Explanatory notes for LFS 2007 ad hoc module on accidents at work and work-related health problems

1. Political orientations

Health and Safety at Work and the related statistics in the Community legislation

Safety and health at work now constitutes one of the European Union’s most concentrated and most important social policy sectors. As early as 1951, the European Coal and Steel Community set about improving the safety of workers, a concern which the Treaty of Rome extended to all employed people. As a result, a substantial corpus of legislation aimed at raising standards of safety and health has developed since the late 1970s, and especially since the Single European Act was adopted in 1987.

The Framework Directive on Health and Safety in the Workplace (Council Directive 89/391/EEC) sets an obligation for employers to keep records of accidents at work resulting in more than 3 days’ absence from work. The Commission Recommendation concerning the European Schedule on Occupational Diseases (326/90 and revised 3297/2003) sets a list of occupational diseases to be reported. In this legal framework statistical data collections from administrative national sources have been developed for Accidents at Work since 1990 (European Statistics for Accidents at Work, ESAW, data available since 1993) and Occupational diseases since 1995 (European Occupational Diseases Statistics, EODS, data available since 2001)

The new Community strategy on health and safety at work 2002–2006

The Commission Communication COM(2002) 118 final and Council Resolution 2002/C 161/01 on the new Community strategy on health and safety at work 2002–2006 set out the Community strategy for the period 2002-2006. This strategy has three novel features:

– It adopts a global approach to well-being at work, taking account of changes in the world of work and the emergence of new risks, especially of a psycho-social nature. As such, it is geared to enhancing the quality of work, and regards a safety and healthy working environment as one of the essential components.

– It is based on consolidating a culture of risk prevention, on combining a variety of political instruments — legislation, the social dialogue, progressive measures and best practices, corporate social responsibility and economic incentives — and on building partnerships between all the players on the safety and health scene.

– It points up the fact that an ambitious social policy is a factor in the competitiveness equation and that, on the other side of the coin, having a “non-policy” engenders costs which weigh heavily on economies and societies.

Specifically for statistical data, the strategy urges the Commission and the Member States to step up work on the harmonisation process of European statistics of accidents at work and occupational illnesses as a tool to assess the effectiveness of measures taken under the Community strategy. The statistical information should cover not just recognised occupational accidents and illnesses, their causes and consequences, but also introduce some quantifiable elements relating to working environment factors which are likely to cause the problems. Statistical data should also be available for emerging phenomena (e.g. stress and musculoskeletal diseases). The Commission Communication already used the data of the 1999 LFS ad hoc module to indicate several specific
areas of risk. As the new strategy covers the period 2002-2006, the 2007 LFS ad hoc module is foreseen to be used in the evaluation of the situation after the strategy.

2. Focus of the LFS module 2007

The aim of this ad hoc module is to provide a description of the occurrence of accidents at work and of non-accidental work-related ill-health and in particular:
- to know the number of cases and days lost because of accidents at work and the number of cases and days lost because of non-accidental work-related health problems
- to analyse the differences in the occurrence of these accidents and health problems by:
  - factors linked to the employment characteristics of the worker (occupation, professional status, full-time/part-time distinction, permanency of the job, duration of the career, atypical working hours, etc.)
  - factors linked to employer’s characteristics (economic activity, size of company)
- to know about the occurrence of factors at work that can adversely affect health.

Note: The main LFS gives information on structural working factors (economic activity, occupation …) for exits up to 8 years ago. According to the Commission Regulation (EC) No 430/2005 that applies to coding from LFS 2006 onwards, all the variables of the main survey (including the structural variables) will have to be provided for the sample used in the ad hoc module.

Given the political background and the political needs explained above the practical aims of the module are (1) to collect harmonised statistical data on those work-related health problems (including exposures) which are not covered by the administrative data collection methodologies (ESAW and EODS) and (2) to be able to analyse the health and safety at work data according to Labour Market related variables available in the LFS but not included in ESAW and EODS (employment status, part-time work, professional status, permanency of the work etc.).

