At the end of November it is planned that there will be a full Board meeting. One of the main topics will be of course the conference next year which will be in Munich. Might I remind you of the date which is 18 and 19 May 2001. It promises to be an exceptional conference and there is already an unusual amount of interest. We are likely to concentrate mainly on medical negligence and damages arising out of road traffic accidents and I hope to be able to circulate a detailed programme in the next bulletin.

We are pleased with the progress that is being made with regard to membership. It is however an endless task and at the same time as appreciating your efforts I would ask you to continue to think of appropriate new members and encourage them to make contact with Wolfgang or to give Wolfgang their details and he will send the necessary application forms.

With best wishes.
John Price
President

www.peopil.com
• an asbestos conference on South American issues to be held in Buenos Aires in August, 2001; Success for Our Norwegian Member
• a new telephone hotline for asbestos and other occupational illness victims in Japan; Carl Gunnar Sandvold
• cooperation between Italian delegates and UK specialists on a mesothelioma nursing program;
• discussions between Slovenian and Italian health and safety activists regarding our client full Workmens joint ventures; The Norwegian Supreme Court has today awarded our client compensation as she got lung cancer in 1992 due to her own smoking and passive smoking in the night club where she still works:
• the launching of anti-asbestos campaigns in Malaysia and India; One lung was removed in 92, and she is now well and works 50% in a non-smoking bar. The compensation will be
• cooperation on compensation issues between South American and European lawyers; produced by companies which deny compensation to asbestos victims; a possible consumer boycott of goods produced by companies which deny compensation to asbestos victims;
• the establishment of a Global Asbestos Congress Virtual Network. regarded as gross negligent. We appealed, and the supreme court disagreed with the Appeal Court and gave 100% success.

The conference also prompted: A more detailed report will be published at
• the stunning declaration by the Mayor of Osasco that he would encourage the city council to make Osasco one of the first cities in Brazil to ban the use of asbestos;
• the announcement of a joint medical initiative between the Mount Sinai Hospital in New York and the Osasco Hospital;
• a statement signed by the trade unionists calling for an international ban on asbestos;
• an offer from S o Paulo’s House of Deputies to exhibit the South African photographic exhibition during the period when the state’s ban asbestos law will be discussed.

A Congress CD, which will include many of the plenary and poster presentations and extra-Congress submissions (as approved by the CD editors) is being compiled. A notice will appear on the IBAS website (www.ibas.btinternet.co.uk) when the CD is available.

Source: International Ban Asbestos Secretariat
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Tobacco Litigation: Grand Duchy of Luxembourg v European Parliament and Council of the European Union

Judgment of the Court of Justice in Case C-168/98

The Court considers that the directive does not entail discrimination against national lawyers but ensures consumer protection and the proper administration of justice; since it concerns the mutual recognition of professional titles, it was permissible for the directive to be adopted by a qualified majority.

A directive of the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union of 16 February 1998, adopted by a qualified majority, provides that any lawyer is to be entitled to pursue his activities on a permanent basis in another Member State, under his home-country
advice on the law of his home Member State, on Community law, on international law and on the law of the host Member State. The exercise of that right is not subject to any adaptation period or aptitude test. Jointly, the court considers that the professional practice of the profession of lawyer in the host Member State is also authorised on certain conditions.

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg has requested the Court of Justice of the European Communities to annul that directive. In those circumstances, the Court rejects the measure that introduces a difference in the treatment as between national and migrant application for annulment. Lawyers and does not guarantee adequate consumer protection or the proper administration of justice. Furthermore, according to the Grand Duchy, the directive ought to have been adopted, not by a qualified majority, but unanimously, because of the amendments to the conditions governing training and access to the profession that it imposes at national level.

The Court recalls that the fundamental principle of equal treatment requires that from a small industrial town, and Henri that measure introduces a difference in their initial training. In comparable situations should not be treated in a similar manner. It considers that that with us here today. Having known both of them, it is my very great pleasure to tell you about these two remarkable people. June country professional title is, objectively, far different from that of a national lawyer. Migrant lawyers are forbidden to carry on their professional title. In those circumstances, the Court rejects the treatment as between national and migrant application for annulment. Lawyers and does not guarantee adequate consumer protection or the proper administration of justice. Furthermore, according to the Grand Duchy, the directive ought to have been adopted, not by a qualified majority, but unanimously, because of the amendments to the conditions governing training and access to the profession that it imposes at national level.

