

**(Draft)**

## **REPORT ON THE VOTING OF THE REVISION OF Directive 2001/83 IN THE EP-PLenary**

(17/12/2003 Strasburg , 12:30.p.m.)

### **STATEMENT JUST BEFORE THE VOTING**

Just before starting the vote there still has been a very short but noteworthy intervention or warning by the Rapporteur Mrs. Grossetête and by Mr. Liikaanen the Commissioner responsible for this dossier

Mrs. Grossetête to her colleagues MEPs:

Please colleagues pay attention to the following: today we vote on the compromise, which means that the Council agrees on this, it is the Council's common position, result of a long procedure and two years hard work plus at the end very intensive but fruitful negotiations I had with the Council. It is a very good compromise that we have to accept now. If one amendment, not being subject of the compromise would be accepted in this voting, we very much run in trouble, which means that we have to go in conciliation.

The homeopathy amendments 21, 22, 23 and 38 are not part of the compromise we achieved with the Council. On request of some colleagues we will have to vote separately on these amendments. So be careful not to vote in favour of these amendments in order not to bring in danger the compromise we have with the Council.

**Conclusion (order?)** of Mrs. Grossetête: 'Je voudrais vraiment attirer l'attention de nos collègues: vous votez le compromis, vous ne votez pas les autres amendements qui n'en font pas partie' '

Mr. Liikaanen – Commissioner:

The Commission fully supports the compromise package presented by the rapporteur Mrs. Grossetête and accepted by the Groups. But following the debate last night, at request of honourable Members, I would like to reiterate and clarify the Commission position on the amendments concerning homeopathic medicinal products. The Commission agrees on the compromise package in this field too. This means that we cannot accept amendments which introduce either non-defined technical concepts which aim at extending the registration procedure beyond requirements defining this simplified procedure, or which are contrary to the harmonisation sought.

The commission agrees on the compromise amendment for these products which clarifies the legal situation establishing that the community regulation procedure (mutual recognition) will apply to registretred homeopathic medicinal products. That compromise should be accepted.

### **OUTCOME OF THE VOTING (see also the nominative outcome as attached)**

The EP-plenary did not vote on the original amendment 20 'shall take due account'. In the compromise it has been replaced by another amendment which only describes again the (already known and already accepted) procedure for mutual recognition of simplified registered homeopathic medicinal products. This new amendement is accepted as part of the compromise package, but it makes no sense and gives no added value since it was already foreseen and accepted in the very first commission proposal as the amendment on Article 39.

Amendment 21 (injections)

In favor : 193 / against : 343 / abstentions : 15

Amendment 22 (1:10000)

In favor : 188 / against : 341 / abstentions : 13

Amendment 23 (Art. 16.2 'Member States shall introduce or retain .....')

In favor : 174 / against : 368 / abstentions : 8

Amendment 38 (disclaimer)

In favor : 175 / against : 366 / abstentions : 12

### **SOME FIRST REMARKS ON THE PRO AND CONTRA VOTERS:**

#### **Fractions:**

- \* the greens (Verts/ALE) voted unanimously in favour of the four amendments
- \* Nordic Green Left/ European United Left (GUE/NGL) voted almost unanimously in favour
- \* in the big fractions, socialists (PSE) and christian democrats (PPE-DE) there still was 10 to sometimes 20% in favour, so against the vote recommendation of the fraction.(the names per amendment are listed in the attached document).
- \* in the liberal fraction (ELDR) it was about 60% in favour, 40% against.
- \* the big majority of the smaller fraction or European for Democracies and Diversities (EDD) voted in favor
- \* for the independants (NI) the balance was about fifty

#### **Countries:**

- \* many UK and Irish MEPs voted in favor
- \* almost all the Dutch MEPs voted in favour
- \* almost all the German MEPs voted against
- \* a vast majority of French and Belgian MEPs voted against
- \* many Scandinavian MEPs voted in favor
- \* many Mediterranean MEPs voted against

For the individual votes of the MEPs please have look at the list

### **CONCLUSION + FUTURE**

A 'central thank you letter' will be send to the MEPs who voted in favour of our amendments. It is clear (recommended) that you can also send 'individual thank you letter' to the 'in favour-MEPs', you have met or contacted during your lobby activities in these last months.

Final conclusions as well as a future strategy/actionplan should be the main point on the agenda of the Board Meeting in January.

Nand De Herdt,  
Colmar 18 December 2003