Regarding accidents at work the practical aims are:
• to know the number of accidents at work resulting in less than four days of absence from work
• for accidents at work resulting in more than 3 days of absence, to estimate the reporting levels in ESAW by comparing the ad hoc module data with ESAW data which come from two types of sources: insurance systems (high reporting level) and labour inspectorate reporting (at least some degree of under-reporting).
• to know the number of accidents in sectors or categories of professional status not completely covered by administrative sources (e.g. public sector, self-employed).
• to analyse the occurrence of accidents at work by the above mentioned Labour Market related variables.

Regarding non-accidental work-related health problems the practical aims are:
• to know the frequency of diseases caused by work or made worse by work (i.e. not only of those which are accepted as occupational disease in the national system)
• to know the frequency of new emerging types of work-related diseases not yet included in the administrative lists of occupational diseases (especially musculoskeletal and psychosocial health problems)
• to know the burden of work-related diseases in terms of absence from work.
• to analyse the occurrence of work-related diseases by the above mentioned Labour Market related variables.
3. Elaboration of the variables for the LFS module 2007

Two task force meetings were organised in order to build a finalised draft of variables for the LFS module 2007. The task force was composed of 11 countries: CZ, DE, FR, IE, IT, NL, AT, SK, FI, SE, UK.

4. Description of the variables for the LFS module 2007

**Reminder:** The numbering of the variables of the labour force survey in *Filters* (C24, C84, C85/88 and C89/90) refers to Commission Regulation (EC) No 430/2005 that applies to coding from LFS 2006 onwards.

**Target population:**

Everybody aged 15 or more and who is working or has worked (Col.24 = 1,2 or Col.84 = 1)

Columns 209-213 (accidents) concern only the following population:

Everybody aged 15 or more and who is working or has worked during the past 12 months ((Col.24 = 1,2) or (Col.84 = 1 and Col.85/88 and Col.89/90 is not prior to one year before the date of the interview).

Columns 221-222 (factors at work that can adversely affect the persons mental well-being or physical health) concern only the following population:

Everybody aged 15 or more and who is working (Col.24 = 1,2).

In the 1999 LFS ad hoc module the 12 months’ retrospective period (used in many variables and filters) was fixed to the date of interview. No problems were communicated at that time, while during the preparation of the 2007 ad hoc module it was pointed out that it might be better to fix the period to the reference week. For the interviewed person it might, however, be easier to start thinking from the date of the interview. Finally the formulation of the 1999 module was kept and a fixation of the period to the date of the interview is the priority. The difference between the two dates is minor, therefore if it is technically not possible to fix the period to the date of the interview, it can be fixed to the reference week.
C209: Accidental injury(ies), apart from illnesses, occurred during the past 12 months, at work or in the course of work

0- None
1- One
2- Two or more
9- Not applicable (not included in the filter)
blank- No answer

Filters
Everybody aged 15 or more and who is working or has worked during the past 12 months ((Col.24 = 1,2) or (Col.84 = 1 and Col.85/88 and Col.89/90 is not prior to one year before the date of the interview)

Objective
The aim is to know if the person has had an accident at work during the past 12 months, and in case yes, how many accidents at work he/she had during that period of time.

Instructions for the survey or for the coding

Only those accidents that occurred at work or in the course of the work of the interviewed person are considered. All other types of accidents are excluded:
- accidents occurred in the course of travelling between home (usual place of meals also) and the workplace (commuting accidents),
- home and leisure accidents
- road traffic or transport accidents in the course of private activities.

Occupational diseases or illnesses are also excluded. An accident is a discrete occurrence, illnesses or other health conditions which develop over a long time should not be included. In some rare cases it may be difficult to make a difference. For example if a health care worker has a needle stick injury and develops an infectious disease as a consequence, the onset is accidental and it should be considered as an accident. If a construction worker injures his back as a consequence of a sudden movement, it should be considered as an accident. While if a back pain develops over one day when he was carrying heavy loads, it should be seen as a non-accidental work-related health problem (col 214). The concept of an accident includes also cases of acute poisoning and wilful acts of other persons. However, deliberate self-inflicted injuries are excluded.