The Court therefore considers that, by a majority, the directive imposes at national level. We are here today to honour two people: June Hancock, an unassuming Englishwoman from Yorkshire in the north situation different from that of a national England. An ordinary person, so she said, lawyer. Migrant lawyers are forbidden to carry on their professional title. In those circumstances, the Court rejects the treatment as between national and migrant application for annulment. Lawyers and does not guarantee adequate consumer protection or the proper administration of justice. Furthermore, according to the Grand Duchy, the directive ought to have been adopted, not by a qualified majority, but unanimously, because of the amendments to the conditions governing training and access to the profession that it imposes at national level. We are here today to honour two people: June Hancock, an unassuming Englishwoman from Yorkshire in the north situation different from that of a national England. An ordinary person, so she said, lawyer. Migrant lawyers are forbidden to carry on their professional title. In those circumstances, the Court rejects the treatment as between national and migrant application for annulment. Lawyers and does not guarantee adequate consumer protection or the proper administration of justice. Furthermore, according to the Grand Duchy, the directive ought to have been adopted, not by a qualified majority, but unanimously, because of the amendments to the conditions governing training and access to the profession that it imposes at national level. We are here today to honour two people: June Hancock, an unassuming Englishwoman from Yorkshire in the north situation different from that of a national England. An ordinary person, so she said, lawyer. Migrant lawyers are forbidden to carry on their professional title. In those circumstances, the Court rejects the treatment as between national and migrant application for annulment. Lawyers and does not guarantee adequate consumer protection or the proper administration of justice. Furthermore, according to the Grand Duchy, the directive ought to have been adopted, not by a qualified majority, but unanimously, because of the amendments to the conditions governing training and access to the profession that it imposes at national level. We are here today to honour two people: June Hancock, an unassuming Englishwoman from Yorkshire in the north situation different from that of a national England. An ordinary person, so she said, lawyer. Migrant lawyers are forbidden to carry on their professional title. In those circumstances, the Court rejects the treatment as between national and migrant application for annulment. Lawyers and does not guarantee adequate consumer protection or the proper administration of justice.
watch Leeds United play football would end. June knew that her time was limited. Nevertheless she was determined to seek justice for her Mother, her own family and for other asbestos victims. The company which had caused so much hardship must answer for what they had done.

The culprit was Turner & Newall Limited, the parent company which had exerted ultimate control at the Armley factory. T&N's 40,000 employees in 24 countries generated a £2 billion turnover in 1995. No one had ever taken a UK asbestos company to court for environmental asbestos exposure before. June did. On October 27, 1995 the Court ruled in her favour. The company appealed. On April 2, 1996 the Court of Appeal dismissed their appeal. June had won. That victory established a legal precedent which has made it easier for other UK asbestos victims to obtain compensation.

When she won, June said the ruling proved that: 'No matter how small you are, you can fight and no matter how big you are, you can lose.' June defied her doctors. In June, 1994 she had been given two years to live. She survived for 3.5 years. Her memory lives on not only in UK case law but as an inspiration to all those, solicitors, barristers, medical researchers, doctors, nurses, television and newspaper journalists, health and safety activists, who knew and respected the quiet but determined nature with which she fought against her illness and the corporation which had caused it.

When I told Kimberley, June's daughter, about this award she wrote to me: 'We are absolutely delighted and so proud too about the award being made in Mum's name. What Mum achieved was incredible, and we know that if she were here today, she would be continuing the battle against this evil asbestos legacy. We must continue to raise awareness locally, nationally and internationally and these awards certainly do that. It is so very fortunate that there are organisations and people, like Henri Pezerat, who are prepared to dedicate so much time and effort to this vital cause, and through his efforts, asbestos issues have found a place in the pages of Le Monde.'

June's family were delighted to learn that Henri Pezerat was to receive The June Hancock Award. For over twenty-five years, Henri Pezerat has sought to make the French government, unions and public aware of the horrific asbestos legacy that had left in his country. In 1975, Henri coordinated the first asbestos actions at Jussieu. These included strikes, assemblies and negotiations. He was the first one to realise the scale of the problem.

In 1975, Henri coordinated the first asbestos actions at Jussieu. These included strikes, assemblies and negotiations. He was the first one to realise the scale of the problem. For many years, he was ignored; sometimes ridiculed and often dismissed as a leftist trouble maker. Is he a trouble maker? Let's find out.

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President Prodi: European values and public policy

President Prodi, at the opening of the Annual Assembly of Consumer Associations in Europe, underlined the importance of consumer policy as one of the key tools for improving the quality of life of European citizens. "If there is one message I want you all to take home it is this: the European Union exists for the benefit of its citizens and it is Europe who must shape Europe's future."

President Prodi recalled that the Amsterdam Treaty commits the EU to high level of consumer protection and to integrating consumer policy into other common policies. The Commission needs to receive sound, science-based risk assessments on which to base our food safety policy. Our food scientists must be clearly independent from policy-makers. This transparency in setting food safety rules will go a long way towards restoring public confidence, and we trust the European Parliament and Council will act swiftly on our proposals."

