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OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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Press. information and publications division

Rue Ravenstein 2
1000 BRUSSELS

Tel. 512 39 20
513 95 95

Telegrams: ECOSEUR
Telex: 25 983 CESEUR

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Preface by Gerd Muhr

The Community is now in its 10th year of crisis. This can be seen most clearly in the unemployment trend. Despite some limited cyclical upswings, unemployment has increased steadily over the years and now stands at over 10%. This means over 13 million jobless in the Community. The pattern of unemployment has changed too. It is now increasingly structural in nature, i.e. the unemployment cannot be eliminated even when there are optimum growth rates, and the cause is not a lack of skills or mobility. At the same time, the duration of unemployment has grown steadily.

Long-term unemployment is already the fate of millions of people in the Community. This means that more and more jobless are falling outside the 'safety net' of social security and that a phenomenon known as the 'new poverty' is gaining ground. In addition to the traditional inequalities in the distribution of income and wealth, new inequalities are thus emerging between those who still have a job and those who have lost their job or who have never had one. The latter is of course the case mainly with young people, who account for a disquietingly high percentage of the unemployed.

The societies and political systems in the Community, and ultimately the Community itself, are based on values that must be shared by their citizens if they are to have permanence. But what values is a young person to have who simply cannot find a job? Do we really believe our States, our societies and the Community will not be affected if we tolerate a situation in which these young people become dependent on charity once they leave school? Do we seriously believe that these young people will become responsible citizens and that they will one day advance the process of European integration?

While the oil-price shocks basically altered the terms of trade to the Community's disadvantage, industrial change has now set in in all its severity. This has already been called the third industrial revolution. The introduction of new technologies is leading to upheavals in the labour market and no adequate responses have been found so far.

On 6 and 7 November 1984 the ESC held a conference on the problems connected with the new technologies, which was attended by over 500 represen-

tatives of the major socio-economic organizations of Europe. It was stressed at this conference that the Community, which is so heavily dependent on exports, cannot of course forego the introduction of new technologies if it is to remain competitive. There was agreement that the new technologies represent an economic and industrial problem that can only be solved in a European framework. This calls for the creation of appropriate basic conditions through the dismantling of trade barriers, the introduction of European standards, the promotion of venture capital, ancillary trade-policy measures and measures in the tax and competition spheres, as well as selective R&D action in the area of the advanced technologies.

But there was also a large measure of agreement that this problem also has important social aspects, for example as regards working and living conditions, the labour market situation, the organization of work, basic and advanced training and workers' participatory and co-determination rights at plant and supra-plant level.

In addition to the fact that our basic and advanced training systems must adapt to the requirements of the new technologies, emphasis was placed above all on the need for workers to be informed in good time and in full when new technologies are planned and introduced in production and administration, with a view to ensuring acceptance of these new technologies and enabling them to be introduced on the basis of a social compact.

The new technologies basically confront us with issues relating to the future of Europe, the competitiveness of our industry and the survival of our economic and social order.

The future existence of the Community will depend on whether it is able to respond to the challenges posed by the new technologies. This is also, indeed above all, a matter for the two sides of industry, and the ESC can make a major contribution here. We must show that we are up to this task and bear in mind that we shall be judged by future generations.

Gerd MUHR
Chairman

Preface by François Ceyrac

The European venture made great strides forward in 1984: the UK budgetary rebate issue was settled, the draft Treaty on European Union was submitted to national parliaments, the concept of the People's Europe took shape and formal agreement was reached on Spanish and Portuguese membership. All this was achieved despite a major setback at the European Council held in Brussels in March. But as the Fontainebleau Summit showed, the Brussels disappointment did not dash our hopes of getting the Community on the move again: Europe is and will remain a reality.

Our passion for a new Europe is genuine. The age-old controversies about supranationality and sovereignty must be settled once and for all. We must conceive the Europe of tomorrow, we must strive to achieve the Europe of the day after. To paraphrase Saint-Just 'Europe must be a brand-new idea'.

The Fontainebleau and Dublin Summits gave the Community its second wind. The decision to establish two *ad hoc* committees was of particular interest. The first, the Dooge Committee, has the task of pursuing the major debate on the institutions. Its brief includes assessing the role and influence of the ESC. The second committee, the Committee for the People's Europe is of particular interest to us because our brief is, *inter alia*, to involve all socio-professional interest groups in the running of the Community. Our input into this debate will of course be contingent on our imagination and the concrete suggestions we put forward. The Community has reached the stage where its day-to-day survival is dependent on highly political decisions. Failure to take these will undermine the Community's foundations because the current crisis has political, economic and social dimensions. We have to remodel the very structure of our entire society. This requires a degree of consensus on the objectives to be achieved and we must pull out all the stops to this end.

We in the committee have stated categorically that the economic and social aspects are inseparable. Social measures alone cannot solve the employment problem. Shorter working hours and job-splitting cannot make any real impact on unemployment. The situation is too complex for that. Public and private investment are needed to put the national economies back on their feet, to develop new industries and to create permanent jobs. Investment must of course

be backed up by social measures on working time, work-force organization and youth employment. But a blueprint covering all social and economic factors is a pre-condition for revitalizing the European economy.

To come back to our own ground, the economic and social situation, we at the ESC must realize that the European economic and social venture cannot make any headway and may even disappear altogether if we cannot complete the political foundations. While continuing our efforts to perfect the Community decision-making machinery, we must examine an issue which is fundamental to the EEC's future, the commitment of its citizens to the European ideal. The unfortunate decline in the turnout for the European Parliament elections has highlighted one fundamental factor. Our political masters, our MEPs and the media have all failed to bring home to the electorate the fundamental issue that only a united Europe based on solidarity can offer its citizens greater prosperity and the resources to overcome unemployment. The national economies are incapable of coping with the recession on their own. Of course, the politicians find this harsh truth rather unpalatable, with the result that the Europe of the Nations is likely to remain in the doldrums at international level.

Most of the economic and social forces are of course anxious to see a stronger Community and are working to bring this about. This is probably due to the fact that representatives of economic and social activity are in touch with concrete realities. They realize that there are no purely national solutions to their problems. Europe provides their only hope of facing up to international competition and of coping with the new industrial and technological revolution.

François CEYRAC
Outgoing Chairman

Role and influence of the Economic and Social Committee

An assessment of the formal action taken on Committee opinions by the institutions must also take account of the wide-ranging efforts by the Committee and its Secretariat to promote the opinions *vis-à-vis* the institutions, economic and social organizations and the press. This report will deal, therefore, not only with the follow-up to Committee opinions but also with the Committee's action to ensure that its opinions have a concrete impact on Community decision-making and play a useful role in the deliberations and work of the Community.

The Committee's influence can no longer be gauged just by the action taken with regard to its opinions. Over the last few years, in addition to the functions assigned to it under the Treaties, the Committee has become a meeting place for representatives of economic and social organizations. This latter function helps to increase the impact of its opinions and to project the image of the Committee on a broad front.

The report therefore sets out to examine:

1. the Committee's impact on the decision-making process; and
2. the promotion of Committee opinions.

In 1983 the Committee was asked for opinions on 116 draft documents. Many of these referrals were made under the urgency procedure (78 in 1982). Consultation of the Committee was optional in 86 cases (80 from the Council and 6 from the Commission). In the remaining 30 cases, consultation was mandatory. Nine own-initiative opinions were also drawn up.

In accordance with Articles 20 and 24 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee also drew up five additional opinions and one information report on issues of particular interest.

The total number of opinions issued was thus 124, plus 5 additional opinions and 1 information report.

Although the main function of the Committee is to issue opinions, it is not possible to evaluate the Committee's effectiveness on this basis alone. Conse-

quently, this paper cannot restrict itself to an appraisal of the action taken on opinions. It is essential to take stock of results obtained in other fields of Committee activity and in particular of the different types of action initiated in the process:

1. Comparison between the Committee's opinion and the decision taken by the Council or the Commission;
2. Media coverage of the Committee's opinion;
3. Press conferences;
4. Individual dispatch of the opinion with a covering letter, either to the relevant ministers or government departments, or to trade organizations and the business and social circles concerned;
5. Circulation of the opinion, e.g. in brochure format;
6. Talks between the rapporteur and the chairman of the Council working group;
7. Contacts with MEPs, particularly with the rapporteur involved;
8. Further activities.

Despite repeated Committee requests, the Commission and the Council are not able to inform the Committee of action taken on its opinions.

This attitude stems in the first place from the institutions' view that the opinions are not binding in any way. It is also difficult to pass any critical judgment since certain proposals on which the Committee has expressed its opinion are only adopted by the Council several months later. In the meantime the original Commission drafts may have been modified considerably.

Nevertheless there are a number of cases which clearly illustrate how Committee opinions may influence the decision-making process.

Opinions can only influence decisions if they are available at the appropriate moment and if they are relevant to events in the Community. This makes it necessary to coordinate the timetables and the work plans of the target institutions.

Recent examples in fact confirm that the Committee's opinions have to be in line with the thinking of the institutions, in order to fit in with their priorities.

The Committee's endeavours to keep up to date on the Commission's work programmes reflect its interest in the latest developments in the Community. Under an official agreement between the two Secretariats, information is exchanged monthly. The Committee is therefore kept fully informed of papers

being drafted at the Commission, and is able to submit its opinions more quickly and even to anticipate referrals.

The upgrading of Committee opinions is a continual process which the Committee implements in all areas by, developing relations with the appropriate divisions in the institutions and with the economic and social interest groups from which its employers', workers' and various interests' groups are drawn.

The most significant results have been achieved with the Commission.

An atmosphere of mutual trust has long characterized relations between the Commission and the Committee in the preparation of section work.

The Section for Agriculture has unquestionably enhanced the ESC's prestige in the eyes of the Commission. Work in other sectors has also stood the Committee in good stead: medium-term economic policy, the establishment of the European Monetary System and, more recently, the annual stocktaking of the Community's economic situation. An equally encouraging trend is apparent in the energy sector.

The Committee has also had valuable cooperation with the European Parliament. Our Chairman's talks in Strasbourg with most of the EP committee chairmen and Mr Dankert have had positive repercussions on the work of several ESC Sections, e.g. Regional Development, Social Questions, Environment, Transport and Communications, and External Relations (in meetings with representatives of the ACP socio-economic interest groups).

Specifically, this has resulted in a marked increase in the number of meetings and contacts between members of the two institutions. More particularly, ESC rapporteurs have addressed EP committee hearings and MEPs have attended meetings of the Committee and its constituent bodies.

The Committee's opinion on the relaxation of customs formalities for road hauliers, a component of the internal market, was adopted at a plenary session attended by the Parliament's rapporteur.

Joint initiatives have also been taken in the area of transport and regional development by appropriate EP and Committee bodies.

These working relations demonstrate MEPs' interest and confidence in the work of the Committee and hold out promising prospects for cooperation.

The Committee must concentrate on relations with the Council. It is quite obvious that the efficiency of the Committee and its influence on Community decisions, is largely determined by the quality of its relations with the Council. It is precisely in this area that it is most difficult to make headway. While concrete results have been achieved with the Commission and the European Parliament, the Committee is still experiencing some difficulty in achieving a really satisfactory form of cooperation with the Council.

The Chairman has made constant efforts to maintain the closest possible links with the Council Presidency and the various initiatives seem to have cleared up many misunderstandings in the Committee's relations with the Council. Under these circumstances the ESC's opinions should carry greater weight. In this context the Committee Chairman has had talks with the President of the European Council at the recent summits of Heads of State or Government.

Although the results cannot be assessed mathematically it would appear that the ESC's work is now an integral part of the continual process of drawing up Community rules. This is the result of the vigorous policy of bringing the Committee's work home to the public. This same policy has quite naturally led the Committee to develop the second aspect of its role quite extensively, i.e. acting as a clearing-house for the exchange of views.

The ESC has stepped up its efforts to boost the impact of its opinions. This involves closer contacts with other institutions and also with the economic and social interest groups. This promotional work benefits considerably from the dynamism of the three Groups (Group I — Employers, Group II — Workers and Group III — Various Interests) who, needless to say, involve their respective movements in the Committee's work.

The Committee also offers considerable material assistance to the sponsored groups and other trade organizations in holding their meetings at the Committee building. The number of such meetings is increasing substantially.

The Committee has also developed its role as a meeting place for economic and social interest groups.

In this context it has actively participated in developing relations with the economic and social councils in the different Member States. The chairmen and secretaries-general meet regularly to exchange notes on dossiers currently being examined by the different institutions and on various specific or general problems.

The ESC is increasingly involved in organizing symposia or major conferences in sectoral or professional areas. These conferences are generally arranged after the Committee has issued an own-initiative opinion on a topic of general interest. This method is particularly interesting for the Committee as a way of channelling information directly to the interested parties. It could also inspire new initiatives on the part of the Committee.

EEC-ACP relations

The ESC and socio-professional lobby groups in the EEC and ACP countries regard the Lomé Convention as a new instrument for relations and cooperation between developed and developing countries. For several years they have expressed the wish to contribute to the preparation and implementation of ACP-EEC cooperation.

This cooperation was designed to:

1. make people in ACP countries and the Community more aware of the Lomé Convention and what it means;
2. consult socio-professional groups with first-hand knowledge of the subject on the implementation and future development of the Convention;
3. strengthen some areas of the Convention on which socio-professional groups are particularly qualified to make suggestions.

Initial contacts were informal. It was subsequently decided that discussions would centre on a topic on which the ACP and EEC would draw up reports in advance. The ESC was responsible for preparing the Community contribution, in conjunction with the most representative trade organizations.

The 1984 meeting was therefore of particular importance because it took place during the negotiations on Lomé III.

