COUNCIL DECISION

of 24 June 1982

on a supplement to Annex IV to the Convention on the protection of the Rhine against chemical pollution

(82/460/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 235 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission [1],

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament [2],

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee [3],

Whereas, by Council Decision 77/586/EEC of 25 July 1977 [4], the European Economic Community concluded the Convention for the Protection of the Rhine against Chemical Pollution (hereinafter called 'the Chemical Convention') and the Additional Agreement to the Agreement signed at Berne on 29 April 1963 concerning the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution (hereinafter called 'the International Commission');

Whereas, under Article 5 of the Chemical Convention, the International Commission is to propose, by means of amendments to Annex IV to the Convention, limit values for the discharge of certain substances into the surface waters of the Rhine basin; whereas under Article 14 of the Chemical Convention unanimous adoption by the Contracting Parties is required for the entry into force of such amendments;

Whereas the International Commission has drawn up limit values for mercury in the form of a recommendation intended to supplement Annex IV to the Chemical Convention;

Whereas it is desirable that the Community, as a Contracting Party to the Chemical Convention, adopt the abovementioned recommendation,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The recommendation from the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution intended to supplement Annex IV to the Convention for the Protection of the Rhine against Chemical Pollution, signed in Bonn on 3 December 1976, is hereby adopted on behalf of the European Economic Community.

The text of the recommendation is attached.

Article 2

The President of the Council will notify the Government of the Swiss Confederation, in accordance with the procedures laid down by the Chemical Convention, of the adoption of the recommendation referred to in Article 1.

Done at Luxembourg, 24 June 1982.

For the Council

The President

F. AERTS

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(1) OJ No C 180, 18. 7. 1980, p. 10.
(2) OJ No C 291, 10. 11. 1980, p. 57.
(3) OJ No C 348, 31. 12. 1980, p. 1.
(4) OJ No L 240, 19. 9. 1977, p. 35.

Recommendation from the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution to supplement Annex IV to the Convention on the Protection of the Rhine against Chemical Pollution, signed in Bonn on 3 December 1976

The International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution,

Having regard to the Convention on the Protection of the Rhine against Chemical Pollution, signed in Bonn on 3 December 1976,

Having regard in particular to Articles 3, 4, 5 and 14 thereof,

Proposes to the Contracting Parties to the Convention that Annex IV to the Convention of 3 December 1976 be supplemented as follows in respect of mercury:

LIMIT VALUES

(Article 5)

Substance or group of substances	Origin	Limit value in terms of the maximum concentration of a substance	Limit value in terms of the maximum quantity of a substance	Time limit for existing discharges	Remarks
Mercury	Chlor-alkali electrolysis establish-ments	The limit values in terms of the maximum concentration of mercury are calculated by dividing the limit values in terms of the maximum quantity of mercury by the quantity of water used per tonne of chlorine production capacity	A monthly average of 0·5 gram of mercury per tonne of chlorine production capacity. A daily average of 2 grams of mercury per tonne of chlorine production capacity	1 July 1983	The limit values set out in the preceding columns are to be applied to mercury deriving from production activity and must therefore be observed at the outlet from the production plants. As regards measuring, analyzing and sampling methods, see the recommendation of the International Commission dated 28 December 1979

Pursuant to Articles 14 and 19 of the Convention, the measures set out in the above table will enter into force after their unanimous adoption by the Contracting Parties to the Convention. The Contracting Parties will notify their adoption to the Government of the Swiss Confederation, which will acknowledge reception of notification.