Commenting on recent events the President said "It is ironic that the results of the extra checks and controls where there is any doubt is to restore confidence by tightening up on our proposals."

The immediate task for the Commission from the very start of its term in office. Although overall, in Europe has probably never been safer, consumer confidence has been deeply shaken by a series of food crises. The immediate task is to restore confidence by tightening up on food safety. "Consumers in Europe international solidarity network which rightly expect their food to be the safest in the world" he said. President Prodi expressed his confidence that confidence can only be activism owes much Henri s efforts and restored, by adopting an integrated food policy. I know that June would have been proud for this award to be presented to President Prodi extended a warm welcome to Europe s citizens and to deliver practical and effective action on issues of real concern. Improved controls may well lead to more cases being found. Also there is a need to see the total number of BSE cases in relation to the size of the total cattle population. President Prodi informed the assembly about the recent positive opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee to extend testing for BSE, which he welcomed. He added, "I believe that the enlarged EU, with all its rich diversity of issues such as environment, energy, health food safety, products safety, commerce, transport, living and working conditions, security and justice.

President Prodi extended a warm welcome to representatives from candidate countries who are participating in the Assembly. "In the future, as members of the enlarged EU. with all its rich diversity of measures that are in place to ensure the safety of a local Association against asbestos, Pezerat, to present the June Hancock Award to Henri Pezerat. This deadly fibre. It is with great pleasure that I am proud for this award to be presented to Henri Pezerat: dedicated scientist and campaigner, Member States and the who identified a problem and persisted in his vision. I know that June would have been present the June Hancock Award to Henri Pezerat.

And even now Henri continues his involvement with asbestos issues in France and abroad. His work over many years helped to pave the way for the creation of a new international solidarity network which rightly expect their food to be the safest in the world. He said. President Prodi expressed his confidence that confidence can only be activism owes much Henri s efforts and restored, by adopting an integrated food policy. I know that June would have been proud for this award to be presented to President Prodi extended a warm welcome to Europe s citizens and to deliver practical and effective action on issues of real concern. Improved controls may well lead to more cases being found. Also there is a need to see the total number of BSE cases in relation to the size of the total cattle population. President Prodi informed the assembly about the recent positive opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee to extend testing for BSE, which he welcomed. He added, "I believe that the enlarged EU, with all its rich diversity of measures that are in place to ensure the safety of a local Association against asbestos, Pezerat, to present the June Hancock Award to Henri Pezerat. This deadly fibre. It is with great pleasure that I am proud for this award to be presented to Henri Pezerat: dedicated scientist and campaigner, Member States and the who identified a problem and persisted in his vision. I know that June would have been present the June Hancock Award to Henri Pezerat.

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of beef are sufficient to ensure the high standard of safety that consumers expect. Member States who are responsible for the implementation of these measures need to be vigilant to ensure that they are fully applied."

**Role of Civil Society**

The President spoke of the important role to be played by civil society organisations in policy making. "Only by getting civil society and citizens fully involved in policy-development can we make Europe transparent and democratically accountable. Policy-making requires the participation of all stakeholders. That is why the Commission wants consumer organisations and individual consumers to help us develop our consumer policy - and to improve all European policies that concern consumers." President Prodi stated that in the summer of 2001 the Commission will publish a White Paper on European Governance that will propose a more democratic decentralised way of running Europe - a "networking" partnership between local, regional and national authorities, European institutions and civil society. "Only a decentralised, "bottom-up" system of governance will enable us to tackle the complex and interrelated challenges facing us today." The White Paper is intended to launch a wide public debate, and the debate must also be decentralised. President Prodi told the Consumer Associations Assembly: "You, as part of the policy-making network, have an important role to play in informing your members." The Assembly will continue on November 24 and will discuss issues such as consumer confidence in e-commerce and food safety as well as the euro, fair trading with consumers, safety of services, and consumer participation in standardisation. David Byrne, Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection will address the Assembly’s closing session on November 24.

**Source:** European Commission

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- information of a general nature only, which is not intended to address the specific circumstances of any particular individual or entity;
- not necessarily comprehensive, complete, accurate or up to date;
- not professional or legal advice.

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**ADVANCED ANNOUNCEMENT**

**PEOPIL**

**2001 CONFERENCE**

**MUNICH, GERMANY**

**18 & 19 May 2001**

**The programme is expected to include:**

- **MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE**
- **ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS**
- **The latest in European legislation**
- **You will hear TOP SPEAKERS from across Europe**

**Conference at the Bayerischer Hof**

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**Please note that we have changed our address:**

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**Dear All**

Many of you are now online, and the PEOPIL office would like to kindly ask you to let us know your Email address in order to facilitate communications. So please send just a short Email to admin@peopil.com (if haven’t done so already) THANK YOU.

W.R.