

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article 174 (1-4)

Suggestion for Part: III

By Ms / Mr : **G.M. de Vries**
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Status : **Member** **Alternate**

1. A high level of human health protection shall be ensured in the definition and implementation of all the Union's policies and activities.

Action by the Union, which shall complement national policies, shall be directed towards improving physical and mental public health, preventing human illness and diseases, and obviating sources of danger to human health. Such action shall cover the fight against the major health scourges, by promoting research into their causes, their transmission and their prevention, as well as health information and education.

The Union shall complement the Member States' action in reducing drugs-related health damage, including information and prevention, as well as to combat and prevent communicable diseases and to protect consumers on health and nutrition.

2. The Union shall encourage cooperation between the Member States in the areas referred to in this Article and, if necessary, lend support to their action.

Member States shall, in liaison with the Commission, coordinate among themselves their policies and programmes in the areas referred to in paragraph 1. The Commission may, in close contact with the Member States, take any useful initiative to promote such coordination.

3. The Union and the Member States shall foster cooperation with third countries and the competent international organisations in the sphere of public health.

4. A European law or framework law shall contribute to the achievement of the objectives referred to in this Article by establishing measures enabling common safety concerns to be met, in particular:

(a) measures setting high standards of quality and safety of organs and substances of human origin, blood and blood derivatives; these measures shall not prevent any Member State from maintaining or introducing more stringent protective measures;

(b) by way of derogation from [Article III-122 (ex 370)], measures in the veterinary and phytosanitary fields, including food safety, which have as their direct objective the protection of public health;

The European law or framework law shall be adopted after consulting the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions.

Explanation (if any):

The Netherlands would like to introduce nutrition, consumer health protection and combat against and prevention of communicable diseases to be introduced in the Treaty.