The term "in the course of work" means “whilst engaged in an occupational activity or during the time spent at work”. Any accident occurred during working time, even if it has not occurred during the usual work or in the usual workplace of the person, has to be taken into consideration. From this follows that, during work, all types of accidents in a public place or means of transport, either if it is the usual workplace or during a journey in the course of work, should be considered as an accident at work and are included.

This applies also to the following types of accidents: road traffic accidents in the course of work; slips, falls, aggressions, etc., in public places (pavement, staircases, etc.) or in the arrival and starting points (station, port, airport, etc.) of any means of transport occurred in the course of work; accidents on board of any means of transport used in the course of work (underground railway, tram, train, boat, plane, etc.), accidents occurring during a mission done for work and accidents occurred in the course of work within the premises of another company than the one which employs the victim, or in a private individual in the course of work. Finally, accidents at lunch time, or any other break, inside the premises of the enterprise should also be included (while if the person leaves the premises of the company to go for a lunch at home or other outside location, the accident happening during this journey should be considered as a commuting accident and should not be
included). All cases of accidents corresponding to these examples are considered as “accidents at work”. Please notice that if the person goes for a mission directly from home (without going first to his usual workplace), he/she is on mission already when leaving home and consequently any accidents occurring should be included.

The last 12 months are taken into consideration from the date of the interview (ex: accidents between the 15 April N-1 and the 14 April N for an interview the 14 April N).

When the person suffered more than one accident at work during the last 12 months, the code “2 Two or more” has to be used.

Finally, it should be noted that the question covers all those aged 15 years or more and fulfilling the filter (Col.24=1,2 or (Col.84=1 and ...)), while there is no upper limit of age for old people.

C210: Type of the most recent accidental injury at work or in the course of work
1- A road traffic accident
2- Accident other than road traffic accident
9- Not applicable (not included in the filter)
Blank- No answer

Filters
Col 209 = 1-2

Objective
The aim is to know whether the most recent accidental injury at work was due to a road traffic accident or to some other type of accident. This separation is needed when the ad hoc module results are compared with administrative accident statistics, which have national differences in the way of dealing with accidents happening in road traffic during work.

Instructions for the survey or for the coding

Please remind that only those accidents that occurred at work or in the course of the work of the interviewed person are considered. All other types of accidents are excluded: as accidents occurred in the course of travelling between home (usual place of meals also) and the workplace (commuting accidents), home and leisure accidents or road traffic accidents or other transport accidents in the course of private activities.

Road traffic accidents includes all accidents (at work or in the course work) in public roads, public or private car parks provided the accident happens in the course of work. The victim may be either on board of a means of transport (driver or passenger) or a pedestrian. Road traffic accidents include both accidents in which the victim’s main professional activity is related to the transport (e.g. lorry or bus drivers) and accidents in which the victim was occasionally in road traffic in the course of work (e.g. a manager going on his/her way to a business meeting outside of the enterprise).

All other accidents at work should be coded by Code 2. This applies also to accidents that are related to machines which are used outside of the public roads (e.g. forklift trucks, bulldozers, tractors in farming fields, forestry-related machines in forests, etc.). If such a machine was on a public road at the time of the accident, it should, however, be coded with Code 1. Accidents that happen inside the premises of the company on non-public roads within the factory area, are also coded with code 2 (they are not considered as road traffic accidents).

C211/212: Date when the person was able to start to work again after the most recent accidental injury
00- Still off work because has not yet recovered from the accident, but expects to resume work later
01- Expects never to work again because of the accident
02- No time off or the same day as the accident
03- The day after the accident
04- From the second but before the fifth day after the accident
05- From the fifth day but before two weeks after the accident
06- From two weeks but before one month after the accident
07- From one month but before three months after the accident
08- From three months but before six months after the accident
09- From six months but before nine months after the accident
10- Nine months or later after the accident
99- Not applicable (not included in the filter)
blank- No answer

Filters
Col 209 = 1-2

Objective
To know the number of calendar days during which the victim was unfit to work because of the accident.