EFTA

Since 1975 the ESC has established and cemented relations with the EFTA economic and social interest groups. The regular annual meetings between an ESC delegation and representatives of the EFTA economic and social interest groups have transcended protocol contacts and have culminated in concrete initiatives.

After the November 1983 meeting the Section for External Relations decided to hold in-depth discussions on relations between the European Community and EFTA, the Community's most important trading partner.

Exploratory contacts between Community bodies revealed that a Committee own-initiative opinion on EEC-EFTA relations would be of interest to the Jumbo Council meeting of representatives of the 17 EFTA countries and the EEC. The meeting which was convened by the President of the Council of Ministers for External Relations, Mr Cheysson, was designed to take stock of EFTA-EEC cooperation and to examine which areas of cooperation could be developed.

The Committee subsequently issued an opinion on 28 March 1984. The joint statement issued after the meeting between EEC and EFTA ministers in Luxembourg on 9 April 1984, was largely based on the Committee's opinion.

It should also be pointed out that the European Parliament adopted a resolution on EEC-EFTA economic and trade relations. The Parliament has requested that the Committee should be involved in contacts between the European Parliament and the European trade organizations. The Parliament stressed in particular that from now on it would like the Committee to liaise in these relations.

In conclusion, it is fair to say that although the opinions are subject to the limitations inherent in all consultative work, and although it is difficult to measure their impact accurately, the Committee does participate actively in the development of the Community.

Procedures established with the Commission and the European Parliament have enabled the Committee's work to dovetail into the process of formulating Community policy and in practice the Committee is involved in the various phases of the decision-making process. Working in close collaboration with the Commission, the Committee will be able to play an important role in the preparatory phase of Community work.

In addition, the ESC has stepped up its efforts to promote its work outside, both as regards the other institutions and *vis-à-vis* outside interest groups. It has confirmed its position as the forum for exchanges of information and consultation for these groups.

In this capacity the Committee can serve the European institutions as a means of initiating and implementing steps to ensure that Community legislation makes its mark on the social and economic groups concerned.

Work of the Committee

1. AGRICULTURAL POLICY

On 28 July 1983, the Commission sent the Council a set of proposals on the reform of the common agricultural policy.¹

They were the most far-reaching proposals to have been put forward by the Commission in the past decade, and naturally gave rise to intense discussion in the Committee.

In spite of the formidable difficulties involved, the Committee managed to work out a collective or majority approach on most of them.

The ESC adopted a series of opinions on the subject at its 215th and 216th plenary sessions in February and March 1984. In general terms, it expressed awareness of the difficult situation facing the Community, largely due to the fact that existing resources no longer enabled it to fulfil its commitments. Decisions in the agricultural sector had to be taken under adverse conditions, namely an economic recession, employment problems, a slump in world demand for agricultural products and stagnant farm incomes. It was obviously no easy matter to solve the complex problems, as the Commission proposals would entail a substantial drop in agricultural revenue. It was important that any amendment to agricultural policy be made with all due care and consideration. Only a comprehensive, long-term strategy would satisfy those whose interests were at stake and produce the desired results.

With the interests of the Community's consumers and taxpayers also in mind, the Committee proposed that:

1. there should be a limited rise in prices, varying from product to product, such as to ensure balanced development in all Community regions;
2. Community intervention should be based on production targets valid for several years and should encourage product quality;

¹ COM(83) 500 final.

3. price increases should vary in such a way as to be an incentive for products of which there was a shortage and a disincentive for those in surplus;
4. direct support measures should be provided for small farmers in the poorest regions in the Community, which were hardest hit by inflation and where weak production patterns did not produce adequate incomes.

The Committee also issued a series of comments on the proposals regarding individual agricultural products.

Cereals

The Committee felt that it was economically unrealistic to use prices as the sole criterion for measuring the Community's competitiveness against that of other countries.

The Community cereal sector had to be able to adapt itself to international competition, in circumstances tailored to specific Community requirements. If necessary, a European guarantee threshold should be introduced: crossing the threshold would lead to a fall in the intervention price.

This joint responsibility on the part of farmers would have to be backed by precise market conditions including, above all, effective stabilization of cereal-substitute imports.

Oils and fats

The Commission's proposal to restore balance to the market in oils and fats by imposing a levy was discussed in detail at Section and Committee level, but was in the end rejected. It was considered debatable whether the aim could be achieved by a levy, without it being so high as to inflict an unacceptably heavy burden on the Community consumer. The Committee felt that supply could be better matched to demand in the oils and fats sector by aligning EEC prices with the prices of imported products and by curbing production of butter and butterfats. Those ESC members who belonged to the farming Community disagreed with the line taken by the Committee on the grounds that rejection of the proposal for a levy would call into question the very concept of a common policy on oils and fats. The tight constraints on milk production, on the one hand, and the forthcoming accession of Spain and Portugal on the other, made the Commission proposals all the more urgent and appropriate.

Milk and milk products

The Committee accepted the Commission's objective of a reduction in production to 97.2 million tonnes and the introduction of a quota system which, through an increase in the co-responsibility levy, would lead to a slight fall in prices.

The ESC recognized that if the over-supply were to be significantly reduced, a more drastic solution would have to be found. In the long run, that could only mean a tightly administered quota system or a price reduction sufficient to restore market balance.

The ESC admitted that either solution presented problems. A quota system was difficult to manage and might fossilize the existing pattern of production, and a price reduction big enough to regain market balance would be too severe for many farmers to sustain.

There was therefore some disagreement as to which remedy was the better, although members were unanimous as to the urgent need for action.

Wine sector

The Committee broadly endorsed the Commission's aims of improving the quality of wines and ensuring greater equilibrium on the wine market.

Generally speaking, the Committee came out in favour of the approach embodied in the Commission proposals, i.e. the encouragement of higher quality wines and more stringent surveillance to improve balance of the market.

Fruit and vegetables

The Committee felt that the best way of strengthening market organization would be to lay down aims (based on an analysis of intra-Community sales) for periods of two or more years.

Should quotas be laid down, these could be adapted to take into account the objectives and, as an additional criterion, the comparative production and consumption trends in each Member State.

The Committee reiterated its support for continuing Community aid to the processing industry provided it did not lead to surplus production or interfere with normal market requirements, and provided that it did not alter the terms of competition between alternative final products or even final products derived from the same raw material.

Monetary compensatory amounts

The Committee agreed with the Commission that the ECU system must be used permanently for the CAP.

The Committee endorsed the system proposed by the Commission for dismantling existing MCAs over two marketing years, insofar as the effect on incomes in countries with positive MCAs could be mitigated.

For the same reasons the Committee also approved the proposed system for dismantling future MCAs.

Agricultural structures

With respect to the proposals for improving the efficiency of agricultural structures, the Committee pointed out that the main aim of the agricultural structures policy should be to create the conditions for profitable and more market-orientated agricultural production, thereby safeguarding employment in agriculture.

The agricultural structures policy should not be overburdened with other Community policy aims. It could and must, however, be coordinated with the Community's agricultural market policy and with national social policies in the agricultural sphere, and it needed to be backed up by regional policy initiatives, particularly in less-favoured areas.

The agricultural structures policy was not without influence on market and price policies; it could not, however, solve problems on its own in those areas.

In view of the new direction to be given to the agricultural structures policy, the ESC emphasized the need for a quantitative expansion and qualitative improvement of the policy within the framework of the CAP and in pursuance of the EEC Treaty objectives. Greater importance should be attached to the structural policy as against the market and price policies. The necessary funds to that end should, therefore, be made available.

The Committee made a number of comments on individual Commission proposals whilst approving the regulation as a whole. It nevertheless deplored the Commission's proposal to wind up Directive 72/160/EEC on measures to encourage the cessation of farming and the reallocation of utilized agricultural area for the purpose of structural improvement. Nor did the Committee regard as justified the Commission's proposals amending the scope of, and the criteria employed by, Regulation No 355/77. It was vital that there be a smooth transition when the regulation came into force in 1985.

The Council had also introduced measures for dismantling monetary compensatory amounts, both existing and future, positive and negative. The Committee agreed with the Commission that it was possible to mitigate the effects of the measure on farm incomes in Member States with positive MCAs. The Council had therefore decided to authorize the Federal Republic of Germany and, should it so request, the Netherlands, to claim special aid from the Community, using the VAT system as an instrument for granting the aid.

The ESC said it could approve the use of VAT for granting the proposed special aid, provided that the implementing procedures laid down by the Commission were supplemented and that compensation did not result in new distortions of competition on the Community markets.

The Council had not been in a position to take a decision on the Commission's proposals on structural measures at that time.

Veterinary matters

The Committee played a very active role in this sector and delivered a substantial number of opinions during 1984. One of the most noteworthy was its opinion on the Commission proposal amending the directive prohibiting certain substances having a hormonal action and any substances having a thyrostatic action. By a large majority the Committee rejected the Commission proposal in its entirety on the grounds that it removed the health and consumer safeguards hitherto provided for in the parent directive.

Fisheries

In 1983, the Committee gradually stepped up its involvement in the fisheries sector. The prospective enlargement of the EEC to include Spain and Portugal increased the topicality of a sector which was already plagued with very considerable difficulties.

But that was not the only reason for the Committee's involvement. By working more closely with the Commission departments concerned, the ESC was able to issue opinions on a number of proposals, in addition to which it produced a highly detailed own-initiative opinion on the present situation and medium-term outlook for the Community fisheries sector.

Integrated Mediterranean programmes

In its opinion of 24 November 1983 the Committee unanimously endorsed the Commission's initiative concerning the implementation of integrated Mediterranean programmes. The Committee document stressed that it was vital to achieve a better balance between Community regions and tackle the relative backwardness of Mediterranean areas of the Community. The Committee was also anxious that 'financial resources utilized for integrated Mediterranean programmes should ensure a more efficient use of the various Community and national financial schemes, thanks to the overall and multi-sectoral approach adopted'. To achieve this objective it would be 'necessary to employ all the resources offered by the different funds while at the same time ensuring that the measures thus implemented were closely coordinated at all times'. The Committee finally underlined the importance of extremely close cooperation between the Commission on the one hand, and national, regional and local authorities, as well as socio-economic interest groups, on the other, and stressed the need to ensure that the local population was made fully aware of what was going on. All this was vital to the success of the integrated programmes.

On 24 May 1984, the Committee issued an opinion in which it unanimously approved the bulk of the Commission's detailed proposals. The Committee's views on the main points can be summed up as follows.

IMPs and the accession of Spain and Portugal

The IMPS could in no way be accused of running counter to enlargement.

On the contrary, the forthcoming enlargement made it all the more necessary to speedily deploy the IMPs because, with a level of development already below the Community average, the Mediterranean areas would feel its impact more keenly.

Scope of the IMPs

In addition to those geographical areas envisaged by the Commission, the Committee proposed including the following:

1. in Greece: Athens and Thessaloniki, provided that efforts to decentralize industry in these two urban areas were not jeopardized;
2. in Italy: Emilia Romagna;
3. in France: the départements of the Drôme and the Ardèche.

Coherence and coordination

The system envisaged by the Commission was too complex and a single fund would have been more suitable, but the Committee would not insist on going back over this point as it did not want to risk delaying the IMPs' entry into force.

Procedure for the preparation and management of the IMPs

As well as working in conjunction with the regional authorities, as the Commission proposed, consultations should be held with the socio-economic organizations of the regions concerned.

Destination and allocation of funds

The needs of the regions in question were so great that if they were to achieve a take-off and eventually catch up with the more developed regions, no sectoral allocation could in itself be regarded as excessive. The selection of priorities was, however, open to discussion.

Management and finance

The complex system proposed by the Commission should be made more flexible, by making it possible:

1. to transfer appropriations from one operation to another (up to 10% of the total allocation of the country concerned);
2. to increase, in certain cases, the size of Community allocations;
3. to prolong the application of a number of measures in order to complete operations which have been subject to delays.

Agriculture

Agriculture was one of the most crucial aspects of the IMPs and would absorb over half the resources allocated.

The programmes proposed represented an important stage but did not cover all of the territory potentially concerned.

Fisheries

The proposed measures were supported.

However, the Commission repeated the mistake made in Northern Europe, i.e. it tackled structural problems without having previously assessed available resources.

Industry, SMEs, craft trades and commerce

The proposed measures were on the whole realistic.

Infrastructure

A major drive was needed by both the Member States concerned and the Community. The budget appropriations earmarked appeared to fall short of requirements, particularly in the transport and telecommunications sector.

EEC relations with non-Community Mediterranean countries

As the IMPs would inevitably have repercussions on the Community's relations with other countries in the area, agreements should be updated accordingly.

Third ESC opinion on the IMPs

Lastly, on 13 December 1984, in its concern that the Community institutions were dragging their feet over the IMPs, the Committee (minus one dissenting vote and 11 abstentions) adopted an own-initiative opinion reiterating the need for immediate implementation of these programmes, bearing in mind the considerations already voiced on previous occasions.

2. TRANSPORT POLICY

General

The Committee was asked to deliver 9 transport opinions in 1984 compared with 16 the previous year. Six of these opinions were completed, but the work on the three others (rail infrastructure problems, drivers' hours/road transport and the second civil aviation memorandum) was still in progress at the end of the year.

In the course of the year Maria Weber (Workers Group — Germany), who had chaired the Section since July 1979, stepped down in favour of Alfred Delourme (Workers Group — Belgium). One of the outgoing Vice-Chairmen — John Kenna (Employers Group — Ireland) — was re-elected to serve alongside Kurt Plank, a new appointment from Germany and a member of the Various Interests Group.

Consultative work

Rail policy

In its opinion on technical cooperation between railways in the goods sector, the Committee agreed that the Commission proposal might improve the quality and efficiency of rail traffic and reduce costs. Its only regrets were that the proposal took the form of a non-binding recommendation and that no extra funds had been allocated.

