

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3997/06

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to the Commission

Subject: Further to written answer E-1414/06 given by Commissioner Potočnik on 23.5.2006 on the Chernobyl fallout effects on people and biosphere

1. Given that the study of the total collective dose to the population of the European Union from the Chernobyl accident conducted for the Commission (EUR 11523) was published in 1988, only two years after the accident, and was described as a preliminary assessment of the radiological impact of the Chernobyl reactor accident on the population of the European Community, and that this study only covered the impact of the then 12 European Community Member States, will the Commission now arrange for a follow-up study to be conducted to include assessment of the radioactive fallout on the 13 new Member States which have joined the European Union since this preliminary study?
2. Will the Commission publish the titles of the major research programmes on better understanding and quantification of risk from low doses of radiation, along with their respective authors and institutions, currently being undertaken respectively in the EU, the United States and Japan? Will the Commission provide details of the support funds it has provided to each project, listing in each case whether the funding was provided after competitive tender?
3. What studies underpin the assertion that ‘more than 80% of the total collective dose to the EU population from Chernobyl has already been delivered’? Will the Commission quantify the word ‘significantly’ as used in the part of the answer that states ‘resuspension of radioactive material from forest fires does not contribute significantly to the past or future exposure of the EU population’?
4. Will the Commission state the degree to which its statements on ‘appropriate measures’ taken to ensure that the maximum permitted levels of radioactive caesium, as laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 737/90<sup>1</sup>, were not exceeded for the marketing in the Community of such products as game, wild berries and wild mushrooms, apply to game, wild berries and wild mushrooms cultivated and sold in the 13 new Member States that have joined the European Union since this regulation was adopted?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 82, 29.3.1990, p. 1.