Instructions for the survey or for the coding
This variable defines the number of days lost due to the accident for those cases where the victim either has started work or has already recovered from the accidental injury. All days when the person was unfit for work from the day of the accident until the resumption of work have to be taken into consideration (normal working days or not, including Sundays, bank holidays, etc.). If the victim has not, at the day of the interview, recovered from the accidental injury, there are two possible detailed categories: Code 00 for those who expect to resume work later and Code 01 for those who expect never to work again because of the accident.

Only days lost strictly related to the inability to work resulting from the accidental injury have to be counted. Consequently, when the victim has already recovered from the accidental injury but has not worked again at the day of the interview, the Code 00 should not be used. Instead the person should estimate the date when he/she could have started to work (i.e. had recovered from the accident).

When calculating the days for those who have already returned to work, days when the person was able to work but did not do it due to other reasons should not be taken into consideration (even if the reason is somehow linked with the accident). For example if the person was unfit to work during 2 months due to the accident, but was made redundant due to the physical consequences of this accident, and found a new job only 8 months after the accident, the code is ‘07’ = “from one month but before three months after the accident” (2 months).

If the person didn’t work for a certain period of time and then started to be integrated back to work gradually, for example working part-time, only the days when he/she was not working at all are counted.

Finally, it should be noted that the periods off work considered in this variable and the similar variable for work-related non-accidental health problems (Col 218/219) are the same, but variable 211/212 considers the date of resumption of work and variable 218/219 the number of days lost. That induces a difference of one day in the labels of the codes, but not in the period of absence
considered. For example, for code ‘05’, a resumption of work from the fifth day but before two weeks after the accident, means a number of days lost of at least four days but less than two weeks.

C213: Job done when the most recent accidental injury occurred (code first that applies)
   1- Main current (first) job
   2- Second current job
   3- Last job (person not in employment)
   4- Job one year ago
   5- Some other job
   9- Not applicable (not included in the filter)
   Blank- No answer

Filters
   Col 209 = 1-2

Objective
This variable provides information about the job that caused the accident at work. The aim is to be able to link the information about the accident with the characteristics of the corresponding job done when the accidental injury occurred, which are obtained by other variables of the core LFS questionnaire.

Instructions for the survey or for the coding

The job can be the main current (first) job, code ‘1’, that means the job described in columns 27 to 55 of the 2006 codification, or the second current job, code ‘2’, described in columns 78 to 83. The job can also be either the last job if the person is not in employment (job described in columns 85 to 98), code ‘3’, or the job one year before the survey (columns 147 to 149), code ‘4’. If the job is at the same time the last one and the job one year ago, the job has to be coded as the last one, code ‘3’ (“code first that applies”), in order to allow to analyse a possible link between the accident and the main reason for having left this last job (column 91/92).

Finally, if the job is none of these, the answer is “some other job”, code ‘5’. This code also applies in situations where a second job existed at the time of the “last job” or “job one year ago” and the accident occurred in this second job.

C214: Illness(es), disability(ies) or other physical or psychic health problem(s), apart from accidental injuries, suffered by the person during the past 12 months (from the date of the interview) and that was (were), caused or made worse by work
   0- None
   1- One
   2- Two or more
   9- Not applicable (not included in the filter)
   Blank- No answer

Filters
Everybody aged 15 or more and who is working or has worked previously (Col.24 = 1,2 or Col.84 = 1).

Objective
The aim is to know if the person has an illness, disability or physical or psychic health problem caused or made worse by work (current or past) and from which he/she had suffered during the past 12 months. And in case yes, from how many such illnesses, disabilities or health problems he/she had suffered during that period of time.
Instructions for the survey or for the coding

The reference period is the 12 months prior to the date of the interview. This period includes the date of the interview (ex: complaint suffered at any moment between the 15 April N-1 and the 14 April N for an interview the 14 April N).

