

EN

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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Mînzatu
on behalf of the European Commission
(22.7.2026)

The Commission supports, through EU funding instruments, preparedness, prevention and response capacities in Member States. It has also supported financially the stockpiling of critical equipment, including personal protective equipment, and measures to strengthen the resilience of health and civil protection systems in emergencies.

The co-legislators reached a provisional agreement on 23 June 2026 on the sixth revision of the Carcinogens, Mutagens and Reprotoxic Substances Directive (CMRD¹). The next Multiannual Financial Framework and the National and Regional Partnership Plans (NRPPs), encourage Member States to invest in line with European priorities, according to their national, regional and local needs. Measures to support the implementation of an updated CMRD could be part of this if the measures contribute to the objectives of the regulation.

The current EU occupational safety and health (OSH) strategic framework² aims to protect all workers and runs until 2027. The content of a possible strategic framework after 2027 will involve consultations with relevant stakeholders.

The Communication on integrated wildfire risk management³, adopted in March 2026, and the Council Recommendation on integrated wildfire risk management⁴, adopted in June 2026 highlight that firefighters need adequate protection, equipment, training, and assets, in line with OSH standards, underlining that they are exposed to various health risks. These can be mitigated through adequate training, appropriate protective equipment, and accessible health support, among others. By 2028, the Commission intends to launch a study to promote monitoring of firefighters' exposure to wildfires and possible related long-term health impacts.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2004/37/oj/eng>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52021DC0323>.

³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52026DC0330>.

⁴ <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-11280-2026-INIT/en/pdf>.