When the Council adopted its recommendation on 10 May 1984, it made express reference to the Committee opinion.

Inland waterway transport

In its opinion on access to the occupation of carrier of goods by waterway in national and international transport and on the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications for this profession, the Committee considered that the proposed directive should also cover passenger transport. Otherwise it approved the Commission document subject to a number of amendments. The Council has not yet acted on this proposal.

Combined road/rail goods transport

Council Directive 71/130/EEC, as most recently amended by Council Directive 82/603/EEC, exempted certain types of combined road/rail goods transport in the Community from all quota and licensing obligations. With Spanish entry now a likelihood, the Commission proposal extended these exemptions to Spanish hauliers. The agreement embodying these exemptions would be superseded by the act of accession after Spanish entry. The Commission proposal met with the Committee's unqualified approval.

Road safety

The Commission proposal on a Community road safety programme was approved unanimously by the Committee, though it did regret that the Commission had taken such a long time over its proposal. The relevant resolution has been adopted by the Council in the meantime.

Road haulage

The Committee also gave its unanimous support to the proposed abolition of the record sheets used in Community and bilateral quota schemes.

Fuel rationing in crises

The proposed fuel rationing of intra-Community commercial transport was also approved unanimously.

Duty-free import of fuel in commercial vehicles' tanks

The Committee expected the Commission proposal to give a new impetus to the harmonization of the conditions of competition in the Community road haulage sector. It thought that the Commission should present the Council as soon as possible with a proposal for harmonizing the taxes on fuels, especially deriv.

Cooperation with Community bodies

Council

Meetings of the Committee's working bodies were attended once by the French Presidency and twice by the Irish Presidency.

European Parliament

Cooperation with the EP's Transport Committee continued.

Commission

The Commission is in regular attendance at Committee meetings.

Other work

The Committee was involved in the establishment of the European Transport Institute and also took part in a number of other functions in the European transport sector.

3. SOCIAL POLICY

Social developments in the Community in 1983

The Committee opinion drew attention to the 12.5 million jobless in the European Community and stressed that this was a structural employment problem that could not be solved by market forces alone.

There was a vital need for an economic and social policy which would give real priority to employment and support and restructure investment and consumption to assist economic revival.

In this context, given the necessary flexibility, social policy could revive and support the economy in the same way and at the same time as the economy could provide a guarantee of adequate social conditions.

This was even more the case at Community level, where the 'multiplier' effects of concerted action could encourage broader, faster and more reliable growth.

The Community, therefore, needed to clarify its social goals, and overcome the current fragmentation caused by the lack of a strategy, through a new social action programme based on:

1. An increase in, better allocation of and clearer access to the Community's own resources;
2. A more appropriate Community decision-making machinery capable of overcoming the vacuum inherent in the current right of veto;
3. Improved social dialogue through better information and consultation procedures recognized at Community level.

This programme would promote:

4. The maximum harmonization of Member States' employment measures;
5. Adequate social safeguards during the transition period needed for new technologies to bring new jobs to offset those they eliminate;
6. Standardized data for a better comparison at Community level of social and employment trends;
7. A Community operating instrument, involving social and economic interest groups, capable of gauging the effectiveness of national and EC policies.

It would intervene in order to:

8. Create new jobs and support local employment initiatives;
9. Extend pilot schemes;
10. Expand training and retraining schemes;
11. Support social groups worst hit by unemployment;
12. Expand the measures already launched at Community level as regards social security, early retirement, part-time and temporary employment and the reduction and reorganization of working time.

Action to combat female unemployment

The opinion welcomed the draft Commission resolution. The Committee conceded however that a gradual reduction in female unemployment was contingent on an improvement in overall unemployment. The Committee nevertheless felt that special measures must be taken to tackle female unemployment.

The Committee detailed the specific difficulties which women encounter on the labour market and commented on the measures to be promoted:

1. equality of opportunity in vocational training;
2. access to occupations from which women have been traditionally excluded;
3. balanced representation in new technology sectors;
4. working hours to be cut and reorganized as part of a drive to achieve equality;
5. better share-out of family and professional duties between men and women.

Local employment initiatives

The Committee welcomed the Commission's communication on the subject.

Whilst expressing concern that the spontaneous growth in local employment initiatives (LEIs) was set against a background of insufficient official action at higher levels to tackle unemployment, the Committee considered that LEIs required greater recognition and, where viable, more positive financial and organizational support.

A clearer study was required on the start-up, role and objectives of LEIs in the local community setting and in their provision of certain market commodities and services without prejudicing the work and responsibilities of small firms and the public authorities.

The Committee therefore supported the proposals to undertake further research, involving full consultation with the social partners, a closer and representative survey and special consideration for bankruptcy regulations and action to rescue viable parts of failed enterprises.

Occupational medicine

This own-initiative opinion called for the adoption of a Community directive providing for an occupational health service for all workers, in all sectors and all undertakings, whatever their size.

The Committee considered it essential that sufficient (multi-disciplinary) human, technical and financial resources be allocated in order to ensure a regular occupational health service at the workplace, in keeping with the primary role of occupational medicine in preventing work-related diseases, accidents at work and occupational hazards.

The conditions governing the appointment, remunerations and dismissal of occupational health staff should guarantee their independence and autonomy of action, in accordance with ethical codes applicable to the medical and scientific professions.

Technological change and social adjustment

This opinion was the precursor for the Committee's conference on Europe and the new technologies held on 6 and 7 November. The Committee welcomed the Commission proposal and agreed that the prospects for renewed Community competitiveness and potential growth afforded by the new technologies could be fully exploited only if the accompanying social challenges and consequences were faced up to positively.

The Committee reviewed the social implications of technological change and proposed various ways of meeting the social challenge: a better relevant training, retraining, further training, broadly-based multi-skill training, work-training linkage facilities ('alternance'), adjustment aid and special pilot schemes particularly for disadvantaged groups, and the setting-up of socially-oriented 'workforce pools'; more research into and the promotion of specialized and social skills needed for the humane planning and implementation of technological change; the reduction and reorganization of working time, compatible with training programmes and the maintenance of competitiveness; upgraded occupational health and safety measures; proper workers' involvement in the introduction of new technologies and the planning of humane working conditions; data protection and individual privacy provisions; the setting-up of a top-level EC group, aided by the ESC, with the task of assessing and advising on the long-term consequences of the new technologies on the structure of European society.

Statistical machinery to establish the order of priority to be applied when granting European Social Fund assistance to regions

The Committee had strong reservations concerning the technical jettisoning of long-term unemployment as an indicator and insisted that the statistical machinery include reliable data and standard criteria on this point.

It also questioned the failure to take into account at level III the four areas undergoing reconstruction, urged a review clause for expected changes in labour market patterns, stressed the need for closer involvement of the social partners and closer coordination between the Regional Policy and Social Affairs Directorates of the Commission in the preparation of the relevant statistics, and suggested that weighting for unemployment and per capita GDP per area be on a more balanced basis.

Poverty

The Committee stressed the over-modest spending scale and the restricted focus and operational limits of the Commission proposal. The second five-year programme needed to be seen as a supplement to much greater concerted action throughout the Community to combat, reduce and prevent poverty.

The definition of poverty as being relative to prevailing living conditions in a given society needed to be translated at the operational level by the concept of a specific percentage of average incomes.

More effort was needed in explaining why certain groups fall into poverty, why income maintenance and other relevant systems failed such people, and how 'research' could be turned into 'action' against poverty.

The Committee called for comparable statistical data on poverty and the monitoring of wealth disparities for clarification as to the role of an EC 'clearing house', and for action to combat unemployment and to integrate 'outcast' groups.

Migrant workers

The Committee, on its own initiative, drew attention to the inadequate political response to the worsening problems of migrant workers and to the growing climate of xenophobia and racism.

An urgent European Community policy stimulus was called for ensuring the full application by Member States of EC citizens' right of freedom of movement, promoting a genuine policy coordination on the rights of third country migrants as regards entry, establishment, residence, employment and social security, and helping to create better civic and cultural opportunities both for the integration and — where desired — reintegration of migrant workers and their families.

Positive action for women

The Committee agreed with the Commission that in the light of the experience with the 1982 action programme a programme of positive measures should be proposed to the Member States. Although it considered that a directive rather than a recommendation would be more appropriate for furthering the Commission's aims, it also thought that binding legislation would not be suitable at the present stage.

Since unemployment was generally higher among women than among men and women were still under-represented at certain levels of responsibility, and since there was a danger in an economic recession that the access women have secured to the labour market would be eroded the Committee called for the continuation and intensification of positive action undertaken for women and the initiation of new measures.

Self-employed women

The Committee welcomed the aim of the proposal for a directive and in particular the proposed arrangements for protection during pregnancy and motherhood.

It pointed out that there were generally no major difficulties in implementing equal treatment in the case of women working on their own account or as an employee in their husband's business. But women who shared in the running of a family business without a partnership agreement or a contract of employment were at a considerable disadvantage, since their legal, financial and social security status was often quite uncertain. This discrimination had to be removed

by ensuring that the spouse sharing in the running of a family business was treated as a generator of income. The volume and nature of the work performed should form the basis for recognition of an occupational status, payment of remuneration and granting of the right to social security. Particular attention should be paid to ensuring that the spouse sharing in the running of a business had cover for sickness, invalidity, old age, maternity and separation from the other partner.

The Committee recognized that the Commission's proposal met these requirements, but pointed out that living and working conditions were at present difficult in the hard-hit agricultural sector, so that the practical application of the directive would be a financial problem. The Commission should therefore seek further possibilities that would help to promote practical implementation of the directive. Appropriate publicity would also be important.

Third exchange programme for young workers

The opinion broadly endorsed the Commission proposal and stressed that the positive experiences with the second programme provided adequate justification for continuing and expanding the programmes, even though a number of implementation problems remained unsolved.

The Committee stressed the importance of heightening young people's awareness of Europe and went on to support the Commission proposal that the third programme should embrace young job-seekers with a basic vocational training or practical work experience.

Action to combat long-term unemployment

The Committee welcomed the idea of Community deliberations and proposals on a matter described in the Committee's opinion on social developments in the Community in 1982 as a 'chronic problem of the 1980s'.

However, it felt that despite the fact that the Commission's analysis of the causes and effects of long-term unemployment coincided to some extent with the views expressed in earlier Committee opinions, the approach adopted in the Commission's communication was too piecemeal. It was also marred by certain flaws and omissions that could create doubts as to whether the proposed measures were an effective springboard for action commensurate with the gravity of the situation.

In particular the Committee regretted that the draft resolution was not part of a comprehensive, consistent strategy to combat unemployment and contained no reference to the Council's conclusions of 22 June 1984 on a medium-term Community social action programme. Nevertheless, judging by the tenor of the resolution, as presented to the Council of Ministers, the Committee's opinion had to a large extent been taken into account.

Similarly, the Committee felt that the Commission document did not sufficiently stress the importance of improving the general economic climate, and particularly the prerequisites for stimulating economic recovery. These factors were crucial to job creation — the cornerstone of any effective policy to combat long-term unemployment.

Current social security problems in the countries of the EEC

Social security and its future development is a subject which the Community authorities have been discussing for a number of years. This own-initiative opinion, which was the Committee's contribution to the debate, was based on reports drawn up by national experts and summarized in the report of the Section for Social Questions.

The opinion took a look at the following aspects of the social security problem:

1. the special features of the various systems;
2. the reasons for the systems' financial difficulties;
3. inadequately protected persons and sections of the population;
4. possible preventive and rehabilitation measures;
5. structural problems associated with the funding of social security;
6. the trend towards the privatization of social security;
7. the stabilizing role of the social budget for the economic and employment situation.

In its conclusions, the opinion pointed out that the economic recession and the resulting unemployment were major contributory factors to the financial imbalances of social security schemes. However, there were also structural reasons for these financial difficulties. These included the ageing of the population, rising health costs and the extension of benefits to new sectors of the workforce without any provision for adequate contributions. Economic and social policy in the Member States therefore had to give priority to securing the foundations of social security schemes via an effective policy for promoting economic growth and employment.

Parental leave and leave for family reasons

The Committee endorsed the draft directive. It considered that common minimum statutory provisions on parental leave and leave for family reasons, covering all employees, would provide greater equality of opportunity in

employment, as well as promote a greater sharing of family responsibilities, and would be beneficial to society as a whole.

In response to criticism expressed by the Committee, the Commission amended Article 4 (2) of the proposal in order to clarify that both parents or acting parents may not take parental leave at the same time to look after the same child.

4. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL POLICY

In 1984 the Committee issued an own-initiative opinion on the economic situation in the Community in mid-1984, an opinion on the proposal for a 12th VAT Directive, then an opinion on the Communities' system of own resources, and finally an opinion on the Commission's annual economic report (1984-85).

The Committee also issued two supplementary opinions: one on the harmonization of tobacco taxes, dealing with the extension of stages of harmonization; and one on the New Community Instrument dealing with tranches of borrowings to be invested in various sectors.

The 12th VAT Directive

In its opinion on the 12th VAT Directive the Committee welcomed the Commission's efforts to further harmonize national legislation on the VAT system.

In particular the Committee adhered to the principle that deductibility must be contingent on the expenditure being business-related. On this basis it proposed that:

1. deductibility should be granted for cars on a sliding scale (25%, 50% and 75%) without individual production of evidence;
2. full deductibility should be granted for expenditure on travel, accommodation, food and drink where it is shown that the trip was for business purposes.

Full deductibility for all these expenses is subject to the production of cast-iron evidence.

Economic situation in the Community (mid-1984)

On 4 July 1984 the Committee issued its own-initiative opinion on the economic situation in the Community.

