

**Comments**

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**Comments regarding protection against biological hazards in the working environment**

Local Government and County Employers KT welcomes the opportunity to comment on the International Labour Organization (ILO) report concerning protection against biological hazards in the working environment. The report contains the texts of the proposed Convention supplemented by a Recommendation concerning protection against biological hazards in the working environment. The Convention and the associated Recommendation are proposed for adoption by the 2025 ILO International Labour Conference.

KT considers a focus on labour protection and the promotion of occupational safety and health to be important for employees and employers alike. Together with the employers it represents, KT works towards advancements on these important topics. The covid pandemic in particular illustrated the importance of protection against biological hazards in terms of the functioning of workplaces and society. Nonetheless, KT does not support preparing a Convention on protection against biological hazards.

Finland's national legislation as well as EU legislation take extensive account of biological hazards at work. KT does not support a Convention of the kind now proposed, one that is highly detailed and ambiguous in places and also restricts national latitude. KT holds that the Convention would considerably increase the administrative burden on employers also in situations that lack any clear work interface.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COUNTY EMPLOYERS – KT

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