



Bundesverband der Asbestose Selbsthilfegruppen e.V

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10.8.2014

Press Release

referring to the open letter of the Federal Association of Asbestosis Victims Groups addressed to the President of the German Cancer Society

Each of the 16 German regional cancer societies and also international cancer societies require to better support and facilitate occupational disease procedures for German asbestosis patients. In spite of these positive votes, only the German Cancer Society does not appear to be able to support the objectives of asbestosis victims groups.

Why? The organization of asbestos victims has not received an answer to a letter asking for an explanation. What is the reason?

The German Cancer Congress in Berlin in February 2014 adopted the Berlin Declaration **Health hazards due to asbestos and the situation of the asbestos-related diseased** that had been initiated by the North German regional cancer societies of Hamburg – Schleswig-Holstein – Bremen and the UICC (Union of International Cancer Control) (see enclosure). In addition to international demands of an absolute prohibition of asbestos applications that is indisputable, it was required to support German asbestos victims regarding the recognition of their asbestos-related diseases by statutory accident insurance institutions.

Among others, the shift in the burden of proof or simplifications during occupational disease procedures, reopening and compensation of cases which were not recognized owing to obsolete scientific standards, the consequent application of scientific standards in diagnostics and expert opinions were the topics.

The Open Letter of The Federal Association of asbestosis victims groups asks the German Cancer Society to support and sign the Berlin Declaration.

Please address questions to

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Enclosure