The Committee noted that the recovery in economic activity is very precarious and that the campaign against inflation is an objective common to all Member States. The Member States are adopting very similar methods of regulating the economy which leave them with very little room for manoeuvre. Furthermore, the

recovery is impeded by the structural weakness of the European economy and particularly by the Community's dependence on oil and other commodity imports.

The Committee looks at other structural defects — such as obsolescent plant, the general orientation of industrial production, inadequate investment and scientific research, etc. — and wonders whether Community action measures up to the crisis?

Even if the economic climate is improving, a general feeling of anxiety persists and we need to press ahead with the current drive to put the economy back on a sounder basis. A number of key areas should be singled out for priority Community action, for instance:

1. the mobilization of savings;
2. competition policy;
3. the monetary problem;
4. streamlining of procedures;
5. a special employment policy.

In addition, the Committee calls for large-scale Community investment in various schemes — Channel tunnel, high-speed trains, telecommunications, etc. — and an improvement in the Community's external image.

The economic situation in France

Concurrently with the opinion and report on the economic situation in the Community in mid-1984, the Committee drew up a report on the economic situation in the country holding the presidency of the Council in the first six months of 1984, namely France.

The Communities' system of own resources

On 26 October 1983 the Committee issued an opinion on the Commission's first proposal on the Communities' system of own resources.

As a result of the decisions taken at the European Council in Fontainebleau on 25 and 26 June 1984, the Commission amended its original proposal and the Committee therefore had to issue a new opinion.

The Committee referred to its earlier opinion and in addition stressed the importance of one of the recitals in the new proposal which states that 'any

Member State bearing an excessive budgetary burden in relation to its relative prosperity should benefit at the appropriate time from a correction'.

The Committee considers the corrective mechanism a temporary arrangement and calls for the use of indicators such as per capita GDP and the share of each Member State in the Community's net operating surplus.

The Committee considers that any future solution should be based on financial, economic and social solidarity as well as an equitable apportionment of budgetary burdens and benefits. The real solution lies in the evenly-balanced development of common policies, some of which have so far only been sketched out in rough.

To sum up, the Committee considers that the proposed solution undoubtedly safeguards the key features of the own resources' arrangements, but it is worried about certain consequences arising from the complexity of the system, its transient nature and the circumstances in which a correction might be made in the future.

The opinion on the Commission's 1984-85 annual economic report, the report on the economic situation in Ireland and the opinion on the 16th VAT Directive will follow.

Commission annual economic report (1984-85)

The 1984-85 economic report contains major proposals which lay the foundations for a medium-term economic programme.

The Council had set a tight deadline and, in the belief that the Commission proposals required thorough analysis and detailed discussion, the Committee issued an interim opinion and reserved the right to return to the matter in greater depth later on.

The interim opinion reviews the economic situation in 1984 and the prospects for 1985 and comments briefly on the report's proposals.

The Committee's substantive views on the matter will be set out in the planned detailed opinion.

Economic situation in Ireland

The Committee drafted a report on the economic situation in Ireland during the Irish Presidency of the Council from 1 July to 31 December 1984.

5. REGIONAL POLICY

The Committee delivered two regional development opinions in 1984 — one on the amendment of the ERDF Regulation and the other on the eighth annual ERDF report. Other documents being prepared in this field will not be completed until 1985. The first of these — an information report on an integrated operation in Wales — is due to be adopted by the plenary session in January. A survey of national regional aid, to which a good deal of effort was devoted in 1984, has not been terminated either. At the moment lengthy preparatory documents on each of the Member States have been produced and the different schemes have been summarized.

The opinion on the amendment of the ERDF Regulation broadly supported the Commission proposal, subject to a few reservations and proposed changes, including the following:

1. the proposed extension of the fund's role should not jeopardize the basic goal of ironing out regional imbalances; this had to continue to involve a greater drive to help the traditionally disadvantaged regions;
2. Fund resources would have to be increased to carry out this wider range of duties, including assistance for areas suffering sectoral decline;
3. the opinion reiterated the Committee's earlier reservations about reimbursement practices, and hoped that the gradual shift towards programme rather than project financing would make overall additionality easier. It suggested that these programmes should include investment projects, including projects to help small firms, which previously would not have been eligible for State aid;
4. the opinion stressed the need for local and regional authorities and the socio-economic organizations involved to play a part in Fund activity and in the drawing-up of the programmes. To this end it proposed that appropriate aid be given to encourage the establishment of regional development bodies;
5. the opinion called for specification of the financing rate and the proportion of overall resources to be granted to both types of programme. It also felt that the types of programmes and their goals should be defined more precisely, and that general and specific intervention criteria should be set. These were listed in the opinion;
6. the opinion requested that the regulation should expressly provide for consultation of the ESC on the drawing-up of the framework programmes.

The ERDF Regulation was revised by the Council of Ministers on 19 June 1984. The revised text took account of most of the Committee's recommendations, though not the last two.

The opinion on the eighth ERDF annual report appreciated the high standard of this report and broadly approved its content. However, it regretted the inadequate increase in ERDF resources.

It hoped that investment would in future be more fairly distributed between infrastructure and industry, crafts and services, and that requests for intervention would be more evenly distributed throughout the year, rather than piling up at the end of the year as they did at present. The Committee deplored the serious delay in allocating the non-quota funds available for 1978-82.

It also felt that the Member States should be asked to provide statistics, broken down by region and if possible by sector, on the number of jobs created as a result of regional policy.

The Committee is in the process of preparing an information report on national regional aid which compares the different schemes and will include separate appendices for each Member State.

An information report which calls for an integrated operation for Clywd (Wales) is also in the process of being drawn up.

Another information report on upland areas will highlight these areas' problems and make recommendations to Community and other bodies.

Furthermore, the Committee is working together with the Council of Europe and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions on an information report on island regions, which will come out in 1985. It also continues to liaise with the Advisory Committee of Local and Regional Authorities of the Member States of the EEC and its member organizations.

6. INDUSTRY POLICY

Competition policy

The Committee issued opinions on a number of Commission proposals dealing with areas where competition policy was a live issue.

One of these was the draft Commission Regulation (EEC) concerning the applicability of Article 85(3) of the Treaty to categories of agreements relating to research and development. The Committee pointed out that it has constantly endorsed the efforts of the Commission and Council to strengthen the capacity of European firms to innovate and carry out research.

Nevertheless the Committee expressed fundamental criticism of the proposed restrictions on exemption, particularly the 500 million ECU threshold.

The Committee considered in particular that the 500 million ECU threshold was an arbitrary figure, and would probably be difficult to monitor. It also felt that the definition of 'actually or potentially leading undertakings' in any given area could be stretched *ad infinitum* by any excessive fragmentation of production sectors, thus giving rise to dubious interpretations.

With regard to the possibility of opposing the exemption (Article 5), the Committee considered that the Commission should retain the sole right to withdraw opposition; consultations with Member States should be optional and advisory only.

The Committee also issued a major opinion on patent licensing agreements. The Committee made recommendations in regard to three key areas:

1. The treatment of exclusive sales obligations built into patent licensing agreements;
2. The treatment of 'field of use' restrictions;
3. The treatment of 'know-how' agreements mixed with patent licensing.

The Committee also expressed satisfaction that the Commission had acknowledged that in order to encourage the patent licensing process and its contribution to the promotion of technical progress, it must allow at least the minimum legal protection required to make it worthwhile for companies to use patent licensing. If too many obstacles were put in the way of the patent licensing process its use as a method of promoting technical progress might be inhibited.

Committee work on competition policy was however dominated by the annual Commission *Report on Competition Policy*.

The Committee first notes that an exclusively legalistic approach will do nothing to solve the Community's current competition problems. What is needed is a coherent, timely combination of all general policies. A competition 'policy' must also be dynamic and forward-looking, and must take account of circumstances, particularly the crucial features of the current recession (unemployment, inflation, the Community's handicap in some advanced technologies and sectors, high cost of money, adverse pressure resulting from the increased competitiveness of some newly industrializing countries).

The opinion focuses on the following problems.

Competition and new markets

In this major area, the Committee feels that one of the most important aims of Community policies should be to pinpoint new outlets (i.e. new markets) for Community products. This would undoubtedly have a favourable effect on

employment; we cannot safeguard healthy competition within the Community without striving to increase our ability to compete effectively with the rest of the world.

Taxation and company law

The solution is not just to step up work on harmonization, but also to try to state principles and build instruments, with a Community basis where possible.

The Committee here repeats its hope that the statutes for the European company will be adopted as soon as possible, and emphasizes the need finally to adopt the draft regulation establishing the European Cooperation Grouping.

Distribution agreements

The Committee urges that the distribution problem be viewed not merely as a legal matter, but also from the economic angle. It also points out the danger of going into too much detail, and calls for general guidelines. These would also help reduce the number of notifications still outstanding.

Structural overcapacity

The Committee is pleased that the Commission is trying to reconcile respect for the basic principles of competition rules with the absolute need to take account of overcapacity and the need for restructuring which it involves.

However, we must first analyse the causes of overcapacity, which may be cyclical or structural. The decisions to be made must increasingly be based on detailed analyses of the markets and sectors involved.

Procedure

The Committee feels that, in order to achieve truly concerted development of Community competition policy, more prominence should be given to the role of government experts on the Advisory Committee on Restrictive Practices and Dominant Positions.

Aid

The Committee is worried by the continuing rise in all forms of State aid. It thus welcomes the Commission's greater attention and severity, and stresses the absolute need to ban aid which produces a 'featherbedding' mentality, wasting resources on lame ducks.

At the same time, the Committee notes that the worsening of the aid problem is due not only to pressure exerted by companies on the Member States, but also and to a greater extent to the pressure from the continuing recession.

It is wrong to automatically condemn aid, which must in any case be temporary and on a decreasing scale (or at least linked to a specific recovery plan) and must help companies regain long-term competitiveness.

The broad discretionary powers open to the Commission for assessing the compatibility of aid schemes require greater clarification. The Committee hopes that the Commission will periodically draw up and publish detailed guidelines on this.

The Committee urges the Commission carefully to consider the need for one or more Council regulations to help reach the vital consensus between the Member States on correct implementation of the basic concepts enshrined in Articles 92 and 93 of the Treaty.

Industrial policy

The Committee's major pronouncement on this area was its opinion on the proposal for a Council directive amending Directive 81/363/EEC on aid to shipbuilding.

Although the proposal sought merely to extend the directive by two years, the Committee reviewed the basic issues in shipbuilding and reserved the right to cover all aspects in greater depth at a later date.

The Committee felt that the efficiency and scale economies of Japanese shipbuilding, the proposed government programmes to boost its competitiveness in the very near future, and the very low labour costs of some non-member countries, seemed likely to prevent Community shipyards from reducing the current yawning gap between market prices and production costs; and the Committee said that there was no short or medium-term prospect of a stable, substantial recovery in demand, which would help improve the current cut-throat competition climate.

While accepting the need to continue with restructuring, by reducing the number of production units rather than reducing individual production levels the Committee was adamant that the extension of the directive was an emergency measure. It must therefore be implemented in a spirit which would bring sufficient orders, this being a *sine qua non* for the success of the programmes to reduce and rationalize national production capacities.

The Committee recommended that greater attention be given to the following areas:

1. encouraging Community shipowners to place their orders with Community shipyards, by introducing a home credit scheme;

2. ship standardization;
3. monitoring and inspection arrangements for vessels entering Community ports;
4. continue stepping up the efforts to achieve greater use of ERDF non-quota measures in the areas hit by the recession in shipbuilding;
5. include specific measures such as early retirement in the revision of the Social Fund;
6. encourage European level research and development of the shipbuilding sector.

Customs harmonization

In the wake of last year's work on the internal market, the Committee examined a number of proposals designed to implement an internal market in both travel and trade. Opinions were issued on a wide range of proposals including:

1. standard exchanges;
2. outward processing;
3. Common Customs Tariff;
4. temporary admission of means of transport;
5. reimported goods;
6. small consignments.

Specific reference should be made to the opinions on the 6th and 7th Directives on exemption from turnover and import duties in international travel.

This rather complicated heading raised the issue of tax-free shops and the facility granted to Member States to allow traders at ports and airports, apart from airlines and shipping companies, to continue tax-free sales to intra-Community travellers in line with the concessions granted to non-Community travellers.

The Committee opinion endorsed the Commission proposal authorizing the continued duty-free sales with the proviso:

1. that these sales should not be restricted to the limits applied in respect of travellers coming from third countries, as proposed by the Commission, but raised to the maxima specified in the Commission proposal for a 6th Directive;

2. that responsibility for observing these limits be placed on the buyer and not the seller.

Technical barriers

In a major opinion on the proposals for the amendment of EEC directives on the lead content of petrol and motor-vehicle emissions, the Committee proposes that the Commission should bring forward the date of 1 January 1989 to 1 July 1986 both for the reduction of the lead content of leaded petrol from 0.4 to 0.15 g/l and for the Community-wide availability of unleaded petrol.

The Committee recommends that the Commission modify its amendment to the car emission directive as follows:

1. introduce, with effect from 1988/90 (and in any case not earlier than four years after a final Council decision for new models and two years later for new cars) the US 49-States (1983) emission levels and the US test cycle for larger cars;
2. introduce, for all other cars, if possible, also with effect from 1988/90, the emissions levels (applied according to the European test cycle) proposed by the Commission for 1989/91;
3. provide for the Commission to (a) investigate according to the principles of the 'Global approach', (b) report by the end of 1986 on the technological feasibility for all cars to meet by 1990 requirements equivalent to the US 49-States (1983) emission levels and (c) make appropriate proposals.

