

SCIENTIFIC BASIS FOR AN AIR QUALITY STANDARD ON BENZENE

W. F. Tordoir

CONCAWE, Brussels, Belgium

SUMMARY

The European Union is developing a comprehensive programme of air quality standards (AQS), including benzene. For that purpose, CONCAWE has reviewed the data to support a scientifically derived AQS for benzene and has concluded that 30 ppb ($96 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) as an annual TWA could be used as a basis. The conclusion is based on the NOAEL of acute myelocytic and monocytic leukaemia (AMML), which is considered to be the critical effect, derived from an occupational epidemiological mortality study, to which adjustment factors were applied.

Key words: benzene, air quality standard

Address for correspondence: W. F. Tordoir, CONCAWE Health Management group, CONCAWE, Place Madou 1, B-1030 Brussels, Belgium