

WRITTEN QUESTION E-5453/09

by Malcolm Harbour (ECR) and Anja Weisgerber (PPE)  
to the Council

Subject: Repeal of 8 metrology directives, 2008/0227(COD)

The Commission's proposal to repeal 8 metrology directives states that the directives involved are hardly used any more and other measures such as the mutual recognition of international standards would be sufficient to ensure necessary policy objectives. It is concluded therefore that the 8 directives are obsolete and can be repealed for reasons of better regulation.

Nevertheless, we also understand that some Member States are opposing the repeal of some of the directives although the reasoning behind this is not very clear at the moment. In principle, we favour the objective of better regulation, but if any objections to repealing a directive exist we would like to take them into account when assessing proposal 2008/0227(COD). An overview lists the possible alternative measures for each Directive (71/317/EEC<sup>1</sup>, 71/347/EEC<sup>2</sup>, 71/349/EEC<sup>3</sup>, 74/148/EEC<sup>4</sup>, 75/33/EEC<sup>5</sup>, 76/765/EEC<sup>6</sup>, 76/766/EEC<sup>7</sup>, and 86/217/EEC<sup>8</sup>) if they are to be repealed, based on the impact assessment accompanying the proposal and additional information provided by the Commission.

Can the Presidency of the Council of the European Union inform the Committee:

1. Whether Member States expect any substantial negative consequences from repealing one or more of the 8 metrology directives, which cannot reasonably be solved by alternative measures as listed in the attached overview?
2. If Member States hold fundamental objections to repealing one or more of the 8 directives, could you provide us with their arguments for each of the directives that should not be repealed?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 202, 6.9.1971, p. 14.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 239, 25.10.1971, p. 1.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 239, 25.10.1971, p. 15.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 84, 28.3.1974, p. 3.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 73, 21.3.1975, p. 81.

<sup>6</sup> OJ L 262, 27.9.1976, p. 143.

<sup>7</sup> OJ L 262, 27.9.1976, p. 149.

<sup>8</sup> OJ L 152, 6.6.1986, p. 48.