This would improve on the emission control results currently being achieved in the USA and would keep the annual incremental costs for motorists below the ECU 15 000 million estimated. There would still be strong incentives to promote technological progress.

The Committee agrees that Community directives adopted on the basis of Article 100 should not prevent Member States from permitting and even promoting the use of vehicles which conform to future emission standards approved by the Council. The Committee emphasizes, however, the need to make every effort to maintain and ensure the unity of the market.

The Committee is of the opinion that the introduction of periodic technical inspections of passenger cars in all Member States is necessary and would significantly contribute to reducing air pollution.

The Committee also requests the Commission to examine the effects of motor-vehicle speed on atmospheric pollution and to make appropriate recommendations.

Finally, the Committee is concerned that the industrial opportunities provided by the development of new technologies and equipment be fully exploited within

the Community. All relevant EEC instruments, especially in the field of R&D and investment support, should be marshalled for this purpose.

The Commission issued a proposal to limit noise from rail traffic, taking the same approach as with road and air traffic i.e., limitation of noise at source by harmonized methods. The directive is to apply to rail-mounted vehicles to be introduced in the national railway networks of the Member States (i.e. not to existing vehicles but to new trains, including future high-speed trains).

The Committee approved the Commission proposal, but felt that there was a need to specify that (a) it applied only to new rolling stock or to stock ordered after the directive came into force, (b) city underground trains and trams were not covered.

The Committee approved the Commission's attempt to improve future competitiveness in this mode of transport by striking a balance between the different requirements and taking account of the campaign against environmental noise. The Committee felt that the directive should have positive economic and industrial repercussions.

The Committee also issued opinions on two proposals on:

1. Prepackaged liquids;
2. Food.

Information technology

The Committee issued opinions on a number of Commission proposals designed to implement a sectoral policy accompanied by specific, concrete measures. The proposals examined included:

1. the development of the specialist information market in Europe;
2. telematics in Community information import/export systems and the financial control of agricultural market organizations (Caddia);
3. coordination of the activities of the Member States and Community institutions with a view to setting up a Community interinstitutional information system (Insis).

7. EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The ESC continued its policy of promoting cooperation with the EFTA countries, which taken together remain the Community's most important trading partners. In March 1984, the Committee adopted an own-initiative opinion which consi-

dered that the easing of frontier formalities and the adoption of common standards were priorities in trade relations.

Until this was done, the single European market could not exercise its full potential in providing employment and in improving the competitiveness of both the EEC and EFTA in relation to the world's other large economic units.

The Committee therefore called for increased cooperation between the Community and the EFTA countries, on a pragmatic basis and taking into account the institutional differences between the two groups of countries. In this connection the Committee wished to encourage regular exchanges of views on ways and means:

1. to remove all non-tariff barriers in trade between the partners in the European free-trade system;
2. to simplify rules of origin and border controls; and
3. to harmonize or apply common standards and technical regulations.

In the same spirit, the Community and the EFTA countries should work together and concert their approach in GATT and the OECD in order to promote further liberalization of world trade, especially in the following areas:

1. tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade in industrial goods;
2. subsidies and the distortion of the conditions of international competition; and
3. obstacles to trade in services.

A concertation of policies on innovation, the development of new technologies and structural adjustment to take advantage of the whole West European market would be particularly valuable.

As regards the enlargement of the Community to include Spain and Portugal, the ESC followed up the opinion it had delivered on this subject in November 1983. In its opinion of 4 July 1984 the ESC emphasized that enlargement was not only politically necessary but also an historical challenge. It was to be expected, however, that enlargement would aggravate existing social and economic difficulties.

The Community must have the political will to take the necessary measures in order to strengthen and further the integration process.

With regard to the gradual implementation of freedom of movement for workers, the Committee was in favour of a short transitional period. It went without saying that Portuguese and Spaniards living in the EEC prior to accession should have the same rights as other Community migrants.

The quota and fiscal imbalances that distort competition must be rectified immediately after accession. Existing State monopolies must also be brought into line with Treaty provisions.

In the industrial sector the Committee proposed the gradual abolition of customs duties and other barriers to trade over a transitional period of seven years.

The Committee expected Spain to introduce VAT on 1 January 1986 and Portugal three years later.

The Committee assumed that on accession:

1. Spain will restructure its steel industry in line with ECSC policy and ECSC provisions on aid, production quotas and export quotas;
2. Spain will reduce its production capacity in the shipbuilding industry, just as the Member States are doing at present;
3. the textile agreement reached with Portugal will remain in force (controls over textile trade for three-four years with reciprocal safeguard clause).

The Committee proposed a transitional period of seven years for the purposes of integrating Spanish agriculture in the CAP. At the same time account would have to be taken of the need to:

1. exempt sensitive products for three years (milk, meat);
2. progressively take over the financing of Spanish agriculture (eight years for olive oil and wine).

The Committee accepted that Portugal's agriculture, where there are production shortfalls, should be progressively financed by the Community over a period of 10 years, with exemptions made in the case of milk for four years.

The Committee finally made the point that current fisheries discussions must not lead to delays in negotiations. The solution adopted, however, must on all accounts open the way for the integration of the fishing industries of the Community, Portugal and Spain within a transitional period not exceeding the transitional period set for agriculture.

In connection with the preparation of this opinion a study group of the Section for External Relations visited Lisbon and Madrid, where it had very fruitful talks not only with government authorities but also with representatives of all the socio-economic organizations, who showed their commitment to the Community but without hiding certain anxieties.

The ESC delivered an opinion on relations between the Community and Yugoslavia, which had already been examined in 1979.

The ESC was convinced that the Community could contribute to a relaunching of the Yugoslav economy through strengthening cooperation, as provided for under the 1980 Cooperation Agreement.

Firms were actively involved in this cooperation, which should be supported by the Community, more particularly by improving the supply of information. However, the ESC stressed that Yugoslav firms must abide by contractual undertakings concerning delivery dates, prices, quality, etc. and refrain from practices which could disrupt cooperation.

The ESC insisted that the Yugoslavs make improvements in the tourism sector as regards the quality of facilities and services; it would like the Community to give support to the training of managers.

The ESC welcomed the granting of further loans by the EIB for developing Yugoslav road and rail infrastructure and initiatives in the areas of energy and raw material processing.

The ESC stressed that the Community should ensure that the forthcoming enlargement does not lead to a further reduction in the number of outlets for traditional Yugoslav agricultural products.

In April 1984, a study group of the Section for External Relations visited several republics and autonomous provinces of Yugoslavia. It had contacts with the authorities and socio-economic groups and was able to gather useful information. The ESC was thus able to take account of the extremely varied circumstances in this country, which is a socialist federation based on workers self-management. The study group also visited Trieste, where it was able to assess the interdependence of the regions on either side of the frontier between the Community and Yugoslavia and the serious repercussions of Yugoslavia's restrictive policy on the adjacent Community regions.

At the Council's request, the Committee delivered an opinion on the Commission proposal fixing the Community's Generalized System of Preferences for 1985. This was the last annual review of the present system — the five-yearly review is scheduled for 1986 — and the changes proposed by the Commission in duties or quotas for certain groups of products were relatively minor.

Though the Committee agrees with the proposal, it would prefer to examine the new key proposed for distribution of quotas for quota-tied products among the Member States when the time comes to review the scheme for the next five-year period.

Further, it questions the GSP's impact in terms of boosting development in the most needy LDCs. Looking ahead to the next review of the scheme, it calls on the Commission to make full use of the GSP's potential as an effective development aid instrument, (a) devised to encourage economic growth in the LDCs, (b) placing greater emphasis on selectivity, and (c) to be accompanied by clear-cut implementing arrangements, especially as regards rules of origin.

The Committee subsequently delivered an opinion on an amendment to the GSP prompted by Denmark's request that Greenland be added to the list of beneficiaries from 1 January 1985. Greenland was an integral part of the Kingdom of Denmark until 1979, when it was granted a relative degree of independence. Having decided to withdraw from the Community on 1 January 1985, it should therefore be treated as a Danish overseas territory from that date. Overseas territories have benefited from GSPs ever since their inception.

The Commission therefore proposed to add Greenland to the list of GSP beneficiaries but, as Greenland's coastal waters were traditional fishing grounds for many Community fishermen, made continued free access to Greenland's territorial waters a pre-condition for admitting Greenland's fishery products to the Community market.

The Committee approved this Commission proposal and requested the Commission to submit immediate proposals providing for (a) free access for Community fishing boats to Greenland's territorial waters, and (b) the abolition of restrictions on Greenland's eligibility for tariff preferences in respect of fishery products.

The eighth annual meeting between a delegation from the Joint Committee of the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly and representatives of ACP and EEC socio-economic interests was held in the Committee building, Brussels, on 15 September. Mr Bersani and Mr Ganga Zandzou, the co-Chairmen of the Joint Committee, presided.

Discussions covered the role and involvement of economic and social groups in ACP-EEC industrial cooperation. In taking stock of the negotiations, emphasis was placed on progress in previous months and matters yet to be settled. The ensuing broad debate on ACP-EEC industrial cooperation illustrated various aspects of the subject, in particular highlighting the importance of vocational training and the role of private investment and rural development.

Both the EEC and the ACP countries are increasingly concerned with involving economic and social groups in implementation of the Lomé Convention. With this in mind, at the close of the Brussels meeting EEC and ACP socio-economic representatives brought out their first declaration, which the co-Chairmen of the Joint Committee were instructed to forward to the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly, the ACP-EEC Council and the Commission of the European Communities.

Lastly, in the context of the Committee's regular contacts, dating back to 1975, with the EFTA Consultative Committee, a joint meeting took place in Bern. The co-Chairmen were Mr Jürg Zeller, Chairman of the EFTA Consultative Committee's Agenda Committee, and Mr François Ceyrac, Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee.

As the bonds between the two bodies have been cemented, the discussions have gained in depth. This year attention was focused on the workings of the free zone, encompassing the European Community and the EFTA member countries,

that now virtually exists for industrial products, since 1 January 1984. The first tangible achievement is to be the introduction of a single customs document for the transport of goods. The other item on the agenda was the feasibility of framing a joint approach to liberalization of world trade, including services, within the framework of GATT.

8. ENERGY POLICY

During the course of 1984 the Committee was consulted by the Council on one major energy policy proposal (Financial support by the Community in favour of industries producing solid fuels), one general R, D&D support programme (Stimulating European cooperation and scientific and technical interchange — Plan 1985-88), and four specific research action programme proposals (Management and storage of radioactive waste, 1985-89; Biotechnology, 1985-89; Optimization of the production and utilization of hydrocarbons, 1984-87; and Controlled thermonuclear fusion).

More detailed mention is made below of some of these six Committee opinions.

Firstly, however, it has to be said that the efforts of the Committee's specialized section responsible for doing the Committee's preparatory work on energy and most R, D&D matters have been concentrated on initiating some interesting information reports and an opinion.

Own-initiative work in the field of energy and research

Even in 1983 when the Committee gave an opinion on the proposal for a European scientific and technical strategy framework programme, concern was expressed by the Committee regarding priorities for Community R, D&D — especially if, as seemed likely, abnormal restrictions on the Community budget would be imposed. It was natural, then, that the Committee should embark on a serious review of the priorities to be given to different sectors of research when the framework programme comes to be reviewed in the course of 1985. The Committee will be adopting this own-initiative opinion on 'Priorities for Community research initiatives — the next revision of the framework programme for Community scientific and technological activities' at one of its plenary sessions early in 1985.

In the same way the Committee followed up its opinion on the framework programme for a European scientific and technical strategy with an own-initiative opinion going beyond the confines imposed by a Council referral of a specific Commission proposal, it started work on an information report entitled 'Energy options: environmental constraints and their implications for Community energy policy'. This information report is a natural follow-up to the opinion the Committee drew up in the second half of 1983 on a five-year Community energy action programme, the result of a Council referral. The information report is first

and foremost a response to the Commission-proposed policy which emphasizes the interest the Community has, amongst other things, in using more solid fuels relative to imported oil. Little attention seems, in the Committee's view, to be given to the impact this policy could have on the environment.

This information report therefore takes as its starting point the assumption that during the next 20 to 50 years, the exhaustion of fossil fuels will probably not be the dominant problem. Cost, and particularly environmental cost, is likely to be the key issue.

Still in the energy field, the Committee asked its Energy Section to prepare an information report on the subject of hydrocarbon exploration and production, to enquire above all whether all is well in this sector, and whether there is need for a new impetus, thinking in particular of a possible role for the Community.

So far, what is done with the Community's hydrocarbons potential has been left almost entirely to the individual Member States concerned. The Commission has not published any recent information reports detailing the stage reached in exploration, the deposits discovered or the prospects for future activities. It has none the less for some time been a Community medium to long-term aim to reduce its dependence on imported oil and gas, and to achieve greater security of supply.

The supply of hydrocarbons is an important element in the energy strategy of each of the Community nations, each country being concerned with how best to exploit indigenous sources, how to balance these with imported supplies and how to balance hydrocarbon-based energy supplies with coal, nuclear and other sources. The information report will indicate that this matter should be the subject of public debate and that a new impetus is needed, especially as the laws, regulations and administrative practices of the individual Member States differ widely in such matters as the authorizing of exploration, the granting of licences to exploit any deposits discovered and the rights and obligations of companies with respect to the disposal of hydrocarbons.

The Committee will have its Section's information report for adoption at its first meeting in 1985.

The last of the four own-initiative projects the Committee embarked upon in the Community's energy and R, D&D sector concerned itself with what are called shared-cost research programmes. The system whereby the Commission collaborates with individual private and public research laboratories up and down the Member States, is the major Community action in R, D&D, after that entailed in the Community's own Research Centre, the JRC. The Committee asked the Section responsible to investigate the return for money and effort which the Community is obtaining from the cost-sharing contract research (formerly known as 'indirect action' or 'shared-cost research'), carried out by the Commission; to inform the Commission of the views of some research contractors; and to make suggestions for improvement in the operations.

