

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

**ANNUAL
REPORT
1976**



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THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
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BRUSSELS — JANUARY 1977

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PREFACE

The work of the Economic and Social Committee cannot be divorced from the developments that have taken place in the last few years in the Community itself and in its international environment.

This annual report covers what appears at first sight to have been a rather depressing year for the European Community.

Judging by the newspaper headlines, Member States' difficulties have become more serious and more frequent than was anticipated a year ago. The 'tunnel' seems longer and darker than we thought, and the Community's cohesion weaker than ever. The Commission's efforts to make progress towards joint policies are either obstructed, brushed aside or watered down by member governments, which continue to hold all the power. These governments reflect the tensions that exist within their electorates and the various national interest groups — something of which we are very conscious in the Economic and Social Committee.

Since the December 1974 Paris Summit Conference, major positive decisions have become more and more of a rarity. The last European Council meeting in The Hague in November 1976 was one of the most disappointing summits ever.

It was the December 1974 Summit which agreed on direct elections to the European Parliament. This Summit also made some progress on the shape of European Union and attempted, with varying degrees of success, to concert policies on the economic, financial, energy and regional policy fronts. There the decision was taken to set up the European Regional Development Fund. But these achievements do not alter the overall impression of a Community unable to adopt a common position on the great world economic, social and political issues of our time — inflation, the energy crisis, unemployment, the new world economic order.

It is strange how our nine countries, after coming together to plan and build a joint future, usually fall back into a national outlook and try to do things their own way when difficulties arise. The energy crisis is a prime example.

The Community has acquired tremendous external influence. However, what seemed to be a major bonus, enabling the EEC, the biggest trading bloc in the world, to play a leading role in the expansion of world trade, has become virtually a source of weakness. There are increasing difficulties in achieving further integration, and they are threatening what has been achieved so far and leaving the Community without a common, constructive response to international problems and the economic crisis.

Several starts have been made towards economic and monetary union. The only tangible result is the 'snake', of which not all EEC currencies are members. Why not all are members is obvious. The establishment and, even more so, the main-

tenance of an intra-Community exchange rate system required agreement on how far and for how long the strong currencies should support the weak. The Economic and Social Committee considers that the solution to this fundamental question is to be found in the will to face the crisis together, instead of a disorganized approach with each country trying to go it alone.

But taking a wider view of the events of the year under review, one sees that though the cost of tackling the worldwide economic problems has been heavy, the Member States have so far stopped short of anything which would be fatal to the Community's continued existence. Large sections of the population are suffering the effects of the problems confronting us: five million unemployed, migrant workers sent home, many people with reduced living standards, inflation, erosion of savings, reductions in social benefits. On these particularly worrying issues, the Economic and Social Committee has stated its position in numerous opinions.

Through the work of its sections, the Committee may be regarded as the official forum for the economic and social issues in the Community, the sounding-board for the interests, ideas and anxieties of the ordinary men and women of the Community. Europe must lead the world as a Community where full use is made of science and technology to provide the resources to meet people's needs and at the same time to enhance the environment, and as a Community:

- (i) where jobs can be changed without fear of unemployment;
- (ii) where money can be saved without fear of inflation;
- (iii) where people can work with a real sense of involvement and satisfaction;
- (iv) where governments, companies and unions are there to serve the individual and not dominate him.

As has often been pointed out by the Committee, if the Nine are to move forward to a democratic union, they will have to achieve both political democracy through elected Parliament, and economic and social democracy through an Economic and Social Committee speaking up for the views, needs and wishes of the ordinary men and women of the Community.

Henri CANONGE,
Retiring Chairman.

Basil DE FERRANTI,
Chairman.

CHAPTER I

SURVEY OF THE ACTIVITY OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

General comments

The Committee's future has already been the subject of comment in previous annual reports. In March 1974, an Opinion was issued on the place of the Committee in a new EEC institutional set-up; another, in July of that year, looked at the situation of the Community; above all, an Opinion on European union was issued in July 1975. The latter was presented to the Belgian Prime Minister, Mr Tindemans, to help him carry out his brief from the Member States' heads of state or governments. His own report on European union, which came out in January 1976, led the Committee Bureau to consider doing some more work on the role of the Committee. But the Bureau then thought it would postpone any such initiative, in view of the inaction of the European Council over the Tindemans report and because it wanted to await the outcome of the Tripartite Conference.

An assessment of the Committee's future must bear in mind that the ESC provisions of the Treaty reflect a compromise. The ESC is a hybrid body — neither a panel of experts set up to assist the executive, nor an economic and social assembly.

This makes it easier to understand the inconsistent developments of the recent past, i.e. the fact that grant to the ESC of a 'right of initiative' was followed by consultation of the two sides of industry outside the ESC framework. It was made clear at the Summit Conference of 1972 that the ESC was not to be just a consultative committee, but an economic and social assembly capable of dealing with the major economic and social issues. But if the policy of by-passing the ESC continues, it will simply tick over without being fully used, and further important work will be done elsewhere. The ESC has always been opposed to its advisory functions being watered down or transferred to other bodies. What the two sides of industry need most is a vehicle for negotiation and decision-making. The ESC, thanks to the flexibility of its machinery, can help the two sides of industry to reach a consensus, and submit possible solutions to the decision-makers.

The right of initiative

The worsening of the economic situation put greater responsibility on economic and social groupings in the Member States, and therefore on their representatives in the Economic and Social Committee. The ESC attempted to adapt its working methods in the light of the increasing pressures.

The Bureau decided to use the Committee's right to issue opinions on its own initiative in a more systematic and coordinated way than hitherto, with a view to working out an overall line of policy. Given the general situation in the Community, it requested the Section bureaux to propose opinions centring mainly on the Community's twin problems of unemployment and inflation. The Economic and Social Committee thus showed that it intends to use the right of initiative to focus the attention of the Council and the Commission on those problems which the Committee members consider of greatest weight. This right also enables them to tackle live issues — the Opinion on unemployment (issued in the first quarter) being the outstanding example.

Other 'own-initiative' Opinions also had a direct or indirect impact within the Community. For instance, the Council Decision on the liberalization of public purchasing was undoubtedly influenced and stimulated by the ESC debate and the Opinion on the development of advanced technology in this field. The ESC Study on R & D was likewise of assistance to the Commission.

This general move away from the ESC's previous, more passive stance also incited its members to review the scope for adapting ESC procedures and practices.

The Bureau has already discussed the ESC's future in the light of the constantly changing state of the Community. It still has to decide how best to capitalize on the work which led up to the Opinion of March 1974 on the ESC's role in the machinery of the Community.

Improvement of working methods

Massive efforts were made in 1976 to strengthen the Committee and improve its working methods. The most striking changes are listed below.

The current Rules of Procedure were adopted in 1974 by the Council, pursuant to Article 195 of the Treaty. They are a basic document and amending them is a lengthy business that cannot be done frequently. The present Rules, which embody the Committee's right to take up matters on its own initiative, take account of most of the proposals put forward by the ESC at the time.

Without losing sight of the Committee's desire to be entirely responsible for its Rules of Procedure, it has been repeatedly emphasized that these Rules are too detailed and too inflexible, and that certain provisions should be embodied instead in the Standing Orders.

Major improvements have been achieved in the working methods of the Groups and the Sections. Their Chairmen have added responsibilities as a result.

The Bureau has gradually strengthened its budgetary powers and acquired more authority over the internal organization of the Committee. The Committee's plenary session of October marked the end of the Chairman's and the Bureau's two-year term of office. The retiring Chairman, Mr Henri Canonge (France - Various Interests) was replaced by Mr Basil de Ferranti (UK - Employers), who was elected unanimously. As new Vice-Chairmen are Mr Mathias Berns (Luxembourg

- Various Interests) and Mr Johannes van Greunsven (Netherlands - Workers). The names of the new Bureau members will be found on page 37 of the Report.

The Rules of Procedure state that the Bureau is to hold joint meetings with the Group and Section Chairmen at least twice a year. This rule has been strictly applied. A number of questions were tackled at meetings between the Committee's Chairman and Vice-Chairmen, and the Group Chairmen. Similarly the Committee's Chairman and Vice-Chairmen and the Section Chairmen dealt in detail with certain issues which can now be discussed by the Bureau with a full knowledge of the relevant facts.

The structure of the Secretariat has been somewhat remodelled, the emphasis being laid on establishing closer links between the two Directorates dealing with consultative work. The Director-General has been entrusted with the task of planning and coordinating this work.

A Division for Research and Documentation was set up to analyse problems of general concern to the Committee which fall outside the scope of the section secretariats. In the three months since its inception, it has begun to compile; (i) a study on the social and professional consultative committees in the Communities, (ii) a study on the scope for using the right of initiative, (iii) an analysis of methods for improving the dissemination of information within the secretariat and (iv) a survey of sources of information material, particularly trade organizations and economic and social councils.

Outside relations and contacts

One of the main tasks of the chair in 1976 was to improve links with the Community Institutions, particularly the Commission, the Council and the European Parliament.

The President and members of the Commission confirmed their willingness to establish close, regular links, *inter alia* by taking part in ESC Plenary Sessions. Practically every Plenary Session was attended by one or more Commissioners, including President Ortoli, and there is no need to point to the excellent relationship that we continue to have with Commission officials.

Some improvements still need to be made. Requests for Opinions should be better timed and the Committee should be better informed about progress on major Commission projects on which the Committee has already delivered Opinions.

Links with the Council were lightened. The letter of 17 April 1974 was progressively implemented and the ESC worked more closely with COREPER. Committee Opinions form part of the working dossiers of constituent bodies of the Council of Ministers, and three Presidents-in-office of the Council have attended Committee debates: Mr Mart and Mr Thoss, Luxembourg Ministers for Economic Affairs and Labour respectively, and Mr Brinkhorst, Dutch Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. Committee members had detailed discussions with these ministers on Community issues. Indeed, such discussions are now standard practice.

There were meetings with Prime Ministers, Ministers and State Secretaries responsible for Community affairs and economic and social matters. These meetings afforded exceptional opportunities for obtaining the ear of the President-in-Office of the Council, and hearing his views.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairmen made official visits to Luxembourg, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and West Germany. Contacts were made with the Belgian Government and the Belgian Prime Minister, Mr Tindemans, made a statement to the Committee about his report.

Visits to the Member States gradually took on a new pattern. Instead of being relatively formal, they were dominated by working meetings with national economic and social organizations.

The influence exerted by the ESC was enhanced by a number of section and study group meetings held away from Brussels, in Florence, Clermont-Ferrand, Coventry, Munich, Portugal and elsewhere.

The Committee had also exercised in previous years by relations with the European Parliament. In all Member States the question of relations between Parliaments and bodies representing interest groups has sometimes been a delicate one.

Democratically-elected Parliaments are the essential and basic vehicle for the aspirations and will of the people. The two sides of industry and professional organizations, and the assemblies and bodies in which they are represented, have a legitimate claim to speak for economic and social groups, to express their fears and needs and put forward their proposals. Regular links between the European Parliament and the Committee were conceived with these two principles in mind, and the Bureau of the European Parliament approved the proposal that ESC rapporteurs should address parliamentary committees.

From here it is a short step to mentioning the visits paid by the chair to economic and social councils and committees in Member States. It was noticed that these bodies find it increasingly necessary to cooperate with one another. Although they are not all out of the same mould, their aims are basically the same. The chair got the impression that any step the ESC might take to bring about a more consistent overall policy on the part of these bodies would be particularly welcome.

The trail was blazed by a joint meeting of the Bureaux of the ESC and the French Economic and Social Council in April, and by an official visit by an ESC delegation to the Rhone-Alpes region in France.

Going outside the Community, a delegation from the Economic and Social Council of Senegal led by its chairman, visited the ESC from 28 June to 2 July. This was part of the ESC's work in connection with implementing the Lomé Convention. Mention can also be made of a visit in January by the Japanese Economic and Social Congress, although this is not a state institution.

While on the subject of the Institutions, one must mention the importance attached by the ESC to the Court of Justice. Over the years, the Court has proved itself to be the Institution which, because its powers are the least subject to challenge, is best able to make sure that the Treaty is respected. In so doing, the Court

ensures not only that the Treaty is put into effect, but also that the Community develops along the lines that its founders intended. The speech made by the Advocate-General afforded an excellent opportunity for us to get better acquainted with the Court's work and assess its significance for the development of the Community.

Nor should one overlook the effort put into improving Committee relations with the ECSC Consultative Committee. There have been exchanges of documents and reciprocal visits, and ESC members have spoken at the Consultative Committee and vice versa. This marks a new phase, characterized by a definite mutual desire for confident and effective collaboration.

The Committee has devoted special attention to relations with other international organizations. In this way, it tried to show that it is not inward-looking or unaware of the international scene. Repeated contacts were made with the Secretariats of the OECD and EFTA and arrangements for exchange of information and documents were improved.

The ILO deserves particular mention. The ESC sent representatives to its Annual Conference and the World Conference on Employment. Close cooperation continued for instance, ILO experts made statements at a number of ESC Section meetings.

Thus the Committee got through an enormous amount of work in 1975. And it certainly did not neglect its main task, i.e. the issuing of Opinions. 111 Opinions were adopted in all, plus one Study. There were nine Plenary Sessions in the course of the year.

The topics dealt with are detailed in the next chapter.

CHAPTER II

WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Agricultural policy

(a) In its Study entitled 'Progress Report on the Common Agricultural Policy' (28 November 1974), the Committee drew attention to the need for a detailed examination of the CAP in the international context. To meet this need, the Committee embarked in 1976 on such an examination to determine what improvements might be appropriate. The Committee had on several occasions in the past come to the conclusion that it was necessary to consider the place and role of the CAP at international level and suggest any technical or policy improvements that would enable the CAP and also the Community's trade and external policies to meet the various needs more effectively. This examination, which accounted for a considerable proportion of the Section for Agriculture's work in the year under review, was not, however, completed until early in 1977.

(b) The 1976/77 farm price proposals gave rise to deep divisions within the ESC. After arduous discussions the Committee in the end decided by a small majority that a rise of 7.5-8% in the general level of prices would be acceptable. This was practically the figure proposed by the Commission and finally adopted by the Council. This agreement was, however, accompanied by numerous demands for a more balanced price policy, to be achieved *inter alia* by structural measures and in particular by temporary measures designed to remedy difficult situations. The Committee came out in favour of more equitable protection for Mediterranean products and the granting of personal income support to small farmers to help with structural change. Finally, the Committee underlined once again the need for production targets to be set at Community level in order to give producers a point of reference when they take their decisions.

