

Highlights of the 2022 annual report

The work of the Commission d'alerte et de déontologie en santé publique et environnement (cnDAspe) intensified in 2022, strengthened by the trust placed in it by citizens and their representatives.

- **The commission received 52 reports**, twice as many as in 2021, and three referrals from members of parliament and a trade union organisation, to which the commission responded by publishing two public notices and by establishing a group of experts whose report is expected in 2023. ;
- With regard to the diligence with which alerts are handled, **the Commission welcomes the responsiveness of decentralised government departments and many competent local authorities**, which, after confidential and secure transmission of information, made it possible to assess or remedy locally one third of the alerts investigated. However, there is still considerable improvement to be made in the way alerts are handled by central government departments. The referral files or reports suggesting alerts sent to the ministries are frequently not answered within the three-month timeframe stipulated in the cnDAspe operating decree ;
- As part of its mission to support 34 public scientific and technical expertise establishments in setting up their public health and environment whistleblowing register, **the Commission has continued its series of meetings and its annual survey of their procedures for receiving whistleblower alerts**. To make it easier for these establishments to understand and communicate to their employees and service providers about their right to issue whistleblowing alerts, the Commission has made an online video..

However, despite its solid expertise in the field of whistleblowing in public health and the environment, and in particular the reporting of ethical malpractice, cnDAspe is seriously weakened by two factors:

- **The Commission is not included in Decree no. 2022-1284 of 3 October 2022 on the procedures for collecting and processing whistleblower alerts and establishing the list of external authorities set up by Act no. 2022-401, known as the Wasserman Act, aimed at improving the protection of whistleblowers**. The serious consequence of this omission from the list of external authorities in charge of whistleblowers is that any whistleblower who contacts the Commission will not benefit from the protection afforded to whistleblowers ;
- In addition to the risks incurred by these whistleblowers, there is another factor that weakens the cnDAspe's ability to carry out its missions: its **very limited financial and human resources, which are only increasing with the sharp rise in its activity**.