Any complaint suffered by the person during the 12 months reference period has to be included if the person considers himself/herself that this complaint is caused or made worse by work (past or current). This means that the work-related problems asked for should not be restricted to cases reported or recognised by the authorities, but all cases even those without time off work should be included provided the above criteria are satisfied. In infectious diseases, like a common cold or flu, it is difficult for the person to identify where and when exactly (work, home, elsewhere) occurred the transmission of the causative infectious agent (virus, bacteria etc.). In such diseases the advice to the person interviewed is to think whether the nature of his/her work is such that it would have caused the disease (i.e that in this work it would be more probable to have such a disease in comparison to the everyday life environment or other types of work).

Any work at any time, even years back in time, has to be taken into consideration. In the latter case, the onset of the health problem could have been more than a year before the interview, but if the victim still suffered from this problem during the 12 months reference period, it should be taken into consideration. But, if the victim has not suffered from the work-related health problem during the 12 months reference period the case should not be included.

In cases where the person suffered from more than one illness, disability or other physical or psychic health problem during the past 12 months, that were caused or made worse by work, apart from accidental injuries, the code 2 Two or more has to be used (cumulating complaints caused and complaints made worse by work, without distinction).

Finally, as mentioned above for Col.209, it should be noted that the question covers all those aged 15 years or more and fulfilling the filter (Col.24=1,2 or Col.84=1), while there is no upper limit of age for old people.

C215/216: Type of the most serious complaint caused or made worse by work

00- Bone, joint or muscle problem which mainly affects neck, shoulders, arms or hands
01- Bone, joint or muscle problem which mainly affects hips, legs, feet
02- Bone, joint or muscle problem which mainly affects back
03- Breathing or lung problem
04- Skin problem
05- Hearing problem
06- Stress, depression or anxiety
07- Headache and/or eyestrain
08- Heart disease or attack, or other problems in the circulatory system
09- Infectious disease (virus, bacteria or other type of infection)
10- Other types of complaint
99- Not applicable (not included in the filter)
blank- No answer

Filters
Col 214 = 1-2

Objective
To know the type of the complaint caused or made worse by the work, or in case of several such complaints, the type of the most serious one.
**Instructions for the survey or for the coding**

In cases where the person suffered from more than one work-related health problem during the 12 months reference period, only the most serious of these is considered for this and the following variables. In this assessment there should be no distinction between complaints caused by work and those made worse by work, only seriousness of the complaint should be assessed. There is of course a subjective element in such an assessment of the “most serious” of the health problems related to work. Nevertheless, it should be the complaint most severe from a medical point of view, in general the complaint which had the biggest impact on his/her activities.

As there is no specific code for cancer, they should be coded, if possible, according to the anatomical location (lung cancer into "03 Breathing or lung problems" and skin cancer into "04 Skin problems"). If this is not possible, then the code "10 other types of complaint" should be used (for example in case of cancers of the intestinal organs).

**C217: Whether the most serious complaint caused or made worse by work limits the ability to carry out normal day to day activities either at work or outside work**

- 0- No
- 1- Yes, to some extent
- 2- Yes, considerably
- 9- Not applicable (not included in the filter)
- blank- No answer

**Filters**

Col 214 = 1-2

**Objective**

The aim is to know to what extent the most serious complaint caused or made worse by work limits the person’s ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

**Instructions for the survey or for the coding**

The complaint refers to the most serious complaint caused or made worse by work, while the limitation in day to day activities covers also day to day activities outside work. E.g. if a skin problem caused or made worse by work considerably limits the person’s day to day activities at home, it should be coded as 2- Yes, considerably.
C218/219: Number of days off work during the last 12 months due to the most serious
complaint caused or made worse by work

00- The person has not been working during the past 12 months, but for reasons not related to
the complaint caused or made worse by work (e.g. normal retirement).
01- Expects never to work again due to this illness
02- Less than one day or no time off
03- At least one day but less than four days
04- At least four days but less than two weeks
05- At least two weeks but less than one month
06- At least one month but less than three months
07- At least three months but less than six months
08- At least six months but less than nine months
09- At least nine months
99- Not applicable (not included in the filter)
blank- No answer

Filters
Col 214 = 1-2.