(c) The Commission's 1977/1980 action programme for the progressive achievement of balance in the milk market, which was submitted in September 1976, received the Committee's full attention. The Committee broadly approved the Community premium system for the non-marketing of milk and milk products and the conversion of dairy cow herds, as well as certain common measures in the veterinary field. But it showed considerable reservation and even opposition towards the other Commission proposals. After difficult discussions, the Committee ultimately approved, subject to precise conditions, the Commission's proposal for a co-responsibility levy on milk producers as from the year starting on 1 April 1977. (The Committee had on previous occasions already come out in favour of a certain financial contribution from milk producers.) The Committee considered, however, that it did not have all the information it needed for a proper assessment of the amount of the levy proposed by the Commission, namely 2.5% of the target price for milk. The Committee also did not endorse the Commission's proposal for

suspending national and Community aids in the milk sector for three years. It was in favour only of suspending those aids which might result in an increase in production or processing capacity. In general the Committee advocated granting or retaining selective aids under Community supervision as a step towards a long-term investment policy. This would make it possible to continue with the modernization of production and intensify the search for additional outlets for milk products. Finally, the Committee came out very clearly against a charge on certain vegetable and marine oils and fats.

(d) The Committee welcomed two long-awaited proposals providing for a common organization of the markets in sheepmeat and potatoes. But its judgment of the proposal on sheepmeat was rather unfavourable. It took the view that this proposal was too incomplete and not attuned to the existing situation. On the other hand, it approved the proposal on potatoes, but asked the Commission to ensure greater flexibility in the application of the proposal.

(e) The Commission proposal on the processing and marketing of agricultural products was broadly endorsed by the Committee. The Committee did, however, ask the Council not to delay any further the adoption of common rules on producer organizations. Without these rules certain common measures concerning the processing and marketing of agricultural products would be in jeopardy.

(f) The Committee broadly approved the proposal for a Regulation for restructuring the non-industrial inshore fishing industry, but asked the Commission to include facilities for the preservation and distribution of fish in the restructuring programme.

The Committee also examined with interest the Commission proposal for a Community system for the conservation and management of fishery resources. In general the Committee accepted the Commission's proposals, but stressed that it was important that they should be clearly understood by all the parties concerned. The Committee also pointed out the need to ensure that the inspections and other measures, on which the success of the entire common policy proposed depended, were applied satisfactorily throughout the Community.

(g) In the approximation of legislation field, the Committee expressed its views on a proposal concerning jams. It stressed that in the agro-food sector total alignment of legislation was as a rule the only way of protecting consumers' interests and ensuring equal conditions of competition for Community producers. In the end the Committee endorsed the Commission's proposal for partial alignment but with the proviso that total alignment in this sector should be taken as a goal to be achieved within a specific period.

2. Transport policy

The Committee's work in the field of transport and communications was centred on two major issues, the organization of the transport market and drivers' hours.

1. The Committee was unable to endorse, in their existing form, four Commission proposals relating to :

- (i) a system for observing the markets for the carriage of goods by road, rail and inland waterway;

- (ii) the fixing of rates for international goods transport by rail between Member States;
- (iii) a system of reference tariffs for the carriage of goods by road between Member States ;
- (iv) a system of reference tariffs for the carriage of goods by inland waterway between Member States.

The Committee doubted whether a liberalized transport market as envisaged by the Commission could run itself without a regulative framework. It had expressed this view on several occasions in the past to both the Council and the Commission, basing its arguments on overall economic objectives.

It thought above all that the system for observing the markets as planned by the Commission was no substitute for effective crisis management.

It was necessary to voice reservations about this system because practical experience had invariably shown that in a time of crisis a complicated information and communications system generally produced decisions too late. Such decisions were only able to mitigate undesirable developments at disproportionately great expense — they were not able to eradicate them completely.

Furthermore, the Committee was generally very critical of the setting-up of new advisory or standing committees.

On the other hand, the Committee approved the principle behind the Commission's proposal to give railway undertaking greater powers to determine rates. However, it pointed out that, if a reference tariff system was to be introduced for international goods transport by rail, Member States should be able — after consulting the Commission — to temporarily fix compulsory minimum tariffs in times of crisis.

In addition, the system of compulsory bracket tariffs currently in force in the road haulage sector was thought by the Committee to have not lived up to expectations because it had not been applied consistently.

The system proposed by the Commission for the free formation of rates was also going to create a vast bureaucratic machinery that would not have any positive effect on the actual determination of rates or the attainment of the stated objectives. It would merely serve to establish non-compulsory tariffs without supervising their application or correctness and would merely generate costs without being of any benefit.

Turning to the question of reference tariffs for inland water transport, the Committee thought that account had to be taken of the existence of compulsory tariff systems for domestic goods transport in Member States where inland shipping was of major importance.

In view of this fact, it was doubtful whether the introduction of reference tariffs for such traffic would have any appreciable influence on the tariffs applied in practice.

2. As regards the question of drivers' hours (the so-called 'Third Social Regulation', the Committee rejected the Opinion of its Transport Section at its October Plenary

Session. This Opinion had not been able to entirely accept the Commission's proposal.

Thus, the Section had thought that, in future, the Regulation should apply only to international transport.

The Section had also proposed definitions for spreadover, driving time and rest period which differed from those given by the Commission.

It had, moreover, attached major importance to the derogations to the Regulation under review.

Since the Committee had promised to deliver an Opinion on this subject before the end of October 1976, it instructed a Rapporteur-General to table a Draft Opinion immediately that was likely to be acceptable to the majority of the Committee's members.

This Opinion pointed out that as the Committee had been unable to deliver a detailed Opinion on the Commission's proposal, the Commission should re-examine this question and draw up a new proposal in the light of all the comments and suggestions made at the October Plenary Session. The Committee also asked to be consulted again if a new proposal was produced.

3. Social policy

In its Opinion on the development of the social situation in the Community in 1975, the Committee underlined the gravity of the crisis through which Europe and the world was passing. At year end, more than five and a half million people were out of work, and all social groups had suffered.

Women in general and young people in the 15-25 age group looking for their first job were finding these very hard to get because of the recession, the disparities between regions and the lack of adequate training. As a result, more than two million young people felt left out of the economy and would be more sensitive to the calls of agitators.

The Committee recommended wide-ranging measures aimed at increasing the supply of jobs wherever possible, organizing training and re-training programmes, developing vocational guidance and multiskill training, upgrading manual work and sharing out available jobs more fairly.

At any event, the time for reflection was past, however constructive this might be. Resolute action and decisions had to be taken. One of the main objectives should be to re-organize the regions and social structures and eliminate inequalities through a vigorous and concerted employment policy, which would be framed and carried out in conjunction with other common policies. This meant that economic and monetary union had to be achieved.

With this in mind, the Committee issued a favourable Opinion on the European Social Budget as a means of providing information on past and predicted trends in

social spending and thus aiding decisions on the choice of Community and national priorities.

The Committee felt that more attention should be paid to the quality of life and the environment when planning economic growth. The Social Budget should therefore be looked upon as a complete unit of the Community's medium-term economic policy.

The Committee took it upon itself to issue an Opinion on the coordination of employment policies, in which it said that employment policy should be dealt with as part of the crisis as a whole. For too long some had tried to explain it away as a purely cyclical phenomenon.

After taking a look at the various national, set-ups in the Member States, the Committee noted that employment policy and objectives should be aligned on a few main themes; only controlled growth would enable the western economies to achieve a high level of employment. Above all, any decision or action taken required the cooperation of the public authorities and the economic and social groups concerned. This naturally applied both at national and Community level.

Social inequality was again the theme in the Committee's Opinion on the progressive extension of welfare schemes to cover people insufficiently protected, or left out, of present schemes. The Committee pointed out that the brunt of the economic crisis had been borne by a few particularly vulnerable social groups and inequalities had increased in some countries because of the inconsistencies in present welfare schemes.

In another Opinion, namely that on the economic and social situation of women in the European Community, the Committee called for a major change in attitudes and mentalities to enable women to be given equal treatment and opportunity in economic life. The problems of migrant workers were pointed out in an Opinion on extending trade union rights to such workers. The Committee attached particular importance to the guidelines on civil and political rights and the aims of the social action programme being embodied as quickly as possible in formal Commission proposals to the Council.

The Committee issued an Opinion on a proposed directive on schooling for migrant workers' children in which it said that such children should receive additional schooling and training to take account of their particular situation and especially their need to be able to adapt to the language and culture of the host country, while at the same time retaining and developing their knowledge of their own tongue and culture.

The Committee also issued an Opinion on the provision of safety information at places of work. It said that accidents at work cost the EEC economy more than 15 000 million units of account each year, quite apart from the incalculable human and social cost to those involved.

4. Economic policy

In the field of economic and financial questions, the Committee has focused attention on the continuing problems of unemployment, inflation and growth. At the

beginning of the year the Committee gave an Opinion, on its own initiative, on 'Unemployment in the Community'. It concluded that, for greater effectiveness, the Member States should get together at Community level so that more coordinated actions may be possible. It said that in the short-term, Community and national measures can only be effective in achieving their intended objectives so long as they are supported by small- and medium-sized businesses, workers, the professions and the professional organizations.

In order to bring some influence to bear on the preparation of public budgets for 1977, and on the Commission's proposals on economic policy to be followed within the Community for the remainder of 1976, the Committee gave its first Opinion on the 'Economic situation in the Community' in May. In it, the Committee drew particular attention to the danger of increasing further the disparities between the national economic situations, and to the necessity of Member States giving first priority to measures tackling the scourge of inflation and unemployment. It urged that the level of new investments be stopped up, and that ways be found of enabling companies to improve their profitability. It also pointed to the need for supply to be controlled.

In October, the Committee pressed Member States to direct their current national economic policies towards the medium-term goals contained in the Resolution made at the June Tripartite Conference held in Luxembourg. In its Opinion on the 'Commission's Annual Report on the economic situation in the Community', the Committee concentrated particularly on ways of creating new employment. It saw the present economic situation, and short-term prospects, in a more gloomy light than did the Commission. It said that recovery plans must be coordinated, controlled and directed specifically towards investment and employment creation. In the short-term, the Committee said public sector investment will have to produce a greater dynamic for growth. Private sector investment needs to be boosted by selective investment incentives. The Committee concluded by saying that Member States must not adopt policies which endanger expansion elsewhere in the Community. It said that if national target growth rates are identified, and the components of demand identified, the basis of some embryonic synchronization process (coordination) on recovery is provided.

The Committee gave its Opinion on the Commission's 'IVth medium-term economic policy programme' in November. The Committee held that the medium-term goals for employment, economic growth and price stability should be more ambitious than those contained in the general programme. It stated that if a lasting success is to be achieved in the fight against inflation, a monetary and credit policy, aimed at stability, will have to be combined with structural measures to reduce social tensions and to increase flexibility. However, the Committee believed most fervently that the major economic policy problem during the coming years is the achievement of a lasting return to full employment. There was general agreement on the goals to be pursued within the framework of the IVth medium-term economic policy programme, but the Committee found it more difficult to reach consensus in assessing the Programme's basic trend. Should full employment be a priority goal or is full employment inseparably linked to economic growth and stability and with full employment representing the outcome of a growth policy? The Committee stressed the evolving nature of the Programme, and looked to the Commission to translate the plans into concrete economic policy measures.

In the late Spring the Committee gave its Opinion on the Council's proposal for the establishment of a European Community Institute for economic analysis and research. The Committee welcomed the proposal, but wanted the proposed Institute to deal with the social aspects of the economic problems being researched. It saw the proposed Institute's role as one of stimulatory coordinator and catalyst in its relationship with existing national research institutes. It further considered that the proposed European Institute's Management Board include a stronger representation of the Community's social and economic organization.

A number of Opinions were given concerning the harmonization of taxes : on company taxation and withholding taxes on dividends ; on taxes on manufactured tobacco; on indirect taxes on transactions in securities; on mutual assistance by the competent authorities of Member States in the field of direct taxation.

In view of the generally peace-meal manner in which the Committee sees Community proposals being made to harmonize taxes, a decision was made by the Committee in September to carry out a Study on the general problem of fiscal harmonization and the criteria and goals that should be adopted by the Community in this context.

At the year-end, the Committee gave its Opinion on the proposal to introduce the European Unit of Account (EUA) for budgetary purposes as from January 1978.

5. Regional policy

In March, the Economic and Social Committee adopted an Opinion entitled 'Regional development problems of the Community during the period 1975-1977 and the establishment of a common regional policy', in which it took a stand on several of the basic problems connected with the initial activities of the Regional Fund and the working out of a Community regional policy.

The opinion stressed vigorously that aid from the Regional Fund should supplement, and not replace, regional aid granted by national governments, so as to help progressively towards getting new projects under way or speeding up the completion of projects already planned. At the same time, an attempt should be made to concentrate aid in those regions which were most in need and in the key industries in such regions.

The Committee's Rapporteur was able to read out part of the Opinion to the European Parliament's Regional Policy and Transport Committee.

The Committee continued to play an active role in the field of regional policy, and decided in February to prepare an Opinion on its own initiative entitled 'How regional development helps to solve unemployment and inflation problems by distributing the labour force in a more balanced way'. The Opinion is part of a draft study that will attempt to highlight the serious unemployment and inflation problems that are a feature of the present economic and social situation in the Community.

In its previous Opinions on the preparation of a common regional policy, the Committee asked that local and regional representatives be given an opportunity of

playing a more active part in preparing and implementing regional development programmes. The Committee continued this line in its two latest Opinions by advocating the involvement of regional authorities in the various Member States, with the particular view, in the second Opinion, of examining the experiments carried out in some regions designed to create more jobs through regional development. This would be done either through hearing qualified speakers or through questionnaires.

In July, the Commission published the First annual report on the European Regional Development Fund 1975 and a Summary analysis of annual information 1976. The Committee decided to issue an Opinion on these two documents.

