



Notification Number: 1996/248/F

Order relating to materials and objects used in installations for the production, treatment and distribution of water which is intended for human consumption.

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Issue of comments by : Denmark
Issue of detailed opinion by : Commission

Message

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TELEX 002

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION - SG (96) D/51176/2
DIRECTIVES 83/189/EEC, 88/182/EEC AND 94/10/EC
TRANSLATION OF TELEX 001
NOTIFICATION 96/0248/F

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1. Structured Information Line

TLX 002 IND- 96 0248 F-- EN ----- 960704 --- ---

2. Member State

France

3. Department Responsible

Secretariat General du Comité Interministeriel pour les
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3. Originating Department

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4. Notification Number

96/0248/F

5. Title

Order relating to materials and objects used in installations
for the production, treatment and distribution of water which
is intended for human consumption.

6. Products Concerned

Products in question: pipes, tanks and accessories used in
installations for the distribution of water which is intended
for human consumption.

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

The Draft Order is intended to update national regulations
regarding materials which come into contact with water which
is intended for human consumption (see enclosed note). It
concerns all kinds of material (in particular, metallic



materials, cement-based materials and plastic materials).

The main provisions proposed are as follows:

- with regard to the manufacture of these materials, it shall once again be mandatory to use components which have already been authorised under the regulation which applies to materials which come into contact with food and is based on Community legislation; in cases where this Regulation does not constitute an adapted reference (e.g. cement-based products, metals and metal alloys), national regulations shall introduce particular specifications.

- prior to any form of marketing, it shall be mandatory to evaluate any possible migration of substances into the water. The migration tests used shall make reference to the official report approved by the Minister of Health in 1994; the report shall be amended as soon as the corresponding European standards prepared by the CEN (TC 164) have been published.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

Current national regulations are insufficient to the extent that only plastic materials are subject to particular specifications concerning the constituents used in their manufacture. On the other hand, no obligation to check the compatibility of the finished product with the water intended for human consumption has been introduced: the current system is based on simple recommendations from the French Public Health Authority. The newly proposed legal framework enables regulations which apply to all materials to be harmonised; it shall also enable references to be introduced to European standards as soon as the latter are available.

The publication of this text has been deferred by 7 years following the publication of amended Decree 89-3 of 3 January 1989 mentioned below, pending harmonisation at European level. Given the absence of any prospect of development at this level, whether in the framework of the revision of Directive 80/778/EEC or of the application of Directive 89/106/EEC, it has been decided to consolidate the national system with a view to increasing the safety of installations for the distribution of water intended for human consumption. The replacing of lead pipes in years to come is only sensible if the new materials to be used are not in any way suspect.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

Reference documents - supporting texts

Amended Decree no. 89-3 of 3 January 1989 relating to the quality of water intended for human consumption, particularly Article 7.

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure



No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

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14. Fiscal measures

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D. WILLIAMSON
COMEUR
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