

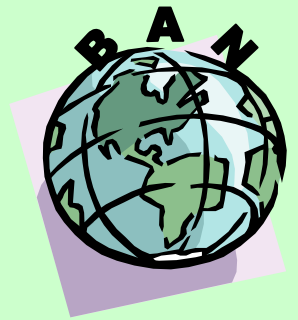
# **BAN ASBESTOS FRANCE**

*Association de lutte contre l'amiante*

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## **Press release, November 25, 2009**

### **ETERNIT Italy : TWO, France : ONE**

Three weeks before the opening of the trial which will be held in Turin against the Belgian baron Louis de Cartier of Marchienne and the Swiss billionaire Stephan Schmidheiny for " deliberate sanitary disaster ", Joseph Cuvelier's assignment in justice for " wounds and manslaughters " by the French judge Bertella-Geoffroy, represents a first victory in the fight for justice for asbestos victims. The powerful man of Eternit-France so joins, out of the borders between France and Italy, the leaders of Eternit Belgium and Eternit Suisse as accused in the dock.

All over the world, the name of Eternit symbolizes the doggedness to continue the asbestos trade, decades ago, in a total indifference to the health and life of workers contaminated in asbestos factories as well as their families, surrounding populations contaminated by the dangerous fibre.

These accusations are a strong signal for all those who, throughout the world, are involved in the fight for a global asbestos ban, in particular in Latin America and in Asia where the asbestos industry continues its devastation.

In the years to come, the international Ban Asbestos network will continue to fight for decisions by justice, which could definitively break the impunity of the highest leaders of the asbestos industry.

The international Ban Asbestos network is appealing for a strong social movement making of the Eternit trials in Italy and France the first steps for the creation of an International Criminal Court of labour and environment.