One of the main points of the report is that the present economic crisis makes it even more compelling to increase the regional development efforts. The Committee therefore insists that a larger Fund is needed. It also draws the attention to the erosion of the Fund through inflation and advocates that ways and means be found to restore the Fund to its original value and to counteract the inflatory effects on the Fund in the future.

In view of the increasing importance of the tertiary sector in relation to job creation the Committee urges that greater emphasis be put on this sector in the new Fund Regulation.

Finally, the Committee urges that Member States should further the participation of interested parties at local and regional level in the planning and implementation of regional development projects to be assisted by the Regional Development Fund.

6. Industrial policy

The Committee concentrated on the Community's work on the various sectoral policies. Opinions were delivered on Community data processing policy, the scope for developing advanced technology by liberalizing public purchasing, the aeronautical action programme and the research programme on footwear. The Committee expressed its support for the Commission's efforts to define and implement a genuine Community industrial policy.

In its Opinion on the liberalization of public purchasing, the Committee stressed that Community trade in the advanced technology sector has remained virtually static since the establishment of the Customs Union. The creation of a common market for public purchasing in this area would make for substantial economies on the cost of advanced technology products. The relevant Community undertaking were well disposed to measures to open the market and welcomed the prospect of Community-level competition. Any steps in this direction were however contingent on guaranteed 'fair play', effective give-and-take and adherence to certain rules. These matters required a sectoral approach and a complete understanding of the problems involved was essential. Transition periods would be necessary and close cooperation between purchasers and suppliers in the various sectors was a prerequisite for laying down deadlines.

Following an analysis of key sectors such as dataprocessing, telecommunications, railways, the aircraft industry, nuclear energy and military equipment, the Committee reached the following conclusions :

Transparency, in public purchasing of advanced technology products should be encouraged. In this respect the 'reporting and complaints procedure', 'threshold' and other points will be significant, as will be the 'list system' in all sectors where it is acceptable.

Governments should give details of the purchasing organizations and supply organizations covered by the Council directive on supplies currently under discussion. They should also discuss future Community action and timing with the sectors concerned.

Given the significance of public contracts for small and medium-sized businesses, the Commission should strive to ensure that they get their fair share of advanced technology contracts.

Dealing with the aircraft industry the Committee stated: 'A technical and financial framework which is conducive to the growth of the EEC aircraft industry, a blueprint for future developments, consultation on programmes — these are initial clear-cut goals which it should be possible to attain without insuperable difficulties.'

In this connection the Committee proposed :

- (i) the setting up of a European Office for Airworthiness Certification. This would afford users and the public authorities every guarantee as to the enforcement and up-to-dateness of the relevant rules ;
- (ii) common certification in respect of nuisance reduction;
- (iii) common standards;
- (iv) common sales-financing machinery to facilitate sales and after-sales back-up. All these measures should form a coherent whole. They should improve the present position of Community manufacturers vis-à-vis their competitors and help them to overcome difficulties without special measures each time a sale is made;
- (v) the creation of a genuine EEC market. This must be considered a matter of priority and a necessary preliminary to the framing of an effective civil aircraft manufacturing policy.

The implementation of these measures would be an important step forward. The programme for the civil and military sector should be implemented in parallel with progress in the political organization of European union.

The Committee has also recently decided to exercise its right of initiative to deliver an Opinion on measures to cope with industrial change and its impact on employment.

The Committee has also used its right of initiative to resume work on the situation of small and medium-sized industries, which began with a Study in 1971. An Opinion is scheduled for 1977.

The Committee also aired its views on freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services. Opinions were delivered on (a) an amended proposal seeking to make it easier in practice for lawyers to exercise freedom to provide services, and (b) the second directive on insurance other than direct life insurance.

The Committee intends to monitor developments in connection with freedom of establishment. It intends to deliver Opinions on amended Commission proposals in respect of the different professions.

The Committee was also exercised by customs harmonization. Opinions were issued on temporary importation procedures, remission of import and export duties, and customs debt.

7. Technical barriers

The Committee has long been concerned with the elimination of technical barriers to trade. This year opinions were delivered on: motor vehicles, lifting equipment, measuring instruments, and food. The Committee came out in favour of 'total' harmonization. Nevertheless the commission opted for 'optional' harmonization in its amended proposal on mayonnaise despite the fact that the Committee has endorsed the previous proposal calling for 'total' harmonization.

The Study Group on technical barriers spent several months drafting an Opinion on precious metals. Once again the Committee put forward original proposals for solving highly technical problems affecting the economic and social interest groups which it represents.

8. External relations

The Economic and Social Committee has continued to follow with interest all aspects of the Community's external policy. It has kept an eye on developments in a number of fields: relations with the ACP countries within the framework of the Lomé Convention; the multilateral GATT negotiations; the generalized tariff preferences scheme; relations with the countries of the Mediterranean basin; relations with the EFTA countries.

The Committee has, in particular, delivered an Opinion approving the setting up of a European Export Bank to help finance largescale projects offered on the world market by firms belonging to more than one Community country. It feels that the setting up of such a bank is needed as an instrument in the Community's common trade policy and in order to put Community firms on the same commercial footing as their Japanese and American counterparts.

The Committee has re-affirmed its approval in principle for the generalized tariff preferences applied by the Community to imports from developing countries. It has approved an extension of the scheme proposed for 1977, in the light of the Community's responsibilities towards the developing countries. This extension of the scheme, however, has given the Community an opportunity to level serious criticism at:

- (i) the growing imbalance between the policy of the Community to increasingly become outward-looking on the one hand, and the lack of any progress in its internal organization and policies, on the other;
- (ii) the lack of integration between the Community's medium-term industrial and agricultural development and its external policy.

The Committee has also adopted an Opinion approving the establishment of a European agency for trade cooperation with the developing countries.

The Committee has continued to keep abreast of GATT negotiations in order that a formula can be worked out whereby the representatives of economic and social interest groups in the Community can participate in these negotiations. It has also carried out studies on the Community's relations with Portugal and on the Community's policy with regard to relations between the industrialized and developing countries.

Last but not least, a new round of informal talks have been held between the ESC's Section for External Relations and representatives of socio-economic interest groups on the Consultative Committee of EFTA.

9. Energy policy

At the beginning of the year, the Committee gave its Opinion on the 'Draft Regulation (EEC) of the Council regarding a Community procedure for information and consultation on the prices of crude oil and petroleum products in the Community'. The information system was proposed by the Commission in order to bring about a greater degree of transparency in the Community oil market. Under it, information on the prices of crude oil and petroleum products would be furnished by certain oil companies to the Member States. The latter would then pass this information on to the Commission.

The Committee approved the objective of greater transparency. However, it suggested that aggregated information for each Member State would be sufficient to meet this objective, provided that the Member States could, if need be, back up this information with detailed data on each company.

The Council, following this compromise formula, adopted the measure, not as a Regulation but as a Directive addressed to the Member States. It stipulated that the information would be furnished in aggregated form, but that, in the event of anomalies or inconsistencies in the figures, the Member States could be asked to provide the appropriate and aggregated information supplied by the undertakings. In line with further requests from the Committee, the Council incorporated specific written assurance on the purposes for which the information could be used, and on procedures to be followed in drawing up any such measures as might subsequently appear necessary.

In an own initiative Opinion, the Committee welcomed the more positive approach towards Community energy policy which seemed to emerge from the meeting of the European Council in Rome on 1 and 2 December 1975. Commenting on the Commission proposals for the implementation of the guidelines drawn up at this meeting, the Committee called on the Commission to press ahead with the preparation of detailed proposals. It urged the Council to adopt quickly the different proposals which had been before it for some time, such as those on solidarity among the EEC partners in the event of oil supply difficulties and the financing of nuclear installations.

The Committee noted that the proposal for a US \$ 7 minimum price for imported oil constituted the main new element in the Commission's policy. It called on the Commission to provide details on how this proposal was to be put into effect and to identify the positive or negative effects it could have in the different regions of the Community. It should also give details on the effects of a minimum price for energy producers, energy-using industries and private consumers.

In the Committee's view, it was particularly important to pursue protection policy in the Community in a balanced manner on all fronts. It agreed that further study should be given to possible measures dealing with coal stocks, aids to coking coal, uranium prospecting, technological development projects and exploration in the hydrocarbons' sector, and the financing of nuclear installations.

The Committee also stressed the importance of international cooperation between the major energy producers, exporters and consumers. It recommended that efforts to secure such agreement at the Conference on International Economic Cooperation (North-South Dialogue) should be pursued as a top Community priority.

In the research and development field, the Committee produced a Study on the 'Objectives and priorities for a common research and development policy'. The Study, based on two preliminary policy papers prepared by the Commission, took as its starting point the overall long-term economic and social objectives of the Community. These, it said should include: the furtherance of the well-being of all the Community's citizens, balanced economic and social development and the promotion of international cooperation.

A total of 17 recommendations were made in the Study. These were presented in working document form at an international symposium organized by the Commission in Milan on 24 to 26 May 1976 on 'A science and technology policy for the European Community'. Over a hundred representatives of interested sectors — scientists, senior officials, industrialists, trade unions, Economic and Social Committee, and national and European parliamentarians — took part. They adopted a comprehensive series of recommendations for submission to the Commission, many of which directly re-echoed points made by the Committee. The points taken up included:

- (i) the need to base long-term R & D policy on broadly based intersectoral studies;
- (ii) the creation of a suitable long-term planning instrument;
- (iii) the devotion of major attention to 'the important general trend toward a new and better way of life';
- (iv) the inclusion of raw materials' management as a specific objective of Community science and technology policy;
- (v) the inclusion of improved economics (minimizing duplication) as a criterion for the selection of R & D projects;
- (vi) the creation of a consultative committee for industry to ensure dialogue between the Commission and those mainly interested in carrying out R & D projects.

In the light of these and other submissions, the Commission is shortly expected to publish in final form its blueprint for Community R & D policy in the coming years.

In its Opinion on the 'Proposal for a multiannual research programme for the Joint Research Centre 1977-1980', the Committee endorsed the ten individual research programmes put forward.

Specifically, it called for further intensification of effort in the field of plutonium fuels and actinide research. The solar energy programme should be subject to future re-examination with a view to achieving greater selectivity. The Committee welcomed the degree of streamlining achieved by replacing the 22 actions of the previous multiannual programme by the 10 programmes. Finally, it welcomed the new budgeting and 'rolling programme' arrangements as features designed to improve the continuity of the JRC's work.

During the year, the Committee approved the proposal 'reviewing the Energy research and development programme adopted by the Council's Decision of 22 August 1975'. It also endorsed the 'Four-year period programme 1977/80 in the field of scientific and technical information'. However, it considered that the proposed budget for the latter of 5m u.a. to be very small, so much so that it would have to be increased if the programme was to achieve its objectives.

The Committee welcomed the Commission's initiative in putting forward a 'Proposal for a Council Regulation containing provisions to enable the international Atomic Energy Agency to carry out inspections and verifications in the territories of the Member States of the European Atomic Energy Community'. It called on the Council to enact the Regulation as quickly as possible. Otherwise the deadline for the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons would be overrun. The Community's supply of nuclear fuels could then possibly be placed in jeopardy. The Committee also regretted that nuclear safeguards' systems differed between Member States. It called on the Commission to continue to press for the introduction within the foreseeable future of uniform safeguards and powers of inspection.

On 1 June 1976, the Council adopted a Directive laying down the revised basic safety standards for the health protection of the general public and workers against the dangers of ionizing radiation. The Directive incorporated a number of recommendations made by the Committee. Firstly, it specified that 'the creation of a specialized radiation protection unit shall be required for all establishments in which there is a serious risk of exposure or contamination. This unit, which may be shared by several establishments, shall be distinct from production and operation units'. Secondly, the limits relating to women of reproductive capacity and during pregnancy were more accurately defined. At the Committee's request, the Directive laid down that 'planned special exposures' (i.e. certain doses in excess of maximum permissible doses) 'must not be authorized ... if the worker is a woman of reproductive capacity'. Thirdly, a clause setting a basic norm for protective devices was dropped, after the Committee had requested clarification of the practical conditions under which it could be applied. Fourthly, on the Committee's advice, all medical surveillance work was placed under the responsibility of single category of doctor (i.e. 'Approved Medical Practitioners'). Finally, a number of the technical definitions used in the Directive were reworded along the lines suggested by the Committee.

10. The environment — Consumption

With the appearance of the Commission's Second Action Programme on the environment, covering the years 1977-1981, the Committee took the opportunity of

reiterating its support for the Community's objectives and the principles behind them. The Committee particularly welcomed the proposals to assess the impact on the environment of development schemes and introduce a mapping system to be used as a basis for taking decisions.

In the Committee's view, effective control of pollution and nuisances and action to improve the quality of life were essential if economic activity was to be developed harmoniously. Traditional methods for making economic calculations should therefore be revised. It was not enough to base the calculation of economic growth and gross national product solely on the increase in material wealth. A more realistic method would put improvement in the environment and in living conditions generally in the 'gains' column, and destruction and degradation of natural resources (air, water, soil) or the cost of regenerating them in the 'losses' column.

The Committee felt that the most important recommendation made in the Action Programme was that national policies should be coordinated so as to overcome the handicap of limited resources and improve the international competitiveness of Community firms.

The Committee also looked at a whole series of proposed directives put forward as part of the implementation of the first Action Programme on the environment. It drew the attention of the Community authorities to the effects that the recommended measures could have on the economy and the employment situation.

Turning to international relations, the Committee welcomed the Community's initiatives towards cooperation with non-member countries and recommended that international agreements signed by the Community as such should be embodied in national legislation.

Point 49 of the Community's preliminary programme for a policy on protecting and informing consumers, which was adopted by the Council on 14 April 1975, said that this programme was to be considered as the first stage of a bigger programme that might have to be developed later. As a result, the Committee is greatly interested in having a general debate on policy towards consumers leading to an 'own-initiative' Opinion along the lines of previous Committee Opinions on Community policies in specific fields. Whatever options are chosen in the field of consumer affairs are likely to have a profound influence on the development of Europe.

Turning to specifics, the Committee has issued an Opinion on the labelling and presentation of food, in which it showed up a number of loopholes that might nullify the proposed Council Directive. Difficulties might arise for both distributors and final recipients because the proposal is vague on defining what is meant by the 'ultimate consumer' and what products are to be covered. The Committee thinks that it is essential for the manufacturer to show on the packaging how long the food in question will remain fully fit for consumption and retain its essential qualities and what precautions should be taken to make it keep.

