

The Commission will submit proposals to address these difficulties and in particular will provide for higher standards for the protection of horses transported for slaughter and to facilitate co-ordination and co-operation between Member States for example proposing the adoption of an harmonized model for the approval and certification of transporters. The question of the enforcement of transport legislation in third countries that are origin of the animals will be addressed too.

The Commission is also considering additional legislation concerning the ventilation of vehicles used for long distance transport including systems for the monitoring and registration of temperature inside the compartments where animals are kept.

In addition, the Commission believes that the most effective way to achieve a widespread improvement in animal protection standards is to work towards an international consensus on this issue.

The question of long distance transport of animals and in particular horses is being discussed with the heads of the veterinary services of the Central and East European countries which are in the process of negotiating accession to the Community. On the basis of the outcome of that discussion, a protocol for the protection of horses during transport has been agreed.

In this framework the Commission is seeking a mandate from the Council to negotiate the participation of the Community in the revised European Convention for the protection of animals during international transport. This Convention (negotiated under the auspices of the Council of Europe) will help to ensure an acceptable level of animal welfare protection throughout Europe.

(2001/C 81 E/182)

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2131/00

by Dieter-Lebrecht Koch (PPE-DE) to the Commission

(21 June 2000)

Subject: Safer car fronts for pedestrians and cyclists

Safer car fronts for pedestrians and cyclists is one of the six Commission priorities for action in its recent Road Safety Communication.

Experts believe that the adoption of the four well-established EEVC tests in a mandatory Directive could save up to 2 000 lives a year across the EU, the largest potential saving being in Germany.

When will the Commission come forward with its legislative proposal, given that every month of delay costs 175 lives?

(2001/C 81 E/183)

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2133/00

by Mathieu Grosch (PPE-DE) to the Commission

(21 June 2000)

Subject: Mandatory crash tests for pedestrian protection

Following the 22-year EU-funded research and development programme on car design to improve pedestrian protection, two previous attempts at legislation and several cost-benefit studies, when will the Commission come forward with a legislative proposal to mandatorily require all new designs of cars to pass the four sub-system crash tests recommended by the European Enhanced Safety of Vehicles Committee, which brings together experts from Member States and observers from the car industry?