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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
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Subject:	Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work - Joint statement from France, Finland, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, United Kingdom and Slovakia

Delegations will find attached a joint statement from France, Finland, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, United Kingdom and Slovakia to be inserted in the minutes of the Council.

Joint statement from France, Finland, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, United Kingdom and Slovakia on the

Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

amending Directive 2004/37/EC

on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure

to carcinogens or mutagens at work (3rd Batch)

France, Finland, Italy, Lithuania, The Netherlands, United Kingdom and Slovakia support any measure which increases the safety and health of workers. It is in this spirit that France, Finland, Italy, Lithuania, The Netherlands, United Kingdom and Slovakia support the mandate of the Presidency on the revision of Directive 2004/37/EC.

However, France, Finland, Italy, Lithuania, The Netherlands, United Kingdom and Slovakia regret that the alternative option including complementary biomonitoring for cadmium compounds, as proposed by the Scientific Committee for limit values for occupational exposures (SCOEL) and the Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (ACSH), could not be retained in the general approach.

This alternative based on the use of biomonitoring provides the same degree of protection for workers through more precise controls of medical analysis while simplifying technical constraints for companies for those Member States wishing to apply it. This is why it should be better taken into account, where appropriate, in European legislation.