The Committee also looked at a proposed directive banning sixteen colourants that could be used in food. It welcomed the Community's work to protect people's health and called upon the Commission to follow up the conclusions reached by the Scientific Committee for Food on acceptable daily intakes for adults and children and on limiting the use of certain colourants.

CHAPTER III

PRESS RELATIONS AND OUTSIDE ECHO

In a year in which all nine Member States of the Community have had to struggle with the twin problems of unemployment and inflation, public opinion has become steadily more accustomed to the practice of governments lending an extremely attentive ear to the views of the social partners, professional organizations and interest groups. Indeed, in some countries, there are formal agreements, in others, implicit ones, made by these organizations on the one hand and by governments on the other, to allow economic and financial policy to take effect.

The unquestioned growth of influence of economic and social groups on the national level has not so far had an equivalent recognition on that of the Community. This discrepancy is being reproduced in their respective national and community images; we find that the world press and media give a high rating to news related to national economic problems and to the national representatives of the economic and social groups concerned, but that the interest given to their activities on the European level remains scant. Nevertheless, some improvement has been noted, especially in those countries where Committee members have given accounts of their activities to the national press.

It must be said, however, that the Economic and Social Committee generally remains an institution which is little known and whose influence is insufficiently recognized. Even among informed circles within the Community, the extent of the Committee's work is underrated. In this respect it might be of interest to note that out of 162 opinions delivered by the Committee in the period 1972-1976, on legislation dealt with by the Council, the Committee approved the Commission's draft in 65 cases. Of the remaining 97 dissenting opinions, 70 were taken into account when the Council drew up the final texts. Of course, such a purely statistical finding must be qualified as the degree of influence of the Committee's opinion on the final text of the Council may be considerable or slight, and the impact of the directive or regulation may be wide or narrow. Nevertheless, the proportion of positive results (72%) shows that the Committee has a genuine audience in the Executive institutions. In addition, in the past three years, the Committee delivered 23 opinions on its own initiative, whose suggestions were noted by the Council or the Commission.

A further handicap to the Committee's image is that its very title is misleading as in all Community languages a Committee is considered a small entity. It is difficult for the media to present the Committee as an assembly. Particularly in those countries where there are no national equivalents to the Economic and Social Committee, its activities are often unknown or misunderstood. It should not be mentioned in the press without an explanation of its functions.

It is in the specialized press that the Economic and Social Committee can best make its mark and towards which a large part of our efforts is being directed.

Though it is difficult to gauge the overall impact of the Committee's activities on the news media — it is only possible to go by the very incomplete number of newspaper clippings received in the Secretariat — there has been an improvement in the quality of the reporting.

Because of its news value, space is often given to opinions in which the Committee dissented with the Commission's proposals. This was true for such opinions as farm prices, the tax on vegetable oils, or controversial opinions such as the one on working hours of lorry drivers. The Committee's opinions delivered on its own initiative have generally had a particularly good echo, especially that on unemployment, but also that on the situation of women in the Community. In the debate on European Union, the Committee's opinion on the subject, although adopted in July 1975, continued to receive attention in the press in connection with Mr Tindemans' address to the plenary session.

The visits of the Chairman to several of the capitals and section meetings held away from Brussels — that of the industry section in London, the regional section in Clermont Ferrand, the agricultural section in Coventry, the environment section in Munich, as well as the visit of a study group to Portugal — provided the kind of material welcomed by the press, especially by television. This most valuable medium can best bring to the people the image of the Committee as an institution which is directly concerned with their problems through the kind of representatives familiar to them. Television interviews given about the Committee for Greece and Turkey also helped to spread news about its role and activities beyond the confines of the Community.

The election of the new Chairman in the October plenary session was given good coverage in several member countries.

Another sector which is helping to extend knowledge and information about the Committee is that of its own publications. Every year, opinions and studies of the Committee are being published in printed form and given a wide distribution. In the year under review, the Committee published the study on 'Systems of education and vocational training', the opinion on 'Regional policy', and the study on 'Research and development'. The policy of building up over the years a readily available documentation for the general public has led to the present situation when the Committee disposes of the Yearbook, one monthly publication, three brochures and one leaflet giving general information about its functions and six brochures of different opinions and studies.

Evidence that this activity replies to a genuine demand is shown by the fact that requests for the brochure on 'Education and vocational training' were such that the first edition of 2200 copies was exhausted in three months and a reprint had to be ordered. A second edition for the 'Progress Report on the Common Agricultural policy', had to be made in 1975, while a reprint of 'The situation of small and medium-sized enterprises' was found to be necessary in 1976 to meet the various request from the professional organizations and Community institutions.

The number of groups which take in the Economic and Social Committee in their visits to the Community rose considerably in 1976, bringing the total number of visitors received to 1700. They included editors, journalists, industrialists, trade

unionists, representatives of the professions, farmers, students, as well as European, national and regional civil servants not to mention delegations from Greece, Turkey, Israel etc. Requests for information and for Committee papers and opinions remained well above the thousand mark.

An innovation in the course of the year was the launching by the Secretariat of a new periodical intended for the Committee members: 'Information briefs'. It attempts to keep members informed mainly of latest developments in the Community and the European policies of professional organizations.

A review of the Committee's impact on the Member States does allow the conclusion that it depends to a large extent on the willingness of members to act as its spokesmen. They are nationally known figures and it is their action on the European level which lends authority to the Committee's opinions. In addition, they are influential figures in their national professional organization and may encourage their organization's respective magazines or journals to give space and recognition to the Economic and Social Committee's activities.

CHAPTER IV

THE GROUPS

Article 19 of the Rules of Procedure gives official recognition to the Groups. The role and working methods of the Groups are dealt with in Bureau Instructions. The position of the three Groups of the Committee should be consolidated by the decision that each group should have a minimum of 30 members.

- Group I is made up of employers of large-scale undertakings;
- Group II is the group of trade union representatives ;
- Group III is made up of representatives of various interests.

Group I - Employers

The Employers Group, which it will be recalled comprises representatives of private and public industry, commerce, transport and the banking and insurance sectors, has at present forty-two members under the chairmanship of Mr Jean de Precigout.

With the effectiveness of the Committee in mind, the Group has made every effort to reach agreement on a common view whenever possible.

It has also provided rapporteurs for a wide range of opinions, a few of which are shown in the following list :

- Creation of a European Export Bank
- Liberation of public purchasing
- Harmonization of company taxation
- Mutual cooperation to prevent tax evasion
- Conservation and management of fishery resources
- Action in the field of transport infrastructure
- Common rules for road haulage
- Generalized tariff preferences 1977
- Portugal
- Industrial change and employment.

On a wider scale, the Group has taken care, each time the opportunity was presented in the course of Committee work, to express its deep concern at delays which impede the realization of European economic union and thus hinder Community progress towards monetary union.

The Group has been unanimous also in registering its anxiety about the effect on employment in Community countries of the inflation which has been developing during recent months.

Great importance is attached by the Group to using all possible means to permit the Community to reach its objectives by proper use of the existing institutions. This view in no way prejudices it against any improvements which might be brought to bear on their functions.

This year it was the turn of Group I to propose a candidate to take on the duties of Chairman of the Committee. The suggestion that this responsibility should be offered to a member from one of the countries which had recently joined the European Economic Community was accepted, and the Group was delighted when the candidate presented was elected by a unanimous vote of the Economic and Social Committee.

The following members of Group I were elected to the new Bureau :

Mr van Campen

Mr de Ferranti (chairman)

Mr Hipp

Mr Loughrey

Mr Masprone

Mr Renaud

Mr Rømer.

Group II - The workers group

Group II has a current strength of 50 and is the spokesman for the European trade union organizations represented on the Economic and Social Committee.

At the elections in October 1976, the following Group II members were elected to the ESC Bureau :

Mr van Greunsven (Netherlands NKV - FNV) (vice-chairman)

Mr Delourme (Belgium - FGTB)

Mr Friedrichs (Germany - DGB)

Mr Nielsen Th. (Denmark - LO)

Mr Scalia (Italy - CGIL)

Mr Soulat (France - CFDT)

Mr Walsh (United Kingdom - TUC)

Mr Debonne (Belgium - FGTB) was appointed Group Chairman and Mr Pfeiffer (Germany - DGB) and Mr Nielsen Th. (Denmark - LO) were appointed Vice-Chairmen.

During 1976 Group II members served as rapporteur for a number of Opinions of particular interest to workers :

— Unemployment in the Community;

- Annual report on the economic situation ;
- Fourth medium-term economic policy programme;
- Community work on the coordination of employment policies;
- Specific measures to assist elderly workers, young workers and women wishing to resume work ;
- Alignment of certain social provisions on road transport (Third Social Regulation);
- Price of crude oil and petroleum products;
- Safety information at the workplace.

The above Opinions clearly show that, in the context of the continuing recession, Group II's main concern was, as in 1975, the fight against inflation and achieving full employment.

As regards the fight against inflation, the Group stressed the significance of structural change since inflation could no longer be contained by restricting demands.

Group III - Various interests

Group III brings together representatives of agriculture, small- and medium-sized industrial, commercial and craft firms, families, the professions, the service industries, consumers and members of the general public. In spite of their diversity, Group III members are united by the feeling of representing socio-economic categories which, because of their special features or particular structure, must be able to make their views heard separately.

In 1976 Group III appreciated the fact that the Chairman of the Committee held regular meetings between himself, the Vice-Chairmen of the Committee and the Chairmen of the three Groups. These meetings proved to be extremely useful, constructive and beneficial to all parties. In spite of differing interests and affiliations, members of Group III found they had a great deal in common. This was reflected in a greater sense of unity within the Group.

The trade organizations and socio-economic groups which Group III represented became keenly aware of their place and role in the dialogue between the Community Institutions and the Economic and Social Committee. By always tackling problems in depth, Group III was able to adopt clear-cut stands and assert its identity.

The regular meetings of the Group's Bureau were extremely useful. Their purpose was to prepare agendas for group meetings and so improve the efficiency of the Group's work. The Bureau of the Group also held frequent meetings with members of Group III represented on the Committee's Bureau. This prevented confused situations from arising on a number of occasions and made it easier for the Group to speak with a single voice on important matters.

The high rate of attendance at group meetings was a further illustration of the importance individual members attach to the Group.

Assisted by the Secretariat, the Chairman of Group III made every effort to establish close links with a wide variety of external organizations whose interests are re-

presented by Group III. This was a vitally important step in coordinating the interests and mobilizing the efforts of these organizations. It also proved to be a valuable source of information for the Group.

Finally, in October 1976, the Group unanimously re-elected Sir John Peel Chairman. The following members of Group III were elected to the Committee's new Bureau :

Mr Berns (vice-chairman)

Mr Canonge

Mr de Bruyn

Mrs Evans

Mr O'Keeffe

Mr Piga

Mrs Strobel

CHAPTER V

ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES

To act effectively, the Committee must maintain close links with trade associations in Europe by attending congresses, meetings and seminars held by these bodies. Although it was not possible to accept all the invitations, the Chairman, other members and representatives of the Secretariat did manage between them to attend the following :

10th Anniversary of the French Centre National pour l'Aménagement des Structures des Exploitations Agricoles (National Farm Improvement Centre)	20 January Paris
European Congress organized by the European Movement	5-7 February Brussels
Formal sitting of the Sénat d'Honneur Européen (Honorary European Senate)	14 February Antwerp
Round Table organized by the Instituto di Studi sulle Relazioni Industriali et di Lavoro.	16 February Rome
12th Annual Meeting of the Proprietary Association of Europe	25-27 February London
Exchange of views on the situation of small- and medium-sized businesses in the EEC at the German Craft Industry Confederation's International Craft Fair	15 and 16 March Munich
1st European Congress on Waste Oils	18 and 19 March Brussels
8th Colloquium organized by the Institute for European Legal Studies	24-26 March Liège
European Congress organized by the General Committee of Agricultural Cooperatives of the European Economic Community	1 and 2 April Brussels
29th Round Table organized by the Association for the Study of the Problems of Europe	2 and 3 April Bonn
European Conference organized by European entrepreneurs on the theme 'Participation in Businesses'	8-10 April Rome
Conference organized by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe	21-23 April Strasbourg

2nd Congress of the European Trade Union Confederation	22-24 April London
25th African Economic Congress	22 and 23 April Milan
58th National Congress of the French Confédération Nationale de la Mutualité, de la Coopération et du Crédit Agricole (National Agricultural Confederation for Mutual Assistance, Cooperation and Credit)	4-6 May Bordeaux
15th Congress of the International Road Transport Union	9-13 May Brussels
Annual General Meeting of the European Feed Manufacturers' Association	14 May Brussels
Meeting on the international economic crisis, organized by the Confederation of Italian Industry (Confindustria)	10 June Rome
Conference organized by IBM	22 June La Hulpe - Belgium
General meeting of the Confederation of Italian Industry (Confindustria)	23 July Rome
10th World Congress of the International Political Science Association	16-21 August Edinburgh
14th Congress of the Association of European Journalists	7-10 October Nice and Monaco
Annual General Meeting of the Pharmaceutical Group of the European Community	10-13 October Naples
Colloquium on the European Social Charter, organized by the Université Libre de Bruxelles (Free University of Brussels)	
8th International Congress of the International Confederation of Executive Staffs	19 and 20 November Paris
Colloquium of former trainees of the Community with the theme 'The Democratization of the European Institutions'	19 and 20 November Paris
1st conference of Presidents of European Community Regions, held by the Council of European Municipalities	7 and 8 December Paris
2nd IBM conference on Business in Modern Society	9 and 10 December La Hulpe (Belgium)

CHAPTER VI

ELECTION OF THE NEW BUREAU

At its 142nd Plenary Session, the Committee elected a new Bureau for the second half of the current four-year term-of-office. Mr Basil de Ferranti was elected Chairman, and Mr Berns and Mr van Greunsven were elected Vice-Chairmen. The other members of the bureau are :

Mr van Campen	Mr Delourme	Mr Canonge
Mr Hipp	Mr Friedrichs	Mr de Bruyn
Mr Loughrey	Mr Nielsen T.	Mrs Evans
Mr Masprone	Mr Scalia	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Renaud	Mr Soulat	Mr Piga
Mr Rømer	Mr Walsh	Mrs Strobel

During 1976, the following members resigned : Mr Mascarello, Mr Noordwal, Lord Briginshaw, Mr Tranquilli Leali and Mr Lappas. The Council appointed the following persons to succeed them :

Mr Galland
Mr Jonker
Mr Walsh
Mr Bargoni
Mr Cremer

The Council will shortly appoint replacements for the late Mr Noddings and for Mr Charbo, who has resigned.

