



Notification Number: 1997/5/F

Decree on the prevention of risks linked to the flammability and the hygienic state of items of bedding intended to be used in domestic premises or in communal premises, and constituent products.

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Issue of comments by : European Free Trade Association (EFTA),Italy
Issue of detailed opinion by : Austria,Belgium,Commission,Portugal,United Kingdom

Message

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TELEX 002

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION - SG (97) D/50048/2
DIRECTIVES 83/189/EEC, 88/182/EEC AND 94/10/EC
TRANSLATION OF TELEX 001
NOTIFICATION 97/0005/F

- 3B1 : 9700048.EN

1. Structured Information Line

TLX 002 IND- 97 0005 F-- EN ----- 961230 --- ---

2. Member State

France

3. Department Responsible

Délégué interministériel aux normes
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3. Originating Department

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4. Notification Number

97/0005/F

5. Title

Decree on the prevention of risks linked to the flammability
and the hygienic state of items of bedding intended to be
used in domestic premises or in communal premises, and
constituent products.

6. Products Concerned

Items of bedding.

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

This draft decree specifies that items of bedding must be
designed and manufactured in such a way as to be sufficiently
resistant to a lighted match, and to ensure sufficient
hygienic quality to reduce the risks linked to the presence
and development of pathogenic germs.

It specifies that conformance to safety requirements is



certified by the words "conforms to safety requirements..." which must appear on the product and its' packaging.

It specifies that, in order to meet the safety requirements, the item of bedding must be manufactured in conformance with the French or foreign safety standards relating thereto, or it must conform to a model type certified as conforming to safety standards.

In order to improve consumer information on the prevention of risks, it states that items of bedding must be accompanied by a technical identification sheet bearing useful indications as to the range of application, the method of use and precautions to be taken.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

The aim of the present draft decree is to ensure consumer protection by preventing the risks linked to the flammability and the hygienic state of bedding items.

Indeed, in the bedding sector, a number of consumer complaints have reported the speed of inflammation of certain bedding items, which themselves become a secondary source of ignition liable to cause the development of a fire. Moreover, bacteriological tests implemented on textile products, particularly feather stuffed bedding items and duvets, have revealed the presence of germs which develop at normal temperature. The observed quantities of these germs are definitely below the danger threshold as set by experts but certain ones could subsequently proliferate.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

- Article L 221-3 of the Consumer Code;
- Opinion of the Consumer Protection Commission dated 4 November 1992.

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



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
GROWTH DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Single Market for goods
Prevention of Technical Barriers

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