Objective
To know the number of calendar days during which the victim was unfit to work because of the due
to the most serious complaint related to work.

Instructions for the survey or for the coding

This variable concerns the number of days of work lost due to the most serious complaint related to
work. All days in between the onset of the complaint and the resumption of work have to be taken
into consideration (normal working days or not, including Sundays, bank holidays, etc.).

The variable only covers the days lost strictly related to the complaint. In particular, if there is more
than one complaint, only the days lost due to the most serious one are taken into consideration. In the
same way, all the other absences from work during the last 12 months, in particular due to any
illness not related to work, or to an accident at work, or to any other type of accidents (home and
leisure accidents or road traffic accidents not in the course of work), have to be excluded.

Only the absence during the 12 months period prior to the date of the interview is considered. If the
person had time off work before this period, even if this absence was in a continuous connection
with the absence occurred during the period of the last 12 months, only the days off work during the
12 months reference period have to be counted as days lost. Additionally, if there were several
absences from work due to the most serious complaint during the last 12 months, they have to be
cumulated. For example, the interview takes place the 14 April N, and the person was off work
because of the complaint from the 1st April N-1 to the 30 April N-1, from the 1 to the 20 September
N-1 and from the 10 April N to the date of the interview, with a work stop prescribed until the 20
April N, the number of days taken into consideration is: 16 (only from the 15 to the 30 April N-1) +
20 (in September N-1) + 5 (from the 10 to the 14 April N only) = 41 days lost = code ‘06’ = “at
least one month but less than three months”. If the person is off work at the time of the interview and
because of the most serious complaint caused or made worse because of work (but expects to resume
work later), then the absence should be counted until the date of the interview (within the time limit
of the past 12 months).
If the person didn’t work for a certain period of time and then started to be integrated back to work gradually, for example working part-time, only the the days when he/she was not working at all are counted.

Moreover, if the person was not working at all during the whole 12 months’ reference period, due to other reasons than the complaint, either he/she was in training, holidays, slack work, maternity leave, unemployed, ill or retired, etc., the code 00 should be used.

Finally, when the person expects, at the date of the interview, never to work again due to the most serious complaint, this variable has to be coded ‘01’=“Expects never to work again due to this illness”, whatever the actual number of days off work due to the complaint during the last 12 months (that otherwise would have been coded using one of the categories 02 to 09).

As mentioned above for Col.211/212, it should be noted that the period off work considered in the variables 211/212 and 218/219 are the same, but variable 211/212 considers the date of resumption of work and variable 218/219 the (cumulated) number of days lost. That induces a difference of one day in the labels of the codes, but not in the period of absence considered. For example, for code ‘05’ in col 211/212, a resumption of work from the fifth day but before two weeks after the accident, means a number of days lost of at least four days but less than two weeks.

**C220: Job that caused or made worse the most serious complaint (code first that applies)**

1- Main current (first) job
2- Second current job
3- Last job (person not in employment)
4- Job one year ago
5- Some other job
9- Not applicable (not included in the filter)
blank- No answer

**Filters**
Col 214 = 1-2 and Col 85/88 is not prior to eight years before the interview.

**Objective**
This variable provides information about the job that caused or made worse the most serious complaint. The aim is to be able to link the information about this health problem, complaint, illness or disability with the characteristics of the corresponding job that caused or made it worse, which can be obtained by other variables of the core LFS questionnaire.

**Instructions for the survey or for the coding**

The job can be the main current (first) job, code ‘1’, that means the job described in columns 27 to 55 of the 2006 codification, or the second current job, code ‘2’, described in columns 78 to 83. The job can also be either the last job if the person is not in employment (job described in columns 85 to 98), code ‘3’, or the job one year before the survey (columns 147 to 149), code ‘4’. If the job is at the same time the last one and the job one year ago, the job has to be coded as the last one, code ‘3’ (“code first that applies”), in order to allow to analyse a possible link between the complaint and the main reason for having left this last job (column 91/92).