CHAPTER VII

INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT

1. Staff

The structure of the General Secretariat was re-arranged to cope with new duties (research, document processing) and in the interests of rational working methods. The Bureau proposed and obtained a small increase in the establishment (the number of posts rose from 292 to 302). The ten new posts broke down as follows :

- 1 Category A post
- 3 Category B posts
- 5 Category C posts
- 2 Language Service posts.

A few auxiliary and ' local ' staff were also employed.

Further improvements in working methods enabled the staff, despite its small size, to cope with the steadily increasing workload.

In the field of personnel management, emphasis was placed on basic and advanced training.

2. The budget

Appropriations for the 1976 financial year totalled 9 204 000 u.a. (1 u.a.=Bfrs 50). This was a 28.56% increase on the 1975 budget, which totalled 7 159 000 u.a. of account.

The significant increase in the cost of living was directly responsible for the increase in appropriations, the bulk of which went to staffing and meeting expenses.

3. Structure of the Secretariat (1976)

SECRETARY-GENERAL

- Chef de Cabinet
- Adviser for external relations of the Committee
- Financial controller
- Social assistant.

General directorate for information, planning and coordination of consultative work, research and documentation — Director-General

- Press, information and publications division
- Research and documentation division
- Translation division
- Specialized department for coordinating and processing documents

Directorate A - Administration — Director

- Personnel / Staff regulations division
- Specialized financial department
- Department for internal matters

Directorate B - Consultative work — Director

- Division for
 - economic and financial questions
 - external relations
- Division for
 - social questions
 - protection of the environment, public health and consumer affairs

Directorate C - Consultative work — Director

- Division for
 - agriculture
 - regional development
- Division for industry, commerce, crafts and services
- Division for
 - transport and communications
 - energy and nuclear questions

Chairman's private office

- Chef de Cabinet

Group secretariats

- Group I : Employers
- Group II : Workers
- Group III : Various interests

ANNEX A

**LIST OF OPINIONS,
STUDIES AND INFORMATION REPORTS
ISSUED DURING 1976**

136th Plenary Session of 28 and 20 January 1976

- Farm price proposals
(Rapporteur : Mr de Caffarelli)
- Recording equipment in road transport
(Rapporteur : Mr de Vries Reilingh)
- International bus and coach services
(Rapporteur : Mr Gailey)
- Monitoring of oil prices
(Rapporteur : Mr Hoffmann)
- Colouring matters in food
(Rapporteur : Mr de Grave)
- Lead pollution
(Rapporteur : Mr Eboli)
- Common Market for legal profession
(Rapporteur : Mr de Bruyn)
- Seed Potatoes and Vegetable Seed
Rapporteur : Mr Murphy)
- Processing and marketing facilities for agricultural products
(Rapporteur : Mr Wick)
- Education of children of migrant workers
(Rapporteur : Mr Sloman)

137th Plenary Session of 25 and 26 February 1976

- Unemployment (own-initiative Opinion)
(Rapporteur-General : Mr Basnett)
- Situation of women (own-initiative Opinion)
(Rapporteur : Mrs Evans)
- Action programme for EEC aircraft industry
(Rapporteur : Mr Evain)
- Community data processing policy
(Rapporteur : Mr de Ferranti)
- Summer time
(Rapporteur : Mr Renaud)
- Drinking water, standards
(Rapporteur : Sir John Peel)
- Waste from titanium dioxide industry
(Rapporteur : Mr Eboli)
- Jams, jellies and marmalades
(Rapporteur : Mr Bourel)
- Lifts and lifting and mechanical handling apparatus
(Rapporteur : M. Bourel)
- List of less-favoured agricultural areas (French Overseas Departments)
(Rapporteur : Mr Clavel)

- List of less-favoured agricultural areas (France)
(Rapporteur : Mr Clavel)
- Regional policy (Study)
(Rapporteur : Mr Maher)

138th Plenary Session of 31 March and 1 April 1976

- European social budget
(Rapporteur : Mr van Rens)
- Coordination of employment policy (own-initiative Opinion)
(Rapporteur : Mr Laval)
- Economic research institute
(Rapporteur : Mr de Ridder)
- Regional policy (own-initiative Opinion)
(Rapporteur : Mr Maher)
- Transitional common market organization for mutton and lamb
(Rapporteur : Sir Gwilym Williams)
- Tax exemption for temporary importation of vehicles
(Rapporteur : Mr de Grave)
- Tax exemption on importation of personal effects
(Rapporteur : Mr de Grave)
- Customs warehousing procedure
(Rapporteur : Mr Marvier)
- Measuring systems for liquids other than water
Rapporteur : Mr Marvier)
- Units of measurement
(Rapporteur : Mr Carstens)

139th Plenary Session of 25 and 26 May 1976

- Liberalization of public purchasing and development of advanced technology sectors (own-initiative Opinion)
(Rapporteur : Mr de Ferranti)
- Economic situation
(Rapporteur : Mr Margot)
- Social situation in 1975
(Rapporteur : Mr Noddings)
- Energy guidelines adopted by European Council on 1 to 2 December 1975
(Rapporteur : Mr Renaud)
- European Export Bank
(Rapporteur : Mr Henniker-Heaton)
- Qualifications of carriers in inland waterway transport and mutual recognition of qualifications of carriers in road and inland waterway transport
(Rapporteur : Mr Fredersdorf)

- Driving licences
(Rapporteur : Mr Marvier)
- Working conditions in road transport
(Rapporteur : Mr Rouzier)
- Dumping of waste at sea
(Rapporteur : Mr de Grave)
- Inshore fishing
(Rapporteur : Mr Piga)
- Common market organization for hops
(Rapporteur : Mr Bernaert)
- Noise levels of cranes and welding and power supply generators
(Rapporteur : Mr Marvier)
- Field of vision of motor vehicle drivers
(Rapporteur : Mr Masprone)
- Emission of pollutants from tractor diesel engines
(Rapporteur : Mr Masprone)
- Check-weighing and grading machines
(Rapporteur : Mr Clark)
- Oilseeds
(Rapporteur : M. Schnieders)
- Refund or remission of import and export duties
(Rapporteur : Mr Marvier)
- Community R & D policy (Study)
(Rapporteur : Mr Noordwal)

140th Plenary Session of 30 June and 1 July 1976

- Stock Exchange quotation of securities
(Rapporteur : Mr Cammann)
- Common market in direct insurance other than life assurance
(Rapporteur : Mr Peyromaure-Debord-Broca)
- Common market organization for potatoes
(Rapporteur : Mr De Tavernier)
- Taxes on manufactured tobacco
(Rapporteur : Mr O'Ceallaigh)
- Use of fuel-oils so as to reduce sulphur pollution
(Rapporteur : Mr Gailey)
- European Convention on protection of animals
(Rapporteur : Mrs Evans)
- Motorcycle sound level and exhausts
(Rapporteur : Mr Masprone)
- Fertilizers
(Rapporteur : Mr Wick)
- Atmospheric pollution by sulphur dioxide and suspended particles
(Rapporteur : M. Eboli)

- Preservatives in food
(Rapporteur : Mr Jaschick)
- Mayonnaise
(Rapporteur : Mr Bourel)

141st Plenary Session of 29 and 30 September 1976

- International road haulage
(Rapporteur : Mr Heimes)
- Surface goods transport (road, rail, inland, waterway)
4 proposals : Observing of goods transport markets;
International rail freight rates;
Road haulage reference tariffs;
Inland waterway reference tariffs
(Rapporteur : Mr Heimes)
- Action programme for dairy industry
(Rapporteur : Mr de Caffarelli)
- Premium for non-marketing of milk for cessation of dairy farming
(Rapporteur : Mr de Caffarelli)
- Convention on protection of Mediterranean against pollution
(Rapporteur : Mr de Grave)
- Monitoring of pollution of surface fresh water
(Rapporteur : Mr Eboli)
- Company taxation and withholding taxes on dividends
(Rapporteur : Mr Peyromaure-Debord-Broca)
- Taxes on manufactured tobacco
(Rapporteur : Mr O'Ceallaigh)
- Agreement on international carriage of perishable foodstuffs (ATP)
(Rapporteur : Mr Renaud)
- 1977 Generalized tariff preferences scheme proposals
(Rapporteur : Mr Evain)
- JRC Research programme 1977-1980
(Rapporteur : Mr Schlitt)
- Safety information at the workplace
(Rapporteur : Mr Kirschen)
- Wine
(Rapporteur : Mr Guillaume)
- 2nd Community environment programme
(Rapporteur : Mr Merli Brandini)
- Food labelling and advertizing
(Rapporteur : Mr de Grave)
- European foundation for improvement of living and working conditions
(Rapporteur : Mrs Evans)

142nd Plenary Session of 27 and 28 October 1976

- Annual report on the economic situation
(Rapporteur : Mr Basnett)
- Working conditions in road transport
(Rapporteur : Mr Hoffmann)
- Taxation of security transactions
(Rapporteur : Mr Cammann)
- Veterinary products
(2 proposals)
(Rapporteur : Mr Chabrol)
- Customs debt
(Rapporteur : Mr Marvier)
- Aircraft noise
(Rapporteur : Mrs Evans)
- Scientific and technical education programme
(Rapporteur : Mr Bonety)
- Derogations from EEC veterinary regulations
(Rapporteur : Mr Schnieders)
- Sardine imports
(Rapporteur : Mr Clavel)

143rd Plenary Session of 24 and 25 November 1976

- Fourth medium-term economic policy programme
(Rapporteur : Mr Friedrichs)
- Eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and leukosis in bovines
(Rapporteur : Mr Bourel)
- Measures for expanding markets in the milk and milk products sector
(Rapporteur : Mr Bourel)
- Tax on certain oils and fats
(Rapporteur : M. Bourel)
- Suspension of certain national and Community aids to the dairy industry
(Rapporteur : Mr Bourel)
- Specific measures to help young and elderly workers and women resuming gainful employment (own-initiative Opinion)
(Rapporteur : Mr Carroll)
- First annual report on the European regional development fund 1975, and the Summary analysis of annual information 1976
(Rapporteur : Mr Loughrey)
- International Atomic Energy Agency
(Rapporteur : Mr Schlitt)
- Progressive extension of social protection to categories of persons not covered by existing schemes or inadequately protected
(Rapporteur : Mr Marvier)
- Review of energy R & D programme
(Rapporteur : Mr Schlitt)

- Articles of precious metals
(Rapporteur : Mr de Grave)
- Footwear industry research programme
(Rapporteur : Mr Evain)
- Measures to adjust the wine-growing potential to market requirements
(Amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 1162/76)
Granting of a conversion premium in the wine sector
(Amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 1163/76)
(Rapporteur : Mr Guillaume)
- Hops
(Amendments to Regulation (EEC) No 1696/71)
(Rapporteur : Mr Bernaert)
- Establishment of a European Agency for Trade Cooperation
(Rapporteur : Mr Romer)

144th Plenary Session - 15 and 16 December 1976

- Direct taxation
(Rapporteur : Mr Miller)
- The Introduction of a system of bracket tariffs for the carriage of goods by road between Member States
(Amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 3330/75)
(Rapporteur : Mr Heimes)
- European laying-up fund for inland waterway vessels
(Rapporteur : Mr de Vries Reilingh)
- Health problems affecting trade in fresh poultry meat
(Supplement to Amended Directive No 71/118/EEC)
(Rapporteur : Mr Bourel)
- Protection of the Rhine against chemical pollution
(Communication and Additional Agreement)
(Rapporteur : Mr de Grave)
- Transport infrastructure
(Communication and two Proposals)
(Rapporteur : Mr Renaud)
- European unit of account
(Rapporteur : Mr van Campen)
- Recovery of claims - European agricultural guidance and guarantee fund
(Amendment to the Council Directive of 15 March 1976)
(Rapporteur : Mr Lapie)
- Scrutiny of transactions - European agricultural guidance and guarantee fund
(Rapporteur : Mr Lapie)
- Conservation and management of fishery resources
(Rapporteur : Miss Mackie)
- Common customs tariff nomenclature
(Amendment to Regulation No 97/69)
(Rapporteur-General : Mr Marvier)

ANNEX B

**OPINIONS DRAWN UP BY THE
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE
(1973-1976)**

- Multilateral GATT Negotiations
(Rapporteur : Mr de Precigout) May 1973
- Industrial and technological policy programme
(Rapporteur : Mr Kley) November 1973
- Progress achieved in the first stage of economic and monetary union and measures to be taken in the second stage December 1973
- Commission memorandum on the improvement of the common agricultural policy
(Rapporteur : Mr Bourel) February 1974
- Agricultural aspects of the GATT negotiations
(Rapporteur : Mr Rømer) February 1974
- Role of the ESC in the institutional machinery of the Communities
(Rapporteur : Mr de Bruyn) March 1974
- Employment and the changed situation in the EEC
(Rapporteur : Mr Debunne) May 1974
- EEC negotiations with African States, the East Indies and the countries of the Pacific
(Rapporteur : Mr Bodart) June 1974
- Situation in the EEC
(Rapporteur : Mr de Bruyn) July 1974
- Energy for Europe - research and development
(Rapporteur : Mr Schlitt) January 1975
- EEC Mediterranean policy
Rapporteur : Mrs Baduel Glorioso) January 1975
- Developing countries and the GATT negotiations
(Rapporteur : Mr Rømer) January 1975
- EEC data-processing policy
(Rapporteur : Mr de Ferranti) April 1975
- Education in the EEC
(Rapporteur : Dr Sloman) April 1975
- European union
(Rapporteur : Mr de Bruyn) July 1975
- Telecommunications
(Rapporteur : Mr Roseingrave) September 1975
- The economic and social situation of women in the European Community
(Rapporteur : Mrs Evans) February 1976

- Unemployment in the EEC
(Rapporteur-General : Mr Basnett)

February 1976
- Regional development in the Community in 1975-77 and establishment of an EEC regional policy
(Rapporteur : Mr Maher)

March 1976
- Coordination of national employment policy instruments
(Rapporteur : Mr Laval)

March 1976
- Possibilities of developing advanced technology sectors in the EEC through a policy of liberalizing public purchasing
(Rapporteur : Mr de Ferranti)

May 1976
- Specific measures to relieve unemployment among the elderly, young people and women returning to gainful employment
(Rapporteur : Mr Carroll)

November 1976

**TABLES INDICATING THE EXTENT
TO WHICH OPINIONS LED TO PROPOSALS
BEING AMENDED
(1972-1976)**

These tables, which cover more than the year under review, update the follow up given to the Committee Opinions in the last four years.

