved in high-risk tasks ***and these are updated regularly to meet the latest state of technology;***

Or. en

Amendement 18
Franz Obermayr

Projet d'avis
Paragraph 5

Projet d'avis

5. Calls on the Commission to consider the possibility of laying down training requirements for workers involved in high-risk tasks;

Amendement

5. Calls on the Commission to consider the possibility of laying down training requirements ***in the Member States of the EU*** for workers involved in high-risk tasks;

Or. en

Amendment 19
Pervenche Berès

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Urges the Commission to strengthen workers' rights by protecting them against harrassment so as to ensure they can declare security failures or risks to competent authorities on a anonymous basis;

Or. en

Amendment 20
Jutta Steinruck

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls for strict safety and training rules to be applied to subcontractors, who must have the necessary qualifications to carry out maintenance and construction work;

Amendment

6. Calls for strict safety, **health protection** and training rules to be applied to subcontractors, who must have the necessary qualifications to carry out maintenance and construction work;

Or. en

Amendment 21
Csaba Óry

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls for strict safety and training rules to be applied to subcontractors, who must have the necessary qualifications to carry out maintenance and construction work;

Amendment

6. Calls for strict safety and training rules to be applied **also** to subcontractors, who must have the necessary qualifications to carry out maintenance and construction work **in their responsible field**;

Or. en

Amendment 22
Pervenche Berès

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls for strict safety and training rules to be applied to subcontractors, who must have the necessary qualifications to carry out maintenance and construction work;

Amendment

6. Calls for strict safety and training rules to be applied to subcontractors, who must have the necessary qualifications to carry out maintenance and construction work;
workers, including contractors and subcontractors and workers' organizations must be informed of all risks involved in the work before it is actually carried out;

Or. en

Amendment 23
Rolandas Paksas

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Encourages to develop closer cooperation between the Baltic Sea and the North Sea regions in the offshore oil and gas extraction activities; calls, taking into account the best practices of the North Sea, to start a thorough risk and environmental impact study and preparatory research activities of offshore oil and gas installations in the Baltic Sea Shelf;

Or. en

Amendment 24
Pervenche Berès

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

7. Calls for companies based in the EU to apply the same worker health and safety rules in all their operations around the world.

Amendment

7. Calls for companies based in the EU to apply the same worker health and safety rules in all their operations around the world, ***unless operations are carried out in a country that provides for a higher standard of OSH than the EU, which are then to be applied.***

Or. en

Amendment 25
Elizabeth Lynne

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

7. Calls for companies based in the EU to apply the same worker health and safety rules in all their operations around the world.

Amendment

7. Calls for companies based ***or operating*** in the EU to apply the same worker health and safety rules in all their operations around the world ***and for the Commission to advance a global initiative, working with the Council and the Parliament, to improve these rules within and outside the EU.***

Or. en

Amendment 26
Pervenche Berès

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7a. Calls on the EU to collaborate with relevant countries outside the EU, including their workers' and employers' organisations, whose nationals carry out

services in the EU offshore oil and gas industry in order to ensure that companies based outside the EU but operating in EU waters are bound to EU working conditions and OSH legislation;

Or. en

Amendment 27
Thomas Mann

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7a. Stresses that also employees of the further processing chain offshore or on shore are exposed to extremely high risks for health and safety; asks the Member States to include these employees in their regulating activities;

Or. en

Amendment 28
Philippe Boulland

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7a. Wishes that a particular and regular medical follow-up care for patients should be provided for the workers exercising their activities within the offshore oil and gas sector; recommends that a medical visit regarding the physical and psychological state of the workers should be organised at least once a year;

Or. en

Amendment 29
Pervenche Berès

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7b. Calls for the EU to consider the possibility of creating an independent safety and health regulator exclusively for the oil and gas industry;

Or. en

Amendment 30
Philippe Boulland

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7b. Wishes that a permanent observation of the risks based on a systematical collect of information and scientific opinions should be realised, this would allow to anticipate the new and coming-up risks;

Or. en

Amendment 31
Pervenche Berès

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7c. Asks for increased transparency notably as regards the public disclosure of accidents reports, their potential impact

on public health, as well as inspection reports; suggests centralising this information on a public European platform;

Or. en

Amendment 32
Philippe Boulland

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7c. Wishes that a mechanism of evaluation of the risks incurred by the workers be approved and that this evaluation should be taken into consideration for the calculation of the remuneration of the workers.

Or. en