Finally, if the job is none of these, the answer is “some other job”, code ‘5’. This code also applies in situations where a second job existed at the time of the “last job” or “job one year ago” and the complaint was caused or made worse by this second job. People reporting a complaint caused or made worse by a previous job, but having not worked during the last 8 years are not included in the filter because for them the job that caused or made worse the complaint is by definition ‘5- Some
other job’. This codification should be used for those who are filtered out due to the condition of not having worked during the last 8 years, but still reporting a complaint in col 214.

221: **Whether at the workplace the person has particular exposure to selected factors that can adversely affect his/her mental well-being**

- 0- No
- 1- Yes, mainly to harassment or bullying
- 2- Yes, mainly to violence or threat of violence
- 3- Yes, mainly to time pressure or overload of work
- 9- Not applicable (not included in the filter)
- blank- No answer

**Filters**

Col 24 = 1-2

**Objective**

The aim is to know whether the respondent considers that he/she has at the workplace particular exposures to any of the mentioned factors that can adversely affect his/her mental well-being.

**Instructions for the survey or for the coding**

The approach is to consider the workplace exposure and the mental well-being from the point of view of the worker him/herself. Workplace refers to the usual geographical environment of work, usually it is the local unit or establishment where the respondent carries out his/her work activities, but for certain workers (e.g. forestry workers, firemen) it should be taken as the general environment where the work is usually carried out. Exposure refers to existence of the mentioned factors (harassment or bullying, violence or threat of violence, etc.) that may adversely affect the mental well-being of the worker. Particular exposure refers to an exposure which is clearly more frequent or more intensive than people experience in general day to day life. The factors (e.g. harassment or violence) may be due to either other people working in the same workplace or clients etc. not working but visiting the workplace. The question concerns exposure only to the mentioned factors and in case there is a particular exposure to several of these the respondent should indicate which of these factors he/she considers as the main factor from the point of view of adverse effects on his/her mental well-being. The following definitions apply to the exposures mentioned:

- Harrassment and bullying refer to intentional use of power against another person or group that can result in harm to physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development (a term psychological violence is also sometimes used and is included in this category).
- Violence refers to physical force against another person or group that results in physical, sexual or psychological harm. Both real experiences of such actions and a feeling of the threat of such actions are covered by the code 2.
- Time pressure and overload of work refer to demands concerning either the time during which the work needs to be executed or demands concerning the amount of work to be executed and these demands going beyond the abilities and resources of the person.

222: **Whether at the workplace the person has particular exposure to selected factors that can adversely affect his/her physical health**

- 0- No
- 1- Yes, mainly to chemicals, dusts, fumes, smoke or gases
- 2- Yes, mainly to noise or vibration
- 3- Yes, mainly to difficult work postures, work movements or handling of heavy loads
- 4- Yes, mainly to risk of accident
- 9- Not applicable (not included in the filter)
Objective
The aim is to know whether the respondent considers that he/she has at workplace particular exposures to any of the mentioned factors that can adversely affect his/her physical health.

Instructions for the survey or for the coding
The approach is to consider the exposure and the physical health from the point of view of the worker him/herself. Workplace refers to the usual geographical environment of work, usually it is the local unit or establishment where the respondent carries out his/her work activities, but for certain workers (e.g. forestry workers, firemen) it should be taken as the general environment where the work is usually carried out. Exposure refers to handling, touching, inhaling etc. of agents (chemicals, dusts, fumes etc.) or existence of other types of factors (work postures, movements, vibrations, noise, risk of accidents etc.) that may adversely affect the physical health of the workers. Particular exposure refers to an exposure which is clearly more frequent or more intensive than what people experience in general day to day life. Physical health refers to all other aspects of health than mental health. The question concerns exposure only to the mentioned factors and in case there is a particular exposure to several of these the respondent should indicate which of these factors he/she considers as the main factor from the point of view of adverse effects on his/her physical health.