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"PASSIVE" SMOKING PROJECT GROUP

Meeting of 29th March, 1984 - Lausanne

<u>Present:</u>	Scientific Advisers:	F. Adlkofer H. Gaisch D. Westcott
	P.A.	T. Rothermel
	N.M.A.	W. Kloepfer H. König
	INFOTAB	B. Simpson

After a full day of discussion, the group agreed on the following statement:

1. The unanimous view of the "Passive" Smoking Project Group was that on scientific grounds "passive" smoking can be successfully demonstrated not to have health consequences.
2. Scientific members of the Group addressed the problem of possible risk factors in undertaking scientific work and they were unanimous that the risk was minimal.
3. However, if nothing is done the poor scientific work presently available, and likely to be undertaken in the future, will result in the further establishing in the mind of the public that "passive" smoking is dangerous to health.
4. The Group emphasized that costs need not be excessive and that careful judgements would be made concerning the research function.

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5. The Group agreed to a thorough assessment of public and private restrictions on smoking based on the "passive" smoking issue and they considered defensive measures that might be undertaken by the Industry.

There was agreement that a number of initiatives in the area of research could be studied such as:

- A. maximising support for current work being done by the Verband and T.A.C.;
- B. encouraging our member companies to make available "in house" research for use by the Industry;
- C. carefully selecting highly reputable scientists to research specific aspects of the "passive" smoking issue.

On the question of reviewing the status of the "passive" smoking issue, it was generally agreed that the current literature available constituted a satisfactory review, and that there was clear evidence that all responsible medical sectors recognised the need for more research.

Indicative of this was the following quotation from the 1983 R.C.P. report:

"there is already sufficient evidence as to the discomfort and annoyance that breathing other people's smoke can cause".

It notes, however:

"the extent to which passive smoke exposure can damage the health of otherwise healthy individuals is by no means clear".

The Group fully recognises the need for discipline and careful assessment of the likely outcome of each initiative.

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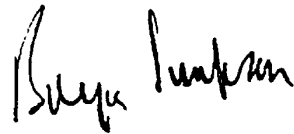
It was also recognised that costs would have to be controlled and agreement to all ventures secured from the companies.

On the political side, it was agreed that the trends in all geographic areas should be studied, and that attention be given to the incidence of regulations, both public and private, affecting smokers as a result of the "passive" smoking issue.

B.A.T. has offered Philip Short as a committee member, and it was suggested that he may undertake the gathering of statistics in this area.

Should the results of this first meeting be considered favourable by the Advisory Group, the next meeting of the Project Group will be held in Brussels on June 4.

Apologies were received from D. Hoel, W. Dembach & P. Short. Tim Rothermel undertook to report the proceedings to D. Hoel.



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