

Italy (ratification: 1952)

1. The Committee notes the information communicated by the Government in its report. It also notes the adoption of Legislative Decree No. 345 of 4 August 1999 (which gives effect to European Council Directive 94/33/EC) on the protection of young people at work. The Committee notes that section 16 of Decree No. 345 repealed section 5(a) of Act No. 977/1967 prohibiting the employment of young people under 16 years and women under 18 years in hazardous and unhealthy work, as well as Decree No. 432 of 20 January 1976. Section 7 of Decree No. 345 prohibits the employment of young people between 15 and 18 years in hazardous and unhealthy work. Section 7(2) of Decree No. 45 provides for the exemption of apprentices under strict conditions. In its report, the Government also states that, with regard to the protection of women, effect has been given to *Article 3 of the Convention* through section 4 of Act No. 706/1961 and, for working mothers, through section 7 of Legislative Decree No. 151 of 26 March 2001, which provides for special protection for mothers against hazardous and unhealthy work. The Committee also wishes to bring the Government's attention to the following point.

2. *Article 7, read in conjunction with Part V of the report form.* The Committee notes with interest the information provided by the Government indicating the statistics on cases of occupational diseases caused by lead which have been reported to the National Institute for Insurance Against Occupational Injuries as well as the compensation received for the 2000-04 period which indicates that there were between 14 and 38 cases, with 22 cases reported in 2004. *The Committee requests the Government to take the measures necessary to prevent such cases and hopes that it will continue, in accordance with this Article of the Convention, to establish statistics relating to lead poisoning among working painters concerning both sickness and mortality, following a method approved by the official statistics service of the country. The Committee requests the Government to provide summaries of inspection reports, information on the number and nature of contraventions reported and any other details concerning the application of the Convention in practice.*