

SENT OUT FROM THE CABINET
OF MR. VLADIMÍR ŠPIDLA
ON 06.06.2005

Brussels,
D (05) 433

Ms Wanda NOWICKA
ASTRA
ul. Nowolipie 13/15
00-150 Warsaw
Poland

Dear Ms Nowicka,

Thank you for your letter commenting on the contents of the 2005 Commission report on Equality between women and men.

At the 2003 Spring European Council in Brussels, Heads of State and Government invited the Commission to prepare, in collaboration with the Member States, an annual report to the Spring European Council on developments towards gender equality and orientations for gender mainstreaming of policy areas.

The report addresses the key challenges facing the promotion of equality between women and men, especially in the light of the contribution of the gender equality policy to the Lisbon objectives. Its recommendations essentially concern Community policies and their development in relation to the Lisbon strategy.

Unfortunately, in spite of its importance, the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights suffers from the lack of reliable and comparable information. May I nevertheless draw your attention to the statistical annex of the report where health issues were addressed in two graphs, namely Health life years at birth and Average age of women at birth of first child.

Yours sincerely,

