



# Mid-term review of the EU Action Plan on Environment and Health by EP

EN only

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## European environmental health action plan receives mid-term review

Frédérique Ries, Member of the European Parliament and rapporteur on environmental health, has expressed her concerns on the future effects on health of chemicals, indoor air quality and climate change at a European parliamentary workshop on the mid-term review of the EU Environment and Health Action plan on 6 March 2008.

CPME Principal EU policy advisor, Nelly Le Dévic, attended the review.

Hosting the meeting in EP, she said the funding of the entire programme was a worry, particularly on human biomonitoring, the linkages between environmental health and EU chemicals policy (REACH), and the effects of electromagnetic frequencies on health.

### Background

In June of 2004, The Commission of European communities launched an action plan with the intent to foster "**Better health from a better environment – a challenge for the future** "

This Action Plan for the period 2004-2010 was designed to give the EU the scientifically grounded information needed to help all EU Member States reduce the adverse health impacts of certain environmental factors and to endorse better cooperation between actors in the environment, health and research fields. It took the concerns of the other Institutions into account in the identification of the actions proposed and was designed to fit with existing actions at regional, national, European and international level, notably to the WHO pan-European Environment and Health process, and its commitments to ensuring safer environments for children.

In January 2005, Parliament adopted an own-initiative report (Rapp. Frédérique Ries) on the European Environment and Health Action Plan 2004-2010. EP considers the Action Plan to be insufficiently ambitious and insufficiently promoting preventive action. Furthermore it might have no added value for certain Member States where an 'environment and health' strategy is already in place.

### European parliamentary workshop

The action plan had reached midterm and the European Parliament's Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee and the EP's Policy Department decided to organise a specific Workshop in order to examine the progress of the action plan, with the contribution of experts working in the health and environment fields.

The Review Session focused on four key issues, presented by four different experts:

1. An assessment of the midterm review programme 2004-2010 by Ms Janne Sylvest, Ramboll Management
2. An overview of indoor air quality and impact on human health, by Ms Bettina

Menne, WHO Regional Office for Europe

3. An overview of the climate change impact on human health by Mr. Angelo Moretto, University of Milan, Department of Occupational Medicine and L. Sacco Hospital, Milan

4. The impact of chemical cocktail products on human health by Ms. Ludwine Casteleyn, MD Chair of the implementation group, Department of Labour, Brussels

Next steps

Consideration of draft report

Deadline for tabling amendments: **8 April 2008, 12.00**

Documents referred to:

[Consolidated texts](#) (2,46 Mb)

[Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee - The European Environment & Health Action Plan 2004-2010](#) (40 KB)

[EC communication of 2004 \(COM\(2004\)416\) and its technical annex, and the European Parliament resolution of 2005 on the EU environment and health action plan](#) (in the green box on the right)

[2007 European Commission midterm review of the Action Plan \(COM\(2007\)314\)](#) (172 KB)

[Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe \(CEHAPE\)](#)

[Children's health and environment](#) (1,05 Mb)

[WHO/Europe: Healthy environments for healthy people](#)