In view of the fact that there is a certain time-lag between the adoption of an Opinion and the Council decision, the present tables are meant to complete the Committee's previous annual reports.

Subject	Date of request for Opinion	Opinion requested by	Date of Opinion's adoption and publication	Publication of Decision	Opinion taken into account			Publication of EP Opinion
					not at all	in some respects	to a large extent	
Preservatives in foodstuffs (12th Amendment)	21.5.1976	Council	30.6.1976 OJ C 204 of 30.8.1976	OJ L 223 of 16.8.1976	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		OJ C 159 of 12.7.1976	
Dangerous substances and preparations	5.9.1974	Council	28.11.1974 OJ C 16 of 23.1.1975	OJ L 202 of 27.9.1976	X		OJ C 60 of 13.3.1975	
Ionizing radiation — basic standards	7.8.1972	Commission	24.5.1973	OJ L 187 of 12.7.1976		X	OJ C 40 of 8.4.1974	
Activities in direct insurance other than life assurance	2.10.1975	Council	27.11.1975 OJ C 35 of 16.2.1976	OJ L 189 of 13.7.1976	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal			
Ercic acid content of fats, oils and margarines	4.7.1975	Council	25.9.1975 OJ C 286 of 15.12.1975	OJ L 202 of 28.7.1976	X			
Goods imported for testing	10.6.1974	Council	28.11.1974 OJ C 16 of 23.1.1975	OJ L 219 of 12.8.1976	X		OJ C 140 of 13.11.1974	
Customs deposits and free zones (Amendments to Directives 69/74/EEC, 69/75/EEC and 71/225/EEC)	27.11.1975	Council	31.3.1976 OJ C 131 of 12.6.1976	OJ L 223 of 16.8.1976	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		OJ C 79 of 5.4.1976	
Environment Research Programme	1.8.1975	Council	26.11.1975 OJ C 35 of 16.2.1976	OJ L 74 of 20.3.1976	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		OJ C 280 of 8.12.1975	

Tariff system applicable to goods coming back into the customs territory of the Community	3.5.1974	Council	17.7.1974 OJ C 125 of 16.10.1974	OJ L 89 of 2.4.1976	X	OJ C 93 of 7.8.1974
Collection, regeneration and/or destruction of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB's)	24.2.1975	Council	29.5.1975 OJ C 263 of 17.11.1975	OJ L 108 of 26.4.1976	X	
Colouring matters in foodstuffs (5th Amendment)	8.1.1976	Council	28.1.1976 OJ C 50 of 4.3.1976	OJ L 108 of 26.4.1976	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	
Brakes of wheeled agricultural and forestry tractors	9.7.1974	Council	29.1.1975 OJ C 62 of 15.3.1975	OJ L 122 of 8.5.1976	X	OJ C 5 of 8.1.1975
Preservatives in foodstuffs for human consumption (11th Amendment)	19.6.1975	Council	26.11.1975 OJ C 35 of 16.2.1976	OJ L 126 of 14.5.1976	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 257 of 10.11.1975
Dangerous substances dumped in the Community's Aquatic environment	4.11.1974	Council	26.2.1975 OJ C 108 of 15.5.1975	OJ L 129 of 18.5.1976	X	OJ C 5 of 8.1.1975
Social security system (Amendment to Regulation 1405/71 and 574/76)	26.9.1975	Council	27.11.1975 OJ C 35 of 16.2.1976	OJ L 138 of 26.5.1976	X	OJ C 280 of 8.12.1975
Oil, natural gas and electricity — investment projects (Amendment to Regulation 1056/72)	14.8.1975	Council	27.11.1975 OJ C 35 of 16.2.1976	OJ L 140 of 28.5.1976	X	OJ C 280 of 8.12.1975
Price of crude oil	11.8.1975	Council	28.1.1976 OJ C 50 of 4.3.1976	OJ L 140 of 28.5.1976	X	
Seed potatoes and vegetable seeds	11.11.1975	Council	28.1.1976 OJ C 50 of 4.3.1976	OJ L 72 of 18.3.1976	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 7 of 12.1.1976

Subject	Date of request for Opinion	Opinion requested by	Date of Opinion's adoption and publication	Publication of Decision	Opinion taken into account			Publication of EP Opinion
					not at all	in some respects	to a large extent	
Freedom to supply services lawyers	1.9.1975	Council	28.1.1976 OJ C 50 of 4.3.1976	Proposal amended by the Commission	X .....	.....	
EAGGF finance system (Recovery of claims)	24.1.1973	Council	29.3.1973 OJ C 69 of 28.8.1973	OJ L 73 of 19.3.1976		The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 19 of 12.4.1973	
Biology — health protection	7.8.1975	Council	3.10.1975 OJ C 15 of 22.1.1976	OJ L 74 of 20.3.1976		The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		
Research on reference methods and materials	30.7.1975	Council	26.11.1975 OJ C 35 of 16.2.1976	OJ L 74 of 20.3.1976		The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 280 of 8.12.1975	
Statistics on foreign workers	28.6.1972	Council	28.3.1973 OJ C 60 of 26.7.1973	OJ L 39 of 14.2.1976		The Committee approved most of the Commission's proposals	OJ C 129 of 11.12.1972	
Equal treatment for men and women workers	28.2.1975	Council	24.9.1975 OJ C 286 of 15.12.1975	OJ L 39 of 14.2.1976	X		OJ C 111 of 20.5.1975	
Action programme on migrant workers	16.1.1975	Council	29.10.1975 OJ C 12 of 17.1.1976	OJ C 34 of 14.2.1976	X		OJ C 239 of 20.10.1975	
Prepackaging of certain products by weight or by volume	20.11.1973	Council	29.5.1974 OJ C 109 of 19.9.1974	OJ L 46 of 21.2.1976	X		OJ C 48 of 25.4.1974	

Mass dismissals	10.11.1972	Council	27.6.1973 OJ C 100 of 22.11.1973	OJ L 48 of 22.2.1976	X	OJ C 19 of 12.4.1973
Preserved milks	17.2.1970	Council	24.9.1970 OJ C 146 of 11.12.1970	OJ L 24 of 30.1.1976	The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal	OJ C 65 of 5.6.1970
Electric hardware for use in an explosive atmosphere	11.11.1970	Council	25.3.1971 OJ C 41 of 29.4.1971	OJ L 24 of 30.1.1976	X	OJ C 78 of 2.8.1971
European inventory of sources of infor- mation on the Environment	20.3.1975	Council	29.5.1975 OJ C 263 of 17.11.1975	OJ L 31 of 5.2.1976	The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal	
Bathing water (quality objective)	18.2.1975	Council	24.9.1975 OJ C 286 of 15.12.1975	OJ L 31 of 5.2.1976	X	OJ C 128 of 9.6.1975
Aid from the social fund to persons employed in the textile and garment sectors	23.10.1975	Council	27.11.1975 OJ C 35 of 16.2.1976	OJ L 39 of 14.2.1976	X	OJ C 280 of 8.12.1975
Research and development in the energy sector	3.2.1975	Council	29.5.1975 OJ C 263 of 17.11.1975	OJ L 231 of 2.9.1975	The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal	OJ C 76 of 7.4.1975
Sulphur content of certain liquid fuels	26.2.1974	Council	28.11.1974 OJ C 16 of 23.1.1975	OJ L 307 of 27.11.1975	X	OJ C 76 of 3.7.1974
Outward processing	4.10.1972	Council	21.2.1973 OJ C 36 of 1.6.1973	OJ L 24 of 30.1.1976	X	OJ C 19 of 12.4.1973
Plates and inscriptions of motor vehicles	2.11.1974	Council	19.12.1974 OJ C 47 of 27.2.1975	OJ L 24 of 30.1.1976	X	OJ C 5 of 8.1.1975

Subject	Date of request for Opinion	Opinion requested by	Date of Opinion's adoption and publication	Publication of Decision	Opinion taken into account			Publication of EP Opinion
					not at all	in some respects	to a large extent	
Fertilizers	26.1.1972	Council	27.9.1972 OJ C 123 of 27.11.1972	OJ L 24 of 30.1.1976	X			OJ C 49 of 28.6.1973
Anchorage of safety belts	2.11.1974	Council	19.12.1974 OJ C 47 of 27.2.1975	OJ L 24 of 30.1.1976	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal			OJ C 5 of 8.1.1975
Reverse and speedometer	21.8.1974	Council	19.12.1974 OJ C 47 of 27.2.1975	OJ L 196 of 26.7.1975	X			OJ C 5 of 8.1.1975
Common organization of the market in wine (Supplement to Regulation 816/70)	14.11.1974	Council	26.2.1975 OJ C 108 of 15.5.1975	OJ L 198 of 29.7.1975	X			OJ C 179 of 6.8.1975
40 Hour week	11.12.1973	Council	30.5.1974 OJ C 109 of 19.9.1974	Proposal amended by the Commission OJ L 199 of 30.7.1975 (Council)		..... ..... X	X	OJ C 55 of 13.5.1974
Assistance from the social fund for projects of a structural nature	30.4.1975	Council	26.6.1974 OJ C 263 of 17.11.1975	OJ L 199 of 30.7.1975	X			OJ C 128 of 9.6.1975
Technological questions associated with nuclear safety	13.3.1975	Council	29.5.1975 OJ C 263 of 17.11.1975	OJ C 105 (Resolution)	X			OJ C 128 of 9.6.1975

Drinking water production in the member States	30.1.1974	Council	30.5.1974 OJ C 109 of 19.9.1974	OJ L 194 of 25.7.1975	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 62 of 30.5.1974
Action by the public authorities on the environment (recommendation)	19.3.1974	Council	26.6.1974 OJ C 116 of 30.9.1974	OJ C 146 of 25.11.1974 (Commission) OJ L 194 of 25.7.1975 (Council)	X X	OJ C 76 of 3.7.1974
Waste disposal	27.9.1974	Council	28.11.1974 OJ C 16 of 23.1.1975	Proposal withdrawn by the Commission OJ L 194 of 25.7.1975 (Council)	X X	OJ C 32 of 11.2.1975
Atmospheric pollution caused by sulphur compounds	4.12.1974	Council	23.4.1975 OJ C 248 of 29.10.1975	OJ L 194 of 25.7.1975	X	OJ C 76 of 7.4.1975
Worker's rights in the event of mergers	14.6.1974	Council	23.4.1975 OJ C 255 of 7.11.1975	Proposal amended by the Commission	X	OJ C 95 of 28.4.1975
Weighing instruments	5.6.1973	Council	25.10.1973 OJ C 8 of 31.1.1974	OJ L 183 of 14.7.1975	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 2 of 9.1.1974
Common customs tariff duties on educational, scientific and cultural material	15.1.1974	Council	30.5.1974 OJ C 109 of 19.9.1974	OJ L 184 of 15.7.1975 (Regulation)	X	OJ C 85 of 18.7.1974

Subject	Date of request for Opinion	Opinion requested by	Date of Opinion's adoption and publication	Publication of Decision	Opinion taken into account			Publication of EP Opinion
					not at all	in some respects	to a large extent	
Health questions in connection with trade in fresh poultrymeat	26.2.1974	Council	26.6.1974 OJ C 116 of 30.9.1974	OJ L 192 of 24.7.1975	X			OJ C 127 of 18.10.1974
Shipbuilding	29.1.1974	Council	28.3.1974 OJ C 97 of 16.8.1974	OJ L 192 of 24.7.1975	X			OJ C 76 of 3.7.1974
Disposal of waste oils	3.4.1974	Council	17.7.1974 OJ C 125 of 16.10.1974	OJ L 194 of 25.7.75		X		OJ C 85 of 18.7.1974
Protection and improvement of the environment	27.3.1974	Council	30.5.1974 OJ C 109 of 19.9.1974	OJ C 168 of 25.7.1975 (Resolution)	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal			OJ C 76 of 3.7.1974
Cattle — EEC tariff quota	14.2.1975	Council	23.4.1975 OJ C 248 of 29.10.75	OJ L 163 of 26.6.1975		X		
Doctors' activities	18.3.1969	Council	29.1.1970 OJ C 36 of 28.3.1970	OJ L 167 of 30.6.1975		X		OJ C 101 of 4.8.1970
Mutual recognition of medical diplomas	18.3.1969	Council	29.1.1970 OJ C 36 of 28.3.1970	OJ L 167 of 30.6.1975	.....	X	.....	OJ C 101 of 4.8.1970
Itinerant's activities	30.6.1970	Council	25.3.1971 OJ C 42 of 30.4.1971	OJ L 167 of 30.6.1975	X			OJ C 11 of 5.2.1971

