



**COMETS**  
CNRS Ethics Committee

**OPINION n°1997-06**

**« A LEGAL PERSPECTIVE ON RESEARCH ACTIVITIES »**

Approved at plenary session of june 1997



## I. SUMMARY

The report by Michel Vivant, *Activité de recherche : un éclairage juridique* [A legal perspective on research activities] was drafted in April 1995 to serve as a basis for reflection by the Committee of Ethics for Science (COMETS). As the author states in the report's preamble, it cannot claim to build *ex nihilo* when there are already answers or partial answers (to the questions posed by those involved in research). This report was revised in June 1997 for inclusion in the current "Cahiers" [workbooks].

It has no ethical ambitions. It seeks only to review the state of the law in relation to the thorny question of the availability of research findings, and present it in such a way that it can be easily understood by those without a legal background. Many will undoubtedly find the answers to their questions in this report. Yet there remains the debate on ethical aspects.