Committee Members interviewed Commission departments responsible for initiating Community research, and visited a number of research laboratories in the Member States. The Committee's report will be published in the first quarter of 1985.

Opinions on energy and research, following Council referrals

Of the seven opinions the Committee gave during the course of 1984 on energy and R, D&D matters, as a direct result of normal Council consultation procedure, and mentioned in the first paragraph above, two should be selected for special mention, one on energy and one on R, D&D, with passing reference being made to a third, that on the Community's fusion programme.

In November 1984, the Committee adopted its opinion on the amended proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) concerning financial support by the Community in favour of industries producing solid fuels. This was not the first occasion on which the Committee has been asked to give an opinion on the subject. Only a year earlier the Committee had failed to approve a proposal to give financial support to the solid fuels sector, on the grounds that it disagreed with the criteria laid down in the proposal concerning those enterprises eligible for financial support for modernization and de-stocking. Because the Council, too, had failed to agree to the proposal, this amended proposal had been re-presented.

In its opinion on the amended draft regulation, the Committee was concerned to see that its original proposals had been ignored — indeed, the programme for reducing coal stocks expressly welcomed by the Committee had been deleted; the eligibility criteria for capital grants were made even more stringent even though the Committee had said they should be less stringent. Furthermore, the ceiling for capital grants had been reduced from 25% to 20%, whereas the Committee had recommended an increase.

In October 1984, the Committee adopted its opinion on a proposed plan (1985-88) aimed at stimulating European cooperation and scientific and technical interchange. The Committee was enthusiastic about this proposal, reiterating its conviction, already expressed in its opinion on the pilot project for stimulation, that the time is ripe for the creation of a genuine European scientific space. In this opinion, the Committee saw as meriting key priority the organization and stimulation of intra-Community R, D&D in order to give a determined boost to circulation and interchange amongst researchers. It stressed that particular attention be focused on the systematic build-up of networks of twinned laboratories. Each network should specialize in a major area of research with one laboratory taking the lead role.

Whilst in the process of approving the Commission's proposal for the plan and a 40 million ECU appropriation for the two-year period 1985-86, the Committee noted that insufficient funds were being earmarked in the draft budget for the stimulation plan to go ahead in 1985. It recommended that the 1985 draft budget

be revised in order to provide sufficient credits for the plan. The opinion was in fact the subject of a special representation to the President of the Research Council pressing this point.

The Community's thermonuclear fusion research programme was the subject of another of the seven referrals on which the Committee gave its opinion to the Council.

In approving the mid-term revision of the controlled thermonuclear fusion research programme, the Committee saw the programme as particularly significant because it covers the whole of Community research in the field. It represents a major part of the Community R, D&D budget, about 25% of proposed R, D&D spending in 1985. The Committee stressed the enormous long-term potential of fusion energy and thus the importance of continued research efforts. It regarded the fusion programme as a first-class example of European cooperation and noted with satisfaction that companies from nearly all West European countries were involved.

In keeping with the Committee's usual interest in such matters it stressed the importance of safety and environmental aspects.

9. PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT — PUBLIC HEALTH — CONSUMERS

Environment

For some time now the Committee in its opinions has been urging that the Community should earmark more funds for environmental protection, and consequently the Committee was pleased to give its support during the year to three Commission proposals for expenditure on environmental research and development.

The first of these concerned a revision and extension of the sectoral R&D programme in environmental protection and climatology, 1981-85. This involved the upping of expenditure from 42 million ECU to 54.5 million ECU to cover the two years 1984-85.

As revised, the programme will place more emphasis on acid rain and waste management, and will extend and revise work on atmospheric pollutants, micropollutants in water, sewage sludge and the coastal eco-system.

It will also initiate new action in respect of the effects of air pollutants on ecosystems, indoor air quality, and bird protection.

In its opinion supporting the revised programme the Committee observed that it should be considered in the context of all relevant research programmes rather than in isolation, that particular importance should be attached to acid rain, and

that when the next programme is drawn up in two years time the priorities should be thoroughly reviewed and if necessary new ones should be set.

The second of the two R&D proposals concerned the adoption of an information system on the state of the environment and national resources within the Community. An expenditure of 5.8 million ECU is involved during a first phase which will cover the years 1984-87.

During this first phase, work will concentrate on the application of the information system on a Community scale, but with emphasis on two specific problems: the protection of the Mediterranean and acid rain.

In its opinion the Committee supported the programme but with a number of technical observations covering monitoring methods.

It will be noted that in the aforementioned R&D programmes one of the items on which emphasis is placed is the phenomenon of acid rain, a subject to which the Committee has devoted considerable attention.

The Commission has put forward a third proposal for the expenditure of 100 million ECU over the period 1985-88 on a Community scheme to protect forests against fire and acid rain. This covers, in the case of fire, measures for prevention and firefighting. In the case of protection against acid depositions, it involves a network of monitoring posts in forest areas, teams of scientists to devise preventive techniques, the coordination of their work by the Commission and finally the establishment of experimental pilot projects.

In 1983, the Committee adopted two opinions endorsing the Commission's proposal and made the point that individual measures which are effective in the short term should form part of a fully-fledged Community policy which should be drawn up as soon as possible.

In pursuance of its campaign against acid rain the Committee has decided to draw up an additional opinion, which is in course of compilation and will be issued in 1985.

A further factor in the ecological cycle is the problem of atmospheric pollution which is itself a contributory cause of acid rain.

In 1983 the Committee issued an opinion on air pollution from industrial plants, and followed this up in 1984 with an opinion on a proposal for a directive to lay down air quality standards for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), a pollutant produced by a number of scattered sources in areas of urban and industrial development — for example power stations, domestic heating equipment and traffic. In combination with other pollutants it contributes to photochemical smog and acid rain and is a danger both to human health and to the environment.

In its opinion the Committee supported the Commission's proposal, made various recommendations, and expressed the hope that exemptions would be

used sparingly and that every effort be made to reduce the implementation time-scale and exemption date limit.

This was followed up by a Commission proposal to limit emissions of pollutants (SO₂, NO_x and dust) into the air from large combustion plants.

The Member States will have until the end of 1986 to draw up programmes for the progressive reduction of emissions with the aim of reaching the overall targets set by end-1995.

This should allow sufficient flexibility for the targets to be achieved at the lowest cost using low-polluting fuels and reliable technologies, which are economically viable for the industries concerned.

The Committee in its opinion endorsed the general lines of the Commission proposal but observed in particular that the Commission should aim to ensure that there are no negative repercussions on energy choices, on the exploitation of the fuels available in Europe, on technological innovation, on market competitiveness and on employment.

Accordingly, the Commission should make a more detailed cost/benefit analysis of the implications. The proposed directive should be implemented in a homogeneous manner throughout the EEC, bearing in mind that some Member States have low total emissions and others burn indigenous fuels.

Going one step further in the ecological cycle one comes to the twin problems of lead in petrol and motor-vehicle emissions which together contribute to atmospheric pollution, which in turn contributes to acid rain.

The Commission has made proposals on this of which the main points concern the introduction of the proposed control measures in stages, with a deadline of 1991 for the universal introduction of unleaded petrol and of limit values for motor-vehicle emissions.

The Environment Section collaborated closely with the Industry Section on the drawing-up of an opinion on the lead content of petrol and on motor-vehicle emissions, both matters of considerable topical interest because of the increasing concern with their possible adverse effects on public health, and in the creation of acid rain.

The Committee's opinion clearly represented the views of environment and consumer interests in proposing deadlines for the introduction of unleaded petrol and the control of gas emissions earlier than those proposed by the Commission.

Even though the proposed early deadlines had not been accepted by the end of 1984, the Committee feels it has made a major contribution to the campaign against atmospheric pollution.

A further environmental problem of topical interest is the pollution of the sea, and the Committee gave its opinion on two proposals in this field.

Firstly on the proposal on the reduction of pollution caused by oil spills at sea involving increased action by the Member States, the Committee while endorsing the proposed directive, felt it did not go far enough. It felt that the directive should cover not only emergency action against oil spills but also accident prevention on the high seas and rehabilitation of the environment after disasters. It also felt that the directive should empower the Community and the Member States to take action not only in territorial waters but also in economic zones and, if necessary, beyond the 200 mile limit.

On more specific environmental matters, the committee continued to issue opinions at regular intervals on proposals concerning the discharge of dangerous substances into the aquatic environment. The Commission has established a 'black list' of very toxic substances which should be eliminated and a 'grey list' of less toxic substances which should be reduced.

Among the toxic substances on the black list are organohalogen compounds which are used as pesticides.

One such category of compounds are those containing HCH (Hexachlorocyclohexane) which contains the substance lindane (HCH is used in the treatment of wood and electric cables and lindane is well known in agriculture as an ingredient in sheep-dip).

The Committee endorsed a Commission proposal to eliminate pollution caused by HCE effluent by establishing limit values, deadlines, and monitoring procedures, with a warning against the difficulty of applying those measures to imports from non-Community countries.

Finally, under the heading of environment, the Committee adopted a detailed own-initiative opinion on waste calling for a European waste management programme.

The Committee pointed out that waste management measures have so far failed to place sufficient emphasis on reducing waste, and efforts in this area would have to be stepped up in the future.

The opinion cited examples of measures which could be taken in this regard. For example, a cutback on packaging material coupled with increased durability for consumer goods would have a major impact on the amount of household waste produced each year. Steps should also be taken to encourage the production of easily repaired products and of standardized goods and spare parts.

Another example concerned dangerous waste. Derelict tips where dangerous waste has been dumped without the requisite safety precautions are a special problem. These dumps should be listed systematically and closed off to access by unauthorized persons, in particular children.

Each of the objectives of waste policy could only be achieved by means of comprehensive management. This should be introduced as soon as possible and cover the entire 'lifetime' of the waste.

The proposed European waste management programme should be based on the most advanced scientific know-how, including the setting up at EEC level of an appropriate data-bank system, and of inspection and monitoring systems.

Consumer affairs and public health

The most significant work of the Committee in the field of consumer affairs during the year was that on the producer-consumer dialogue. This was an own-initiative opinion but was inspired by the second consumer action programme.

The basic concept of the opinion is that in the free market economy consumers do not always have adequate protection and that through a 'dialogue' voluntary agreements and codes of practice should be drawn up in respect of specific goods and services.

Agreements and codes, voluntary or otherwise, have been introduced in several Member States in recent years but coordination between these States is either inadequate or non-existent. For this purpose the idea of the dialogue should be developed further at Community level, where it can supplement the traditional means of conducting consumer policy.

The Committee proposes that a framework directive which embraces the various forms of dialogue, agreements and codes, as well as the means of enforcement and redress, should be drawn up. This framework directive should be sufficiently broadly based to allow each Member State to adopt implementing provisions of its own to suit its own situation and level of developments; it should also be sufficiently broad to allow for considerable variation in points of detail, as long as this does not obstruct the rational functioning of the EEC.

Voluntary agreements or codes whose observance cannot be ensured are not in many cases of much use. The Committee therefore considers that such agreements and codes could include provisions for ensuring their observance.

The Committee is convinced that the dialogue between consumers and industry/trade can be intensified given greater support from the Commission.

On more specific consumer matters, the Committee's main work during the year was concentrated on foodstuffs and their ingredients.

The Committee adopted opinions of a technical nature approving the introduction of updating amendments to a basic directive on coffee and chicory extracts, on the establishment of lists of potentially dangerous extraction solvents (substances used in foodstuffs processing to extract an unwanted element), and on the reclassification of certain food additives (emulsifiers).

The Committee adopted an opinion approving in principle two proposals by the Commission for the unit pricing of both foodstuffs and non-food products, as being in line with the principles embodied in the first and second consumer action programmes. However, the Committee did point out some significant flaws in the application of these proposals particularly with regard to the links between unit pricing and the standardization of contents and containers.

In the field of foodstuff sampling and analysis, the Committee's opinion supported a Commission proposal to harmonize methods of testing, but argued that the regulations should be sufficiently flexible to allow Member States which currently test at the retail level only to adapt without too much difficulty to testing at factory level also.

Under the heading of both consumer affairs and public health the Committee approved a Commission proposal on the establishment of common minimum fire safety regulations in existing hotels, with some suggestions of a technical nature.

The Committee also agreed a proposal for the introduction of a European emergency health card to facilitate travellers with serious or chronic illnesses, again with some technical amendments.

Finally, the Committee commented on a proposal for the harmonization of the rules governing health examinations for food-handlers in the meat and meat-processing industry which involved replacing an annual medical examination by *ad hoc* examinations.

The Committee expressed some reservations with regard to the expected better guarantees for consumer protection, and in particular asked that the annual medical examination be retained until the new system had proved its worth, that safeguards for the jobs of workers who contract contagious diseases be provided for and that the responsibilities of firms' medical officers should be more clearly defined.

Conference on 'Europe and the New Technologies'

More than 650 people attended the Conference on 'Europe and the New Technologies' organized by the Economic and Social Committee in Brussels on 6 and 7 November 1984. Participants came from industry and services, trade unions, agriculture consumer groups, research interests and public administration.

The choice of the theme 'Europe and the New Technologies' for the conference was a compelling one for two reasons. The first is the increasing involvement of the Economic and Social Committee (ESC) with the consequences of technological innovation both as concerns its sectoral impact and its broader economic and social implications for Europeans in their work and daily lives.

The Committee has analysed such sectors as the automotive industry, textiles, shipbuilding, data processing and telecommunications and has in the first 10 months of 1984 given its opinion on five themes concerning 'horizontal' issues: Community competition policy, R&D, the development of information technology and the social impact of technological change.