Radioactive wastes	3.2.1975	Council	28.5.1975 OJ C 263 of 17.11.1975	OJ L 178 of 9.7.1975	The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal	OJ C 95 of 28.4.1975
New energy policy strategy for the EC (Memorandum)	12.6.1974	Council	17.7.1974 OJ C 125 of 16.10.1974	OJ L 178 of 9.7.1975	The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal	OJ C 93 of 78.1974
Additives in animal feedingsuffs (Amendment to Directive of 23.11.1970)	1.8.1974	Council	28.11.1974 OJ C 16 of 23.1.1975	OJ L 124 of 15.5.1975	The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal	OJ C 5 of 8.1.1975
Hillfarming	6.3.1973	Council	27.6.1973 OJ C 100 of 22.11.1973	OJ L 128 of 19.5.1975	X	OJ C 37 of 4.6.1973
Proprietary medicinal products	10.3.1964	Council	27.4.1965 OJ 107 of 19.6.1965	OJ L 147 of 9.6.1975	X	OJ No. 107 of 19.6.1965
Fuel stocks held in thermal electric power- stations	4.2.1974	Council	17.7.1974 OJ C 125 of 16.10.1974	OJ L 153 of 13.6.1975	X	OJ C 85 of 18.7.1974
Aids in the transport field (Amendment to Regulation No 1107/70)	4.12.1974	Council	29.1.1975 OJ C 62 of 13.3.1975	OJ L 152 of 12.6.1975	The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal	OJ C 76 of 7.4.1975
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances (5th Amendment)	24.9.1973	Council	30.5.1974 OJ C 109 of 19.9.1974	Proposal amended by the Commission OJ L 183 of 24.6.1975 (Council)	X X	OJ C 2 of 9.1.1974
Scientific and technical information and documentation	4.10.1974	Council	19.12.1974 OJ C 47 of 27.2.1975	OJ L 100 of 21.4.1975	The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal	OJ C 32 of 11.2.1975

Subject	Date of request for Opinion	Opinion requested by	Date of Opinion's adoption and publication	Publication of Decision	Opinion taken into account		Publication of EP Opinion
					not at all	in some respects to a large extent	
Value of goods for customs purposes (Amendment to Regulation No 803/68)	2.7.1974	Council	28.11.1974 OJ C 16 of 23.1.1975	OJ L 102 of 22.4.1975	X		OJ C 140 of 13.11.1974
Delivery periods of imported goods	14.8.1974	Council	28.11.1974 OJ C 16 of 23.1.1975	OJ L 102 of 22.4.1975	The Committee approved the Commissions proposal		OJ C 140 of 13.11.1974
Duty-free entry	16.1.1975	Council	26.2.1975 OJ C 108 of 15.5.1975	Proposal amended by the Commission	.....	.....	OJ C 60 of 13.3.1975
Co-insurance (Liberalization of transactions and coordination of laws, regulations and administrative provisions)	31.5.1974	Council	19.12.1974 OJ C 47 of 27.2.1975	Proposal amended by the Commission	X	.....	OJ C 60 of 13.3.1975
Research in the textile industry	1.10.1974	Council	28.11.1974 OJ C 16 of 23.1.1975	OJ L 111 of 30.4.1975	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		OJ C 32 of 11.2.1975
Equal pay for men and women	30.11.1973	Council	28.3.1974 OJ C 88 of 26.7.1974	OJ L 45 of 19.2.1975	X		OJ C 55 of 13.5.1974
Export of hydrocarbons	21.9.1971	Council	29.11.1973 OJ C 37 of 1.4.1974	OJ L 45 of 19.2.1975	X		OJ C 37 of 4.6.1973

Rice market (Amendment to Regulation No 359/67/EEC)	27.11.1974	Council	19.12.1974 OJ C 47 of 27.2.1975	OJ L 52 of 28.2.1975	X			OJ C 23 of 8.3.1974
Supply of agricultural products as food aid	15.1.1974	Council	30.5.1974 OJ C 109 of 19.9.1974	OJ L 61 of 7.3.1975			The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal	OJ C 23 of 8.3.1974
Definition of liqueur wine and certain grape musts	15.1.1974	Council	28.2.1974 OJ C 97 of 16.8.1974	OJ L 72 of 20.3.1975 OJ L 166 of 21.6.1974	X			OJ C 23 of 8.3.1974
Consumer information and protection	21.12.1973	Council	28.3.1974 OJ C 97 of 16.8.1974	Proposal amended by the Commission OJ C 92 of 14.4.1975 (Council)			X X	OJ C 62 of 30.5.1974
Textile names	14.5.1974	Council	18.7.1974 OJ C 125 of 16.10.1974	OJ L 14 of 20.1.1975			The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal	OJ C 93 of 7.8.1974
Right to remain in the territory of a Member State after having exercised a self-employed activity therein	11.7.1972	Council	30.11.1972 OJ C 142 of 31.12.1972	OJ L 14 of 20.1.1975			The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal	OJ C 14 of 27.3.1973
Cold-water meters	5.6.1973	Council	25.10.1973 OJ C 8 of 31.1.1974	OJ L 14 of 20.1.1975			The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal	OJ C 2 of 9.1.1974
Creation of a European Centre for vocational training	26.7.1974	Council	17.7.1974 OJ C 125 of 16.10.1974	Proposal amended by the Commission OJ L 39 of 13.2.1975 (Council)			X X	OJ C 127 of 18.10.1974
Measuring containers	22.3.1972	Council	26.9.1972 OJ C 123 of 27.11.1972	OJ L 42 of 15.2.1975	X			OJ C 56 of 2.6.1972

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					not at all	in some respects to a large extent	
Pre-packaged liquids	22.3.1972	Council	26.9.1972 OJ C 123 of 27.11.1972	OJ L 42 of 15.2.1975	X		OJ C 56 of 2.6.1972
Road haulage between Member States (Amended Regulation)	18.12.1973	Council	30.5.1974 OJ C 109 of 19.9.1974	OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974	X		OJ C 48 of 25.4.1974
Plutonium recycling in light-water reactors	10.5.1974	Council	17.7.1974 OJ C 125 of 16.10.1974	OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974	The Committee approved the Commissioner's proposal		OJ C 93 of 7.8.1974
Carnation leafrollers	15.5.1974	Council	26.6.1974 OJ C 116 of 30.9.1974	OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974	X		OJ C 93 of 7.8.1974
Small packets exemption from duty	24.1.1973	Council	29.3.1973 OJ C 69 of 28.8.1973	OJ L 354 of 30.12.1974	X		OJ C 19 of 12.4.1973
Exemption from duty in respect of small consignments of goods	4.10.1972	Council	30.11.1972 OJ C 142 of 31.12.1972	OJ L 354 of 30.12.1974	The Committee approved the Commissioner's proposal		OJ C 129 of 11.12.1972
Sugar market (amendment of basic quotas)	23.10.1974	Council	19.12.1974 OJ C 47 of 27.2.1975	OJ L 359 of 31.12.1974	X		OJ C 155 of 9.12.1974
Stunning of animals prior to slaughter	27.3.1974	Council	17.7.1974 OJ C 125 of 16.10.1974	OJ L 316 of 26.11.1974	X		OJ C 76 of 3.7.1974

Limitation periods relating to transport and competition	26.1.1972	Council	29.6.1972 OJ C 89 of 23.8.1972	OJ L 319 of 29.11.1974	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 129 of 11.12.1972
Import of hydrocarbons	21.1.1970	Council	29.11.1973 OJ C 37 of 1.4.1974	OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974	X	OJ C 80 of 1.7.1970
Cocoa and Chocolate products	26.11.1974	Council	19.12.1974 OJ C 47 of 27.2.1975	OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 5 of 8.1.1975
Community quota — road haulage (Amendment to Regulation No 2829/72)	29.5.1974	Council	18.10.1974 OJ C 142 of 16.11.1974	OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974	X	OJ C 85 of 18.7.1974
Road haulage between Member States (Extension of Regulation)	2.5.1974	Council	30.5.1974 OJ C 109 of 19.9.1974	OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 85 of 18.7.1974
Preservatives for use in food for human consumption (10th Amendment)	14.12.1973	Council	31.1.1974 (not published in OJ)	OJ L 208 of 30.7.1974	X	OJ C 11 of 7.2.1974
Veterinary and plant health fields and animal nutrition	14.5.1974	Council	17.7.1974 OJ C 125 of 16.10.1974	OJ C 92 of 6.8.1974	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 93 of 7.8.1974
External projections of motor vehicles	22.1.1974	Council	30.5.1974 OJ C 109 of 19.9.1975	OJ L 266 of 2.10.1974	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 55 of 13.5.1974
Pig carcasses	12.6.1974	Council	17.7.1974 OJ C 125 of 16.10.1974	OJ L 271 of 5.10.1974	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 127 of 18.10.1974
Application of social security schemes	25.6.1974	Council	17.7.1974 OJ C 125 of 16.10.1974	OJ L 283 of 19.10.1974	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 85 of 18.7.1974

Subject	Date of request for Opinion	Opinion requested by	Date of Opinion's adoption and publication	Publication of Decision	Opinion taken into account		Publication of EP Opinion
					not at all	in some respects to a large extent	
Forestry measures	12.3.1974	Council	18.7.1974 OJ C 125 of 16.10.1974	- Proposal amended by the Commission	X		OJ C 127 of 18.10.1974
Indirect taxes on the raising of capital	29.3.1974	Council	30.5.1974 OJ C 109 of 19.9.1974	OJ L 303 of 13.11.1974		The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 76 of 3.7.1974
Distribution of toxic products	17.1.1969	Council	29.10.1969 OJ C 10 of 27.1.1970	OJ L 307 of 18.11.1974		The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 63 of 28.5.1969
— transitional measures —				OJ L 307 of 18.11.1974	X		OJ C 63 of 28.5.1969
— freedom of establishment and freedom to supply services —	17.1.1969	Council	29.10.1969 OJ C 10 of 27.1.1970				
Access to the profession of	28.6.1967	Council	28.3.1968 OJ 49 of 17.5.1968	OJ L 308 of 19.11.1974			OJ C 17 of 12.2.1969
— Haulier							
— Passenger transport operator	30.7.1968	Council	22.1.1969 OJ 26 of 28.2.1969	OJ L 308 of 19.11.1974			X
(2 Opinions)							
Sparkling wines (Supplement to Regulation No 816/70)	26.5.1971	Council	29.9.1971	OJ L 310 of 21.11.1974			X
Social and vocational rehabilitation of handicapped persons	4.12.1973	Council	28.3.1974 OJ C 97 of 16.8.1974	OJ L 185 of 9.6.1974			OJ C 23 of 8.3.1974
Aid from the social fund for workers moving within the Community						X	

New aids for workers moving within the Community												
Aid from the social fund for persons employed in shipbuilding	3.5.1974	Council	17.7.1974 O J C 125 of 16.10.1974	O J L 194 of 7.7.1974		X				O J C 85 of 18.7.1974		
EEC tariff quota (bovine animals)	15.5.1974	Council	27.6.1974 O J C 116 of 30.9.1974	O J L 201 of 23.7.1974		X				O J C 85 of 18.7.1974		
Soya beans	25.7.1973	Council	30.1.1974 O J C 139 of 12.11.1974	Proposal amended by the Commission		X				O J C 40 of 8.4.1974		
Turnover tax — Common value-added tax system — Uniform basis of assessment	24.7.1972	Council	28.3.1973 O J C 60 of 26.7.1973	O J L 38 of 11.2.1973			The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal			O J C 112 of 27.10.1972		
Device to prevent non-authorized use of motor vehicles	11.10.1972	Council	23.5.1973 O J C 60 of 26.7.1973	- Proposal amended by the Commission						O J C 23 of 22.4.1974		
- Driving licence												
- Technical inspection of motor vehicles (2 Proposals)	29.1.1974	Council	28.3.1974 O J C 88 of 26.7.1974	O J L 152 of 8.6.1974		X				O J C 40 of 8.4.1974		
Application of social security schemes to employees and their families moving within the Community	11.10.1972	Council	28.3.1973 O J C 60 of 26.7.1973	O J L 165 of 20.6.1974			The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal			O J C 14 of 27.5.1973		
Protection of drivers of motor vehicles from the steering wheel in the event of a collision	19.2.1974	Council	30.5.1974 O J C 109 of 19.9.1974	O J L 167 of 22.6.1974			The Committee approved the Commission's pro- posal			O J C 48 of 25.4.1974		
Import of carp and trout												

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Seeds — Propagation material of the vine — Forest reproductive material	18.6.1973	Council	25.10.1973 O J C 8 of 31.1.1974	O J L 356 of 27.12.1973		X	O J C 62 of 31.7.1973
Definition of the Community's customs territory (Amendment to Regulation NO 1495/68)	24.9.1973	Council	29.11.1973 O J C 37 of 1.4.1974	O J L 356 of 27.12.1973	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		O J C 108 of 10.12.1973
Industrial and technological policy programme	25.6.1973	ESC Bureau	28.11.1973 O J C 115 of 28.9.1974	O J C 117 of 31.12.1973	The Committee approved most of the Commission's proposal		O J C 23 of 8.3.1974
Strength of motor vehicle seats and the relevant anchorages	21.6.1973	Council	25.10.1973	Proposal amended by the Commission		X	O J C 108 of 10.12.1973
Internal fittings of motor vehicles	26.1.1972	Council	27.9.1972 O J C 123 of 27.11.1972	O J L 38 of 11.2.1974			O J C 112 of 27.10.1972
Supply of hydrocarbons	2.11.1972	Council	28.6.1973 O J C 100 of 22.11.1973	O J L 228 of 16.8.1973	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		O J C 37 of 4.6.1973
Measurements of length	28.9.1971	Council	24.2.1972 O J C 29 of 22.3.1972	O J L 335 of 5.12.1973		X	O J C 2 of 11.1.1972
Cables, chains, hooks	28.9.1971	Council	24.2.1972 O J C 61 of 10.6.1972	O J L 335 of 5.12.1973		X	O J C 10 of 5.2.1972

Examination procedure in the field of transport	18.10.1972	Council	30.11.1972 OJ C 142 of 23.12.1972	OJ L 347 of 17.12.1973	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 138 of 31.12.1972
Detergents and verification of Biodegradability (2 Proposals)	13.7.1971	Council	29.6.1972 OJ C 89 of 23.8.1972	OJ L 347 of 17.12.1973	X	OJ C 10 of 5.2.1972
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances (Amendment to the Directive of 27.5.1967)	26.1.1972	Council	29.6.1972 OJ C 89 of 23.8.1972	OJ L 167 of 25.6.1973	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 70 of 1.7.1972
Movement and residence within the EEC in connection with establishment and the supply of services	27.7.1971	Council	26.4.1972 OJ C 67 of 24.6.1972	OJ L 172 of 28.6.1973	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 19 of 23.2.1972
Implementation of community industrial development contracts	26.9.1972	Council	24.5.1973 OJ C 69 of 28.8.1973	- Proposal amended by the Commission	..... X	OJ C 26 of 30.4.1973
Standardization of certain rules relating to goods transport authorizations	2.11.1972	Council	29.11.1972 OJ C 142 31.12.1972	OJ L 181 of 4.7.1973	X	OJ C 138 of 31.12.1972
Classification, packaging and labelling of solvents	26.1.1972	Council	29.6.1972 OJ C 89 of 23.8.1972	OJ L 189 of 11.7.73	X	OJ C 70 of 1.7.1972
Inward processing system (Amendment of Directive)	13.10.1971	Council	24.2.1972 OJ C 29 of 22.3.1972	OJ L 120 of 7.5.1973	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 10 of 5.2.1972
Tariff system applying to goods bought in airports and on board aircraft	22.11.1972	Council	30.11.1972 OJ C 142 of 31.12.1972	- Proposal amended by the Commission	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 37 of 4.6.1973

