ORAL QUESTION H-0994/06 for Question Time at the part-session in December 2006 pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure by Philip Bushill-Matthews to the Commission

Subject: Next steps for Working Time Directive

Following the latest failed round of negotiations on the Working Time Directive (93/104/EC¹), can the Commission describe its future plans, particularly given that 23 out of 25 countries are now 'illegally' running their national health services? Does it recognise that the majority of countries want a more flexible solution and that for the Directive to be truly considered health and safety law, the focus should be on guaranteeing rest time rather setting an upper limit for working time?

Tabled: 09.11.2006

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¹ OJ L 307, 13.12.1993, p. 18.