COMMISSION DIRECTIVE

of 21 June 1979

amending the Annexes to Council Directive 77/576/EEC on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to the provision of safety signs at places of work

(79/640/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 77/576/EEC of 25 July 1977 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to the provisions of safety signs at places of work (1), and in particular Articles 4, 5 and 6 thereof,

Whereas the provisions in the Annexes to the abovementioned Directive relating to a uniform system of safety signs at places of work need to be regularly adapted to take account of technical progress and the future development of international methods of signposting;

Whereas Annex I contains no regulations concerning the relationship between dimensions of safety signs and distance of observation and no precise definition of the colorimetric and photometric properties of the materials used for such signs; whereas, when approving the Directive, the Council asked that these omissions be promptly rectified; whereas the addition which has accordingly been made to Annex I is in line with the current international standards in this field;

Whereas it seems necessary to include in Annex II a new sign warning of the presence of laser beams; whereas here also the sign on which there is unanimous international agreement can serve as a model;

Whereas the provisions of this Directive are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for the Adjustment to Technical Progress and to Future Development in International Methods of Directive 77/576/EEC on the Approximation of the Laws, Regulations and Administrative Provisions of the Member States Relating to the Provision of Safety Signs at Places of Work,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

The Annexes to Council Directive 77/576/EEC are amended as provided in the following Articles.

Article 2

In Annex I:

1. the following paragraph shall be inserted after paragraph 5.4 of section 5, 'Design of safety signs':

'5.5. **Dimensions of safety signs**

The dimensions of safety signs may be determined in accordance with the formula:

$$A \geq \frac{l^2}{2\,000}$$

where A is the area of the sign in m^2 and l the greatest distance in m from which the sign must be understood.

Note: This formula is applicable for distances up to about 50 m.'

2. after section 5, 'Design of safety signs', the following new section 6 shall be inserted:

'6. **COLORIMETRIC AND PHOTOMETRIC PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS**

As regards the colour and photometric properties of working substances the ISO standards and the standards of the International Lighting Commission (CIE — Commission internationale de l'éclairage) are recommended.'

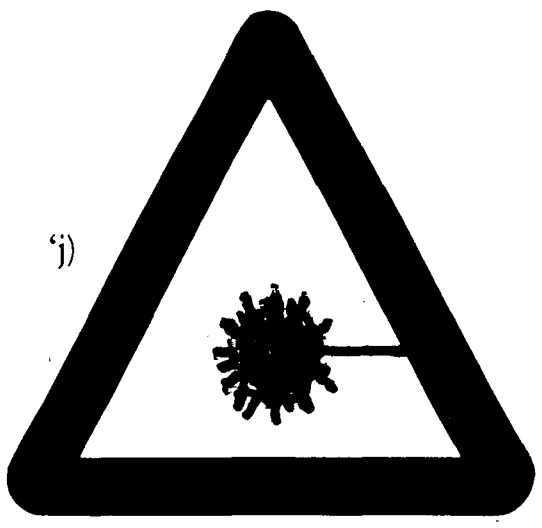
3. The existing section 6 'Yellow/black danger identification' shall become section 7.

(1) OJ No L 229, 7. 9. 1977, p. 12.

Article 3

In Annex II, No 2, 'Warning signs' the following sign is added:

'j)



Laserstråler
Warnung vor Laserstrahl
Laser beam
Rayonnements laser
Raggio laser
Lasertraat'

Article 4

Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations or administrative provisions necessary to comply with the provisions of this Directive by 1 January 1981 at the latest. They shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.

Article 5

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 21 June 1979.

For the Commission

Henk VREDELING

Vice-President