

Statement of Interpretation on Article 11

The Committee regretted that the States which has accepted this article of the Charter frequently failed, in their biennial reports, to amplify the measures taken for control of environmental pollution which has become a serious problem today. In this connection the Committee hoped that the questions contained in the form would be answered regularly and accurately.

The Committee also considered the recrudescence of certain epidemic and venereal diseases, as well as the appearance of hitherto unknown or unrecognised diseases, such as viral hepatitis, and it emphasized how important it was not to neglect prophylactic measures in order to prevent the spread of such diseases.

Among the health problem to which governments should pay particular attention and which should be covered by special regulations, the Committee emphasised the importance, at the present time, of iatrogenic diseases often caused by the common misuse of medicines and of new risks to consumers resulting from the composition and processing of certain foods, household products and other everyday articles.