II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COUNCIL

COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

of 1 June 1976

laying down the revised basic safety standards for the health protection of the general public and workers against the dangers of ionizing radiation

(76/579/Euratom)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Articles 31 and 32 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission, worked out after obtaining the opinion of a group of persons appointed by the Scientific and Technical Committee from among scientific experts, in the Member States,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament [1],

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee [2],

Whereas the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community prescribes that the basic standards for the protection of the health of the general public and workers against the dangers arising from ionizing radiations, as provided for in particular in Article 30 thereof, must be laid down in order to enable each Member State, in accordance with Article 33, to lay down the appropriate provisions by legislation, regulation or administrative action to ensure compliance with the basic standards, to take the necessary measures with regard to teaching, education and vocational training and to lay down such provisions in harmony with the provisions applicable in this field in the other Member States;

Whereas the Council, on 2 February 1959, adopted Directives laying down such basic standards [3] and whereas these were last amended by Directive 66/45/Euratom [4];

Whereas the usefulness of a general review of these Directives has become progressively apparent in the light of increasing scientific knowledge of radiation protection and as a result of the practical experience of applying these Directives in national laws;

Whereas the protection of the health of workers and the general public requires that any activity involving danger arising from ionizing radiations must be made subject to regulation;

Whereas the basic standards must be adapted to the conditions under which nuclear energy is used and whereas they vary according to whether they are concerned with the individual safety of workers exposed to ionizing radiations or with the protection of the general public;

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(1) OJ No C 40, 8. 4. 1974, p. 12.
(2) Opinion delivered on 24. 5. 1973.

(3) OJ No 11, 20. 2. 1959, p. 221/59.
(4) OJ No 216, 26. 11. 1966, p. 3693/66.