

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0017/04
by Bartho Pronk (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Adaptation of Council Directive 92/58/EEC on minimum requirements for the provision of safety and/or health signs at work

Council Directive 92/58 EEC¹ lays down minimum requirements for the provision of safety and/or health signs at work. However, the specifications for signs laid down in the directive are now out of date. Member States have since introduced a range of new signs, as a result of which signs are no longer uniform and standards have deteriorated as a result.

Article 9 of the directive says that the annexes laying down specific specifications for signs should be adapted in the light of technical progress.

1. Does the Commission share the view that the directive on signs need to be adapted for the above reasons? If so, does it intend to submit appropriate proposals? If not, why not?
2. Is it not urgent to adapt the directive given that ten new Member States are about to join the EU?
3. Is the Commission not concerned that the aim of the directive might be undermined by lack of 'maintenance'?

¹ OJ L 245, 26.8.1992, p. 23.