WRITTEN QUESTION P-2223/04 by Ewa Hedkvist Petersen (PSE) to the Commission

Subject: Feasibility study, pedestrian safety and EEVC test

Since 1996, 'the European New Car Assessment Programme,' namely the four 'EEVC sub-systems', has been used to test new cars for protection of pedestrians. In order to improve pedestrian safety, the car industry has in its voluntary commitment of 2001 suggested a two-phase approach, the second one allowing it to meet EEVC requirements by 2010. This approach was agreed by Parliament and Council in Directive 2003/102/EC¹. An expert study concludes that such a level of security is not feasible for the car industry at the moment since it has to date only invested in the requirements of the first phase of the agreement.

Can the Commission confirm that the EEVC test will be required from 2010 without any weakening of the tests? Will the conclusion of the study affect future legislation, and which stakeholders have been involved in the working group on pedestrian safety?

¹ OJ L 321, 6.12.2003, p. 15.