The second reason for the choice of theme is the special position of the ESC as the only Community institution bringing together in a single forum representatives from industry, the trade unions, consumer organizations and other special interest groups.

Its composition thus makes it a unique vehicle not only for finding agreement across such a wide spectrum but also for bringing pressure to bear, not least on governments which is where the main difficulties lie in creating a truly European dimension to innovation.

Both these justifications were referred to in his introductory statement by the Committee's Chairman Gerd Muhr. Noting that the conference in its two short days could not reach definitive conclusions, he said the aim was 'with our work to sharpen the awareness as to what the Community has to do to promote new technologies and at the same time to master their social consequences (...). It is up to us as practitioners to help find practical solutions to the problems which new technologies pose for Europe'.

Conference speakers included Viscount Étienne Davignon, Vice-President of the EC Commission, Professor Rolf Rodenstock, former President of the German Federation of Industry, Mr Georges Debunne, President of the European Trade Union Confederation, and Mr Umberto Colombo, President of the Committee for the European Development of Science and Technology.

The closing session was addressed by Mr Muhr, Mr Pierre Pflimlin, President of the European Parliament, Commissioner Ivor Richard and Mr John Bruton, Irish Industry Minister and President-in Office of the EC Council.

'Faced with the challenge and opportunities of high technology industrial innovation, Europe has the potential, both human and material, to meet the threat posed by the United States and Japan who are increasingly outpacing it in certain key sectors. The European Community may, however, be too weak, too fragmented and too incomplete to realize this potential. Fears and hesitations about the social impact of the new technologies also need to be overcome.'

Such, in short, was the message of the conference. The current vogue of pessimism about Europe was only justified if Europe now failed to produce the will and determination to respond to the challenge of organizing itself to make the best use of the new technologies.

These themes were taken up in turn by the principal speakers.

Viscount Étienne Davignon, Vice-President of the European Commission, charted the necessary European dimension. He said that advanced technology was not a panacea for Europe's economic ills: it could not by itself create enough new jobs to offset lost employment in other sectors. Viscount Davignon criticized 'technological nationalism', especially that of governments. He also pointed to the risk of excessive dependence on imported technology, notably that caused by the growing number of firms who conclude licensing agreements with non-EEC partners. The Community dimension was, however, beginning to appear, he said. With the Esprit programme and others in telecommunications and biotechnology inspired by it, R&D was becoming a reality at European level. There were also efforts under way to open national public procurement markets, to integrate financial markets and to develop European rather than national norms and standards.

Viscount Davignon also underlined the unprecedented effort required to adapt education and training to the possibilities offered by the new technologies and help cope with the 'fascinating and frightening' image that hi-tech innovation still held for many.

In a rich and exciting inventory of Europe's scientific and technological successes and potential, Professor Umberto Colombo, President of the Italian Atomic Energy Commission and of the EEC Research Committee Codest, struck the same note of determined optimism. All depended on doing more and spending more to exploit the European dimension, building rapidly on the

foundations that had been or were being laid through EEC programmes for scientific and technological cooperation. 'We have scientists and technologists of unparalleled ability' he said, 'but sometimes we seem not to have the capacity to use them.'

Professor Rodenstock, German Federation of Industries, also warmly welcomed the European Community's new efforts to step up cross-frontier cooperation in research and development. Europe, he said, was the only major Western economic region to have experienced a drop in employment over the last 10 years: a European framework for the new technologies was thus vital for jobs.

Mr Georges Debunne, President of the European Trade Union Confederation, went out of his way to correct the idea that trade unions opposed the introduction of new technologies. On the contrary, he said, the ETUC considered them indispensable, otherwise Europe would become more and more dependent on others. However, Europe could not be built against the workers, but only with them and their trade unions. The repercussions of the new technology on employment, on social security, on the very life of European society, had to be researched and mastered. The trade union movement was interested in consensus, not in confrontation, but for consensus to succeed goodwill was essential. This implied consultation, control, and if possible, concerted action.

These themes were developed on the basis of discussions in the three conference workshops for which ESC members Mr Arena, Mr Lauga and Mr A. Smith acted as rapporteurs. These were devoted to the following aspects of new technology:

1. its application to established mass-production manufacturing;
2. the development of information technologies;
3. biotechnology and its industrial applications.

The main thrust was almost universal recognition that the new technologies provide Europe with the chance it needs to regain its competitiveness in sectors where it has lost out to its non-European (mainly American and Japanese) rivals and to remain competitive where it is still a world leader. The principal means available to meet this challenge was clearly recognized to be the reinforcement of the European dimension: through the consolidation of a single EEC market, the creation of a Community R&D capacity and the encouragement of transfrontier cooperation between EEC firms.

Much time was also devoted to examining the impact of the new technologies on employment, especially their limited capacity, at least in the short term, to create a sufficient number of new jobs. The need to forestall the negative social and cultural effects which might result from pursuing technology for technology's sake was frequently voiced. Participants also pinpointed a requirement for better dissemination of information about technological innovation both to heighten public awareness of its possibilities and to allay false fears of its abuse.

Relations with the press and outside reaction

It can be safely asserted that the public's view of the European Community in the first half of 1984 was generally negative. A succession of summit meetings and Councils of Ministers presented to the world at large a picture of quarrels for national advantage, bickering over points of detail, no signs of European solidarity and no progress. 'Europessimism' was the word bandied about most frequently. The situation improved considerably after the Fontainebleau Summit.

Throughout this period, the Economic and Social Committee continued its campaign to encourage citizens to vote in the election to the European Parliament. The Committee's Chairman, Monsieur François Ceyrac, issued several appeals to Committee members, in which he asked them to urge their respective organizations and associations to further this aim. These appeals, as well as those directed by him at Heads of State or Government to reach agreement, were well reported in the press. The same is true for his speeches and interviews. In view of the Community's circumstances, the number of those who went to the polls must be considered high.

Press response

The political campaigns which centred around the election gave the Community more media coverage than in previous years, a factor which also worked to the Committee's advantage. The number of press clippings concerning its activities, received in the Secretariat, which is taken as a measure of its publicity, rose by almost 10% compared to 1983.

Seen countrywise, Belgium led the field, followed by France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Italy. The clippings received from Luxembourg, Denmark, Greece and the Netherlands made a poor showing. On the other hand, visits of the Committee delegations to Spain, Portugal and Yugoslavia brought in a good number. It must be mentioned here that the Committee's special efforts in the two countries which hold the Council presidency have borne fruit in the form of articles and news reports: for France, the report on the economic situation had an excellent echo. The same was true for the Committee's report on the Irish border areas. Good coverage was obtained on the Committee's opinions on agriculture, on the environment, social affairs, industry and transport in general.

Individual opinions such as those on the integrated Mediterranean programmes, air transport, and the small and medium enterprises were well covered. On a personal level, newspapers duly recorded the election of Mr Gerd Muhr as Chairman to succeed Monsieur François Ceyrac and the appointment of the Committee's Vice-Chairman, Mr Alois Pfeiffer to the Commission.

The effects on the press of the conference on 'Europe and the New Technologies', which took place late in the year, could not be included in this year's report and statistical breakdown. It will be reviewed in the next report.

Visiting groups

The number of visiting groups to the Committee in the year under review fell from 151 to 147; the overall total was also less and stood at 3 774. An important factor in this decline was the fact that we had to turn away several groups, particularly large ones, because no meeting rooms were available due to the works underway in the Committee building. Most of the visitors came from Germany, followed in number by those from the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, France, Ireland, Denmark, Italy and Greece. Some came from Africa, South-East Asia and the Chinese People's Republic. They included political groups, managers, trade unionists, civil servants, students, consumers, housewives, local government officials, and magistrates — a cross section of the public.

Publications

Another aspect of information work is the Committee publications, which fall into three groups: periodic information, such as the Bulletin, which reports on each plenary session; opinions and studies in brochure form; and massive in-depth studies of organizations either by country or by sector of activity. Those published in the course of the year were:

1. Tourism (in all Community languages)
2. Index (list of members and sections, multilingual)
3. Annual Report 1983 (all languages)
4. Socio-professional organizations of Spain (English)
5. Socio-professional organizations of Portugal (French and Portuguese)
6. Cooperative, mutual and non-profit sector and its organizations (provisional edition in French and German)
7. Economic and Social Situation 1983 (all languages)

8. Europe and the New Technologies (English, French and German)

9. 10 editions of the Bulletin in all languages.

Although the Committee's impact on the European public is improving, it remains on the margin of European news. Only when citizens become aware that Committee members defend their interests in Brussels will the former show greater interest in this assembly and will editors give it greater space.

The Groups

GROUP I — EMPLOYERS

The 43 members of the Employers Group are representative of private and public industries, commerce, transport, banking and insurance, wholesale and retail trade and agriculture.

During the mid-term election in October the Group confirmed the mandate of its Chairman, Mr Staratzke (Germany) and two Vice-Chairmen, Mr Masprone (Italy) and Mr Zinkin (UK).

With the change of ESC Chairman, Mr Noordwal (Netherlands) was elected Vice-Chairman, the other seven Bureau members being Mr De Bievre (Belgium), Mr Broicher (Germany), Mr Ceyrac (France), Mr Dracos (Greece), Mr Masprone, Mr Pearson (Ireland) and Mr Poeton (UK).

The three Section Chairmen proposed by the Group were also confirmed in office. They are Mr Romoli (Italy), Energy and Nuclear Questions, Mr de Wit (Netherlands), Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services, and Mr Zinkin, External Relations.

The Employers Group is keenly aware that the Committee still has to realize its full potential as the unique forum where the social partners engage in constant, detailed debate together with farmers, consumers and the liberal professions. During the first half of 1984 this awareness led a nucleus of employer members to concentrate their efforts on ensuring that an internal report analysing the structure and organization of the ESC Secretariat will be used as a motor for changes which are essential if the Committee is to increase its public impact and efficacy.

This 'wind of change', itself a by-product of the economic crisis in the Community, brings with it a growing willingness to re-examine and streamline established procedures, above all to improve communications internally and externally.

More generally, rapporteurs from the Employers Group have been responsible for a large number of opinions, among them the following:

1. Lead content of petrol and motor-vehicle emissions
2. The economic situation of the Community, mid-1984
3. Annual economic report, 1984-85
4. Long-term unemployment
5. 13th report on competition policy
6. Communities system of own resources
7. Stimulating European cooperation and scientific and technical interchange
8. Turnover tax and excise duty in international travel
9. Relations between the EC and Yugoslavia
10. 12th VAT Directive: expenditure not eligible for deduction of VAT
11. Patent licensing agreements
12. Air quality standards for NO₂.

To this year's meeting between representatives of ACP and EEC socio-economic organizations came for the first time almost 60 employers, half of them from ACP States, to discuss with trade union and agricultural representatives a paper drafted by Mr Staratzke on the role of ACP/EEC economic and social partners in industrial cooperation.

The annual joint meeting with EFTA partners examined a paper by Mr Breitenstein on the GATT system. This, together with proposals for the reduction of technical trade barriers, produced a very positive response from the employer side and a commitment to continue the debate in 1985.

Throughout 1984 the support received from the European socio-professional organizations, UNICE (Union des industries de la CE), the CEEP (Centre européen de l'entreprise publique), the CPCC (Conférence Permanente des Chambres de Commerce) and the wholesale and retail trade organizations has been excellent. Good cooperation with European and national sectoral organizations has also enriched the work on specific subjects.

GROUP II — WORKERS

The representatives of trade unions in the EEC countries belong to the Economic and Social Committee's Workers Group (Group II).

At the two-yearly elections of the Committee's officers, in October 1984, Group II re-elected Mr van Greunsven (FNV, Netherlands) as Chairman.

The following were appointed as the Group's representatives on the Committee Bureau:

Mr G. Muhr (DGB, Germany) (Committee Chairman)

Mr G.B. Cavazzuti (CISL, Italy)

Mr T. Jenkins (TUC, United Kingdom)

Mr P. Murphy (ITUC, Ireland)

Mr B. Nielsen (LO, Denmark)

Mr B. Pronk (CNV, the Netherlands)

Mr J. Rouzier (FO, France)

Mr J. Schneider (CGT, Luxembourg).

The following Group members would be Section Chairmen:

Mr Kirschen (UIL, Italy): Section for Social Questions

Mr Delourme (FTGB, Belgium): Section for Transport and Communications

Mr Dassis (GSEE, Greece): Section for Regional Development.

In the opinions on the economic situation (Rapporteur: Mr Beretta) and the social situation (Rapporteur: Mr Pelletier) issued in July 1984, Group II stressed:

1. the serious impact of higher unemployment on workers, both on individual incomes and on welfare payments; most hard-hit of all were the long-term unemployed, some of whom had been without a job for months;
2. the industrialized countries' inability to adopt a common approach to industrial policy based on optimum growth and an active employment policy, including a reduction and re-organization of working hours; and
3. the need for an active investment policy (especially in the public sector) giving preference to investments which created jobs.

During the discussion on the Commission's 'Annual Economic Report 1984-85' at the November 1984 plenary session, the Group decided unanimously that it could not support the 16 proposals in the report. It therefore submitted an amendment which completely replaced the text of the opinion presented by Mr Pelletier. This amendment was narrowly rejected by 65 votes to 60, with 7

abstentions. The Group considered that a report containing proposals from the Commission concerning structural aspects of the European economy and seen as an 'economic recovery plan' should have been the subject of wide-ranging consultations of the institutions and representative organizations, rather than being referred at the last minute to the Economic and Social Committee by the Commission.