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Animal feed (Amendment 23.11.1970) to the Directive of	24.7.1972	Council	22.2.1973 OJ C 36 of 1.6.1973	OJ L 124 of 10.5.1973	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		OJ C 129 of 11.12.1972
Annual accounts of Joint-Stock Companies (4th Directive)	8.12.1971	Council	21.2.1973 OJ C 39 of 7.6.1973	- Proposal amended by the Commission		X	OJ C 129 of 11.12.1972
Slaughtering statistics	30.5.1972	Council	22.2.1973 OJ C 25 of 28.4.1973	OJ L 153 of 9.6.1973	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		OJ C 82 of 26.7.1972
Control of capacity (transport)	7.6.1972	Council	26.10.1972 OJ C 131 of 13.12.1972	- Proposal amended by the Commission	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		OJ C 112 of 27.10.1972
Market in wine	24.9.1972	Council	26.10.1972 OJ C 131 of 13.12.1972	- Proposal amended by the Commission	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		OJ C 112 of 27.10.1972
Conflicts of laws regarding labour relations	25.4.1972	Council	29.11.1972 OJ C 142 of 31.12.1972	- Proposal amended by the Commission		X	OJ C 4 of 14.2.1973
Turnover taxes and excise duties levied on passenger transport	4.10.1972	Council	29.11.1972 OJ C 142 of 31.12.1972	- Proposal amended by the Commission	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		OJ C 4 of 14.2.1973

Indirect taxes on the raising of capital	4.10.1972	Council	30.11.1972 OJ C 142 of 31.12.1972	OJ L 103 of 18.4.1973	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 138 of 31.12.1972
Community transit	18.5.1972	Council	26.9.1972 OJ C 123 of 27.11.1972	OJ L 291 of 28.12.1972	X	OJ C 82 of 26.7.1972
Cod fishing - Reconversion projects -	1.2.1972	Council	24.2.1972 OJ C 61 of 10.6.1972	OJ L 291 of 28.12.1972	X	OJ C 46 of 9.5.1972
Stock of crude oil and/or petroleum products	21.9.1971	Council	24.11.1971 OJ C 30 of 25.3.1972	OJ L 291 of 28.12.1972	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 124 of 17.12.1971
Bracket tariffs	24.7.1972	Council	26.10.1972 OJ C 131 of 13.12.1972	OJ L 298 of 31.12.1972	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 112 of 27.10.1972
Technical barriers	26.4.1972	Council	26.10.1972	- Proposal amended by the Commission	..... X	
Animal feed	26.4.1972	Council	25.5.1972 OJ C 123 of 27.11.1972	OJ L 171 of 29.7.1972	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 70 of 1.7.1972
Publication in the Official Journal	13.12.1971	Council	24.5.1972 OJ C 79 of 20.7.1972	OJ L 176 of 5.8.1972	X	OJ C 70 of 1.7.1972
Pollutants from diesel motors in motor vehicles	26.1.1972	Council	29.6.1972 OJ C 89 of 23.8.1972	OJ L 190 of 20.8.1972	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal	OJ C 56 of 2.6.1972

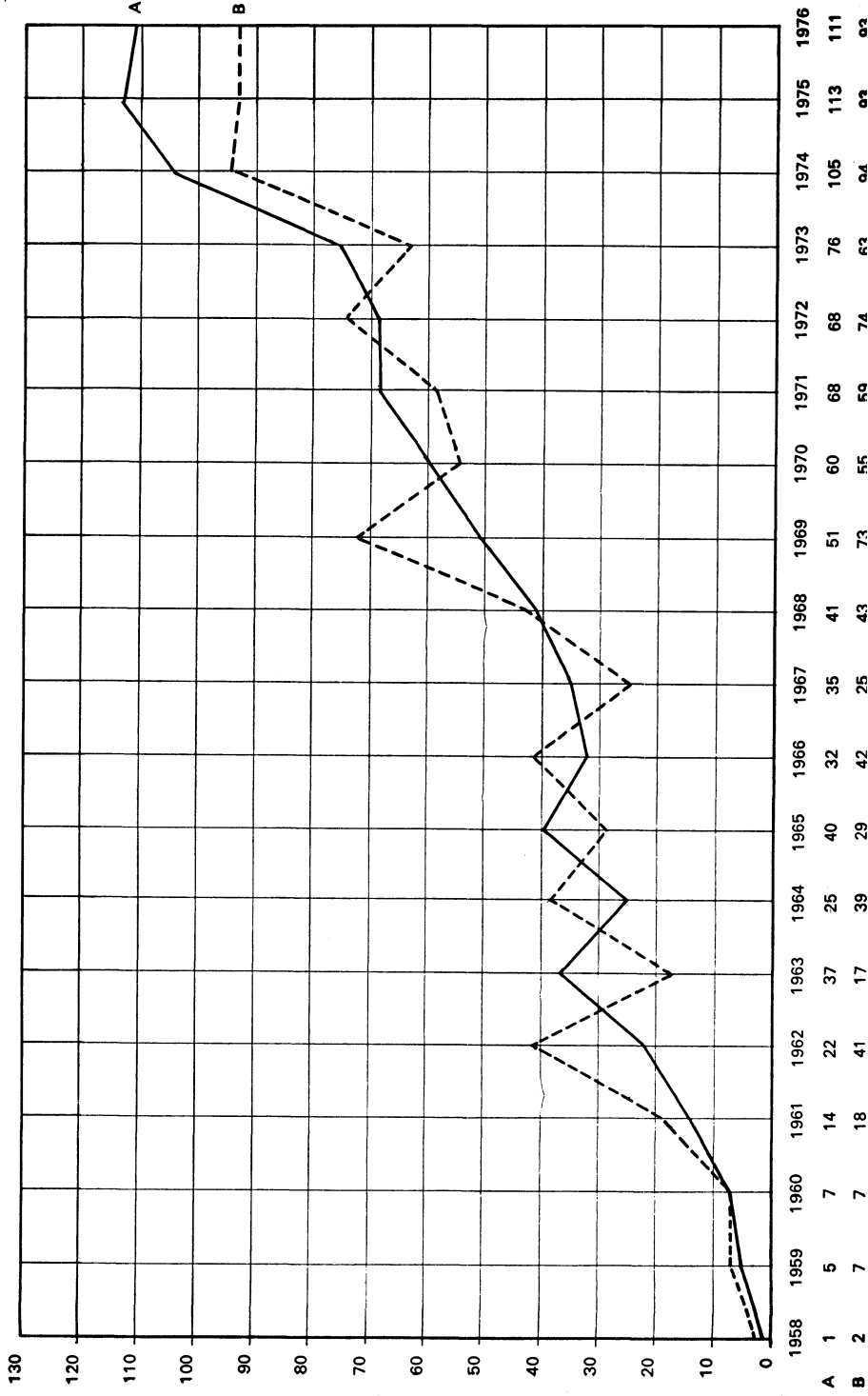
Subject	Date of request for Opinion	Opinion requested by	Date of Opinion's adoption and publication	Publication of Decision	Opinion taken into account		Publication of EP Opinion
					not at all	in some respects to a large extent	
Fruit and vegetables — Common organization of the markets	26.9.1972	Council	26.10.1972 OJ C 131 of 13.12.1972	OJ L 266 of 25.11.1972	X		OJ C 129 of 11.12.1972
Leaf tobacco	26.9.1972	Council	26.10.1972 OJ C 131 of 13.12.1972	OJ L 269 of 30.11.1972	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		OJ C 112 of 27.12.1972
Public supply contracts	10.5.1971	Council	27.1.1972 OJ C 30 of 25.3.1972	- Proposal amended by the Commission	X	.....	OJ C 46 of 9.5.1972
Turnover taxes and excise duties levied in international passenger transport	28.9.1971	Council	24.11.1971 OJ C 29 of 22.3.1972	OJ L 139 of 17.6.1972	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		OJ C 19 of 28.2.1972
Waterways (EEC-Switzerland agreement on the temporary laying-up of cargo vessels)	13.10.1971	Council	24.2.1972 OJ C 61 of 10.6.1972	- Proposal amended by the Commission	.....	X	OJ C 56 of 2.6.1972
Inward processing system (Amendment to Article 51)	28.9.1971	Council	24.2.1972 OJ C 30 of 25.3.1972	OJ L 151 of 5.7.1972	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		OJ C 10 of 5.2.1972
Marketing of seeds (Amendment of Directives of 14.6.66, 30.6.69 and 29.9.70)	26.4.1972	Council	24.5.1972 OJ C 123 of 27.11.1972	OJ L 171 of 29.7.1972	The Committee approved the Commission's proposal		OJ C 70 of 1.7.1972

Working hours in road transport	22.6.1971	Council	24.11.1971 OJ C 16 of 19.2.1972	OJ L 67 of 20.3.1972	X	OJ C 124 of 17.12.1971
Nuclear power stations	21.9.1971	Council	24.2.1972 OJ C 61 of 10.6.1972	- Proposal amended by the Commission	X	OJ C 10 of 5.2.1972
Silkworms	27.10.1971	Council	24.2.1972 OJ C 61 of 10.6.1972	OJ L 100 of 27.4.1972	X	OJ C 36 of 12.4.1972
Administrative and financial rules of the European social fund	29.11.1971	Council	27.1.1972 OJ C 50 of 19.5.1972	OJ L 101 of 28.4.1972	X	OJ C 2 of 11.1.1972
Right to remain in a Member State after employment therein in a self-employed capacity	8.6.1971	Council	27.10.1971 OJ C 4 of 20.1.1972	OJ L 121 of 26.5.1972	The Committee approved the Commissioner's pro- posal	OJ C 2 of 11.1.1972

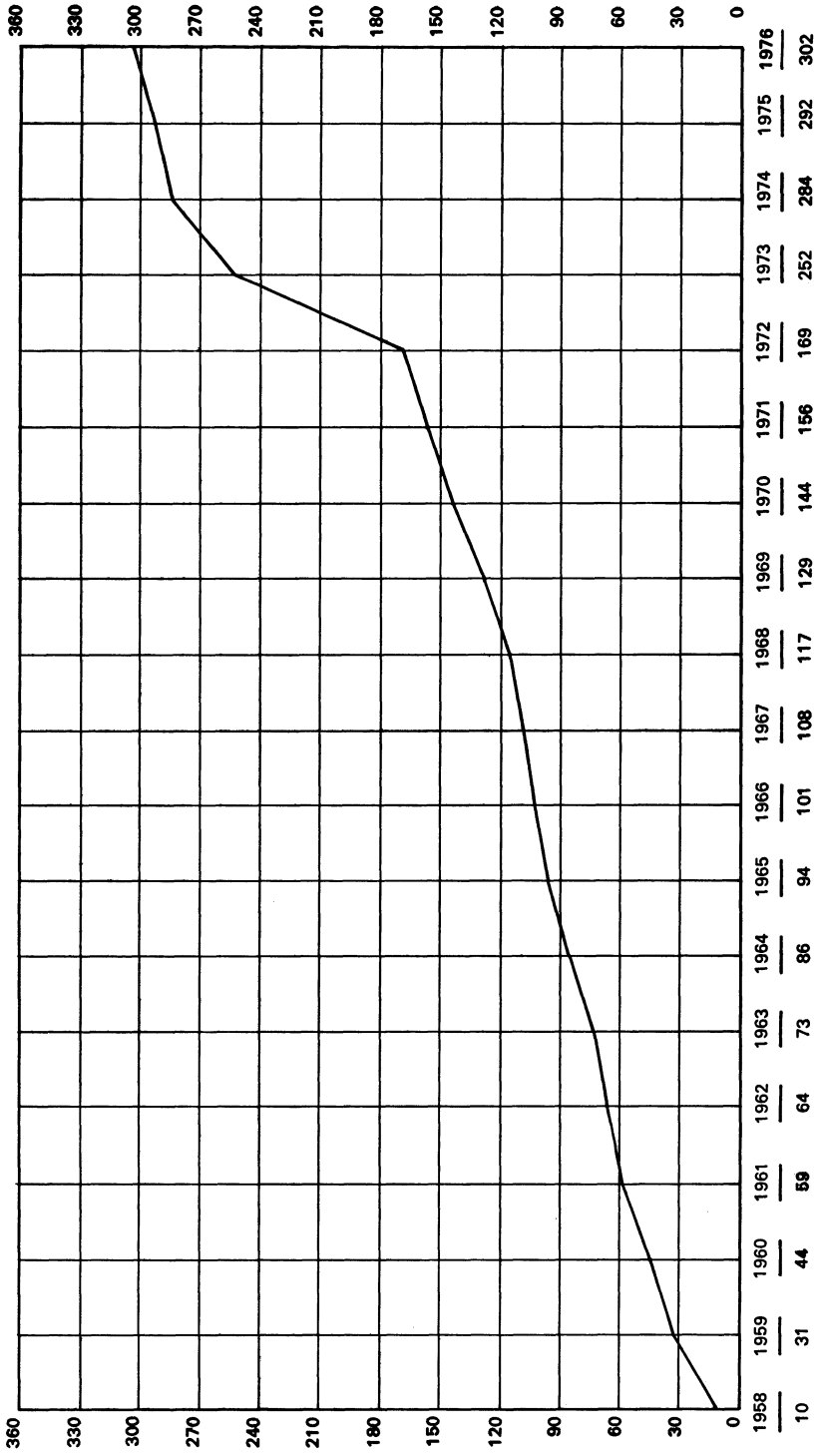
ANNEX D

GRAPHS

A — TEXTS PRODUCED (Opinions, information reports, studies)
B — REFERRALS



NUMBER OF STAFF



BUDGETS (in u.a.)

