

Written evidence from Prof Alex Burdorf, Head of Department, Department of Public Health, Erasmus MC. Rotterdam, The Netherlands. (ASBoo47)

Question	Position in The Netherlands
<p>1. What Government Ministry(ies) or Agency(ies) are responsible for overseeing asbestos management in non-domestic buildings in your country? <i>Please identify (a) the Ministries/Agencies responsible for the policy and regulatory regime; and (b) the organisations charged with enforcing the regulations</i></p>	<p><i>Min of Social Affairs and employment</i></p>
<p>2. What is/are the current occupational or workplace asbestos exposure limit(s) in your country (in cm³)? In what circumstances do(es) they/it apply? <i>Please distinguish between mandatory and desirable limits</i></p> <p><i>Please also provide information on any plans to change these limits in the next two years (include reference to any current debates, even if no conclusions have yet been reached)</i></p>	<p>2000 fibres/m³ for all types of asbestos (from Jan 1, 2017) Mandatory Occupational Exposure Limit</p> <p>No plans for revision</p>
<p>3. Does your country have an <i>environmental</i> asbestos exposure limit? <i>If yes, what is the environmental limit for asbestos (in cm³)? In what circumstances does it apply?</i></p> <p><i>Please also provide information on any plans to change these limits in the next two years (include reference to any current debates, even if no conclusions have yet been reached)</i></p>	<p>Maximum Permissible Risk level: Chrysotile 2800 per m³ Amphibole 300 per m³</p> <p>Desirable limit, used for evaluation in accidental asbestos release</p>
<p>4. Which types of asbestos/asbestos containing materials should be removed from non-domestic buildings, including workplaces, if discovered? <i>Please say if a distinction is made between building types/uses.</i></p> <p><i>Please also say if these rules apply to domestic buildings (or whether different rules apply for domestic buildings).</i></p>	<p>removal when there is potential risk (friable material), or when renovation/retrofitting takes place, no difference with regard to asbestos type</p>

<p>5. Which types of asbestos/asbestos containing materials can be left 'in situ' in buildings? <i>Please say if a distinction is made between building types/uses.</i></p> <p><i>Please also say if these rules apply to domestic buildings (or whether different rules apply for domestic buildings).</i></p>	<p>See 4</p>
<p>6. Are owners/managers of non-domestic buildings (including workplaces) required to have their buildings surveyed for asbestos?</p>	<p>Yes, part of the regulatory risk inventory and evaluation on all risks at the workplace (must be approved by a certified occupational health service)</p>
<p>7. How frequently are building owners/ managers required to commission asbestos repeat-surveys when asbestos-containing materials have previously been found but considered safe to leave in the building?</p>	<p>No mandatory requirements, but often annual appraisal whether conditions have changed and this requires an updated risk inventory and evaluation</p>
<p>8. Do asbestos surveyors or inspectors need to hold a license to survey non-domestic buildings?</p>	<p>Yes, an official certification scheme has been implemented (Ascert)</p>
<p>9. Are building owners/managers required to keep an asbestos management plan?</p> <p><i>If Yes: How frequently are building owners/ managers required to review asbestos management plans?</i></p>	<p>Yes, but this is part of the Risk Inventory and Evaluation</p>
<p>10. In addition to visual inspection, is routine air monitoring conducted in buildings where surveys have previously detected asbestos (if yes, how frequently)?</p>	<p>Not mandatory, often limited to risk evaluation after first discovery, and updates when needed</p>
<p>11. For all air monitoring of asbestos fibres, please advise what microscopy technology is <i>routinely and mostly</i> used for this purpose.</p>	<p>Phase contrast for regular situation, SEM for high-risk situation that requires notification to the national asbestos tracking system for removal of asbestos</p>
<p>12. For all non-domestic buildings, please specify whether, and in what circumstances, a national or regional register of asbestos is maintained?</p>	<p>National register of asbestos in public buildings * digital asbestos register real estate Online (https://bhi.rps.nl);</p>

	<p>consultancy run; not open access; technical drawings.</p> <p>* asbestos in primary and secondary school inventory: map of school buildings with asbestos information at atlas 'leefomgeving – asbest' (open access)</p>
<p>13. If a national or regional register is maintained for some or all non-domestic buildings: Are some, or all, of the contents of this register made publicly available?</p> <p><i>Please specify the scope of any national or regional register of asbestos in non-domestic buildings. For example, whether for public and/or private buildings. For public buildings, whether schools, hospitals etc.)</i></p>	<p>See 12, open access system for Schools</p>
<p>14. Do contractors removing asbestos <i>always</i> have to be licensed?</p> <p><i>Please specify any circumstances where asbestos can be removed by a contractor or other person who is not licensed.</i></p>	<p>Yes, unless it is done by owner themselves (which is possible when volume of asbestos to be removed is small and at negligible risk)</p>