During the period under review, several Group II members were rapporteurs for subjects of major importance to workers, among them:

1. the European Monetary System;
2. data processing and telecommunications;
3. social developments in the Community;
4. the social impact of the new technologies;
5. social security;
6. migrant workers; and
7. industrial medicine.

The last three of the above were the subject of own-initiative opinions or information reports drawn up at the urgent request of Group II.

Group members did not just prepare opinions at plenary sessions; they also contributed actively to the conference on Europe and the third industrial revolution, organized by the Committee.

Although Group II is very interested in Community affairs, it has also paid a great deal of attention to European and world issues in the wider sense:

1. A Group delegation played an active part in the annual meeting with the EFTA countries held in Berne on 18 and 19 October, which dealt with some of the issues relating to GATT and the reduction of non-tariff barriers to trade;
2. The Group was also closely involved in the meeting with labour and management representatives from the ACP States in September, which covered ACP-EEC industrial cooperation.

Group II members also concerned themselves with certain points relating to the structure and functioning of the Committee, such as:

1. the rotation of Section chairmanships among Committee members;
2. statements by the Committee Chairman which, in exceptional circumstances, should be followed by a debate;

3. declarations at Committee plenary sessions;
4. the organization of Sections' work, including a more balanced sharing-out of rapporteur posts among the three Groups;
5. the Committee's public relations policy; and
6. follow-up action to Committee opinions.

The forthcoming accession of Spain and Portugal to the Community will obviously give rise to further operational problems; Group II will lend its support to the solutions which are necessary.

GROUP III — VARIOUS ACTIVITIES

Group III — Various Activities — is the mouthpiece of the farming organizations, small, medium and crafts' businesses, the liberal professions and family, consumer and environment conservation groups. Alongside representatives of these socio-economic groupings, a certain proportion of its members represent regional, scientific and cultural interests.

Overall consistency of approach is guaranteed by the fact that all Group III members are keenly aware of embodying, in conjunction with the key partners in industrial and trade undertakings, the complex reality of a multi-faceted social fabric.

1984 started with the organization of an information seminar on the European Parliament, held in Brussels on 21 March. This event was attended by Mrs Veil, former President of the European Parliament, Mr Bruno Friedrich and Mr Estgen, Vice-Presidents, Mrs Baduel Glorioso, MEP and former ESC Chairman, and Mr F. Ceyrac, the ESC Chairman at the time. This seminar, in which representatives of European social and economic organizations also took part, gratified Group III's wish to be involved in briefing the general public during the period leading up to the second direct European Parliament elections.

Group III members have played an active role in the Committee's work, particularly in acting as rapporteurs for difficult and controversial issues. The opinions on enlargement of the Community, the integrated Mediterranean programmes, fisheries, oils and fats, hormones, transport infrastructure, local job-creation schemes, lead in petrol, toy safety, nuclear questions and Community research priorities — to mention only the most important — are cases in point. Group III members also made a special contribution to the conference on new technologies.

Lastly, the Group's external relations were enhanced in 1984 by the growth of 'Europe III', a monthly newsletter aimed at European social and economic organizations. This newsletter's success bears witness to the wide response to

this liaison organ, which enables the Group to keep constantly in touch with the general and sectoral European organizations with which it maintains close links.

The Group is chaired by Mrs Käte Strobel; Mr De de Bruyn and Mr Morselli are its two Vice-Chairmen.

Chapter VI

Participation in certain events

This year the Committee received a flood of invitations to attend various conferences, seminars and meetings of one sort or another arranged by European organizations. It was not possible to accept them all, but the Chairman, other members and representatives of the Secretariat between them did manage to attend the following:

Kangaroo Group lunch in the European Parliament	17 January in Brussels
Invitation to a conference/forum organized by the 'Cercle féminin d'amitié européenne' on Italian and European unity	31 January in Saint-Cloud (Paris)
Meeting on Spanish accession to the European Community organized by the National Union of Family Associations at the instigation of the departmental unions of family associations of the area	4 February in Montpellier
11th European seminar organized by the Association of Students of the Central College of Arts and Manufactures on 'Industrial Europe in the spotlight'	6-10 February in Chatenay-Malabry
European symposium on agriculture organized by the European Training and Promotion Centre for Farming and Rural Life (Cepfar) on 'Agriculture, source of employment'	13-15 February in Brussels
Seminar organized by the Bremen Wirtschafts- und Sozialakademie 'European Community — hope or illusion'	20-24 February in Bad Zwischenahn (FRG)
Lunch/discussion organized by the Association of Financial Directors on 'Does protectionism affect business competitiveness'	23 February in Brussels

Meeting of the General Assembly of the Standing Assembly of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on 'The chambers of commerce and industry <i>vis-à-vis</i> economic Europe'	27 and 28 February in Paris
Seminar organized by the Committee on Regional Planning and Local Authorities of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on 'Environment and employment'	1 and 2 March in Barcelona (Spain)
Inauguration of the 36th International Fair of Arts and Crafts in Munich	10-14 March in Munich
National Congress of the FIM (Italian Federation for the Mutual Assistance Movement) and Round-Table on Voluntary Mutual Assistance and the Social Economy in the EEC	16-18 March in Bari (Italy)
1st ordinary inaugural session of the Standing Committee for Social Concertation established by the Portuguese Government	20 March in Lisbon
Invitation to the European Congress for European Union organized by the European Movement	22-24 March in Brussels
2nd Conference of the European Insular Regions organized by the Council of Europe's Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities	27-29 March in Ponta Delgada (San Miguel, Azores)
European symposium organized by the Centre for Research on Food Law of the Institute of European Studies of the Free University of Brussels on 'Food law in the Europe of today'	3-5 April in Brussels
Conference/debate organized by the ETUC on 'The impact of the economic and social crisis'	5 and 6 April in Strasbourg
15th general assembly of the Association of Local Authorities of Europe on 'The local authority and the region in the face of important decisions for Europe'	11-14 April in Turin
15th international congress of the International Centre for Research and Information on Economic, Public, Social and Cooperative Affairs on 'Development or stagnation: public and cooperative intervention of national and international level'	15-18 April in Florence
38th congress of the French National Federation of Farmers' Associations	21 and 22 April in Versailles

19th congress of the International Road Transport Union on 'Road transport and the future'	25-28 April in Venice
Symposium organized by the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions on 'Links between change in work organization and salary arrangements'	26 and 27 April in Dublin
Symposium organized by the Bureau of Consumer Associations and the Friedrich-Ebert Foundation on 'The common market for consumers — a utopia?'	11 May in Bonn
Meeting organized by the National Union of Family Associations on 'European issues'	12 and 13 May in Pau
Conference organized by the Association of Former Students of the Free University of Brussels on 'Europe against the crisis'	15 May in Brussels
Seminar organized by the University of Barcelona on 'Economic and social prospects for the cooperative movement'	15 May in Barcelona
Seminar organized by the ETUC on 'Education/training/employment in Western Europe'	21 May in Brussels
6th symposium organized by the European Water Pollution Control Association	22-25 May in St Augustin (FRG)
Meeting organized by the European Business School on 'Europe concerns you'	5 June in Paris
Conference organized by the Youth Forum of the European Communities on 'Youth unemployment'	7 June in Luxembourg
20th annual meeting of the European Association of Mass Produced Pharmaceutical Specialities on 'Self-medication — 20 years on'	13-15 June in Paris
Meeting of the Joint ACP/EEC Committee organized by the ETUC	14 and 15 June in Geneva
Conference organized by the Financial Times Limited, London, on 'The European offshore in 1984'	18 and 19 June in Oslo
General annual meeting of the Federation of Mortgage Associations of the European Economic Community	22 June in Brussels

Study days organized by the Bastia Regional Institute for Administration on 'EEC aid for Corsica in the economic and social fields'	25 and 26 June in Bastia (Corsica)
International conference organized by the Greek General Labour Federation on 'Technological change and consequences for production, society and work and the establishment of the Institute for Health and Safety'	27 June-1 July in Athens
Seminar organized by the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions on 'Evaluation of the case studies on technological development and its impact on shift-work in the printing industry'	28 and 29 June in Dublin
3rd twin town olympiad organized by the Twin Town Olympiad Committee	4-9 July in Glenrothes (Scotland)
25th anniversary of the European Federation of Compound Feedingstuff Manufacturers	6 July in Brussels
General assembly of the National Union of Family Associations (Election of UNAF representatives to the Economic and Social Council)	7 July in Paris
Working meeting of the Economic and Social Councils of Aquitaine and the mid-Pyrénées on 'Integrated Mediterranean programmes'	9 July in Agen
General assembly of the European Training and Promotion Centre for Farming and Rural Life (Cepfar) on 'The role of the European institutions and member organizations in organizing European training activities in the agricultural and rural environment'	12 July in Brussels
116th British Trade Union Congress	3-7 September in Brighton
3rd European conference of frontier regions organized by the Council of Europe at the instigation of its Parliamentary Assembly and the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities in Europe	4-6 September in Borken (FRG)
Seminar on economic and monetary union in Europe organized by the International Centre for European Training	9-14 September in Hamburg

Conference organized by the French Government on Cooperation in Research	17 September in Paris
36th general assembly of the European Confederation of Agriculture	24-28 September in Avignon
Inaugural session of the 6th European Poetry Festival 'Africa-Europe'	26 September in Louvain
Seminar organized by the European League for Economic Cooperation on 'Work organization'	28 September in Brussels
Congress of the Federation of Dutch Trade Unions (FNV)	2-4 October in Amsterdam
Meeting of the Treasury's Economic Policy Committee on the 'Economic situation in mid-1984'	10 October in London
1st international congress during the Congress of the International Cooperative Alliance organized by the International Association for Cooperative and Associative Tourism on 'The role of the cooperative organizations in tourism'	10 October in Hamburg
Statutory general meeting of the Federation of European Associations for Wholesale and External Trade (Fewita)	15 October in Brussels
19th plenary session of the Standing Committee of Local Authorities	16-18 October in Strasbourg
European Communities' Chemistry Committee organized by the Royal Society of Chemistry	17 and 18 October in London
Meeting organized by the European Environment Bureau on 'Protection of the Mediterranean'	19-21 October in Brussels
Conference organized by the United States Permanent Representation to the European Communities on 'The US presidential election'	29 October in Brussels
Conference organized by the Italian Farmers' Confederation on 'The situation of and prospects for agriculture in the Pau Valley'	30 and 31 October in Piacenza (Italy)
Conference on Asean/EEC relations organized by the Trade Union Council of the Asean countries, the European Trade Union Confederation and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions	1-3 November in Bangkok

2nd conference of Mediterranean regions concerned by IMPs, organized by the Central Association of Towns and Local Authorities in Greece	16-18 November in Delphos (Greece)
Symposium organized by the General Committee for Agricultural Cooperation in the EEC and the Association of Cooperative Banks in the EEC on 'The ECU and its importance for trade in the agro-food sector'	22 and 23 November in Brussels
International seminar on 'The cooperative movement and the development of communities' organized by the European Inter-University Institute for Social Action (IEIAS)	27-30 November in Marcinelle
4th international congress organized by the European Council of Young Farmers on 'The role of rural organizations in economic, social and cultural development'	3-9 December in Ouagadougou, Bourkina Faso (formerly Upper Volta)
Seminar organized by SEPLIS on 'The liberal professions and competition policy'	14 December in Brussels

Renewal of the Committee

At its 220th plenary session on 24 and 25 October 1984 the Economic and Social Committee elected its new Bureau for the second two-year period of the Committee's seventh four-year term.

Mr Gerd Muhr was elected Chairman with Mr Emo Capodilista and Mr Noordwal being elected Vice-Chairmen. The following other members were elected to the Bureau:

Mr de Bievre	Mr Cavazzuti	Mr Bazianas
Broicher	Jenkins	Berns
Ceyrac	Murphy	Burnel
Dracos	Nielsen B.	Hovgaard Jakobsen
Masprone	Pronk	Jaschick
Pearson	Rouzier	Margot
Poeton	Schneider	Storie-Pugh

Appointments and resignations¹

During the period under review the Council appointed the following new committee members: Mr Hammond, Mr Jarvis, Mr Spijkers and Mr Hannon to replace Mr Chapple, Mr Drain, Mr Wagenmans and Mr Loughrey respectively.

The Council will shortly be appointing replacements for the following further members who have resigned:

Mr Bordes-Pages, Mr Bornard, Mr Laur and Mrs Patterson.

¹ A full list of members of the Economic and Social Committee may be obtained from the Committee's General Secretariat.

Chapter VIII

Internal affairs of the General Secretariat

1. STAFF

In 1984, the General Secretariat employed 400 permanent staff, up 2.3% on the previous year. Most of this increase was due to the establishment of local staff, although some was due to the creation of new posts.

2. BUDGET

Appropriations for 1984 totalled 24 910 300 ECU up 5% on the 1983 figure of 23 669 200 ECU.

This rise only partially offset the rise in prices during the year; but both the Community and the Member States had a difficult time with their budgets.

By keeping a tight grip on spending, the Committee was able to maintain a high level of activity and remain within its budgetary limits.

3. MEETINGS

There were 10 plenary sessions and 11 Bureau meetings in 1984.

The breakdown of other meetings was as follows:

Sections	75
Study groups	308
Groups I, II and III	89
Other	247
Outside bodies sponsored by Groups I, II or III	165

In addition, the Committee was visited by parties from a wide range of outside organizations.

4. STRUCTURE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT (1984)

Chairman

- Private office
- Group secretariats
- Financial control

Secretary-General

- Secretariat
- Adviser
- Division for the Registry, the Assembly and the Bureau
- Mail/records/library/documentation
- Press, information and publications division
- Studies and research division

Directorate A — Consultative work

- Secretariat of the Section for Economic and Financial Questions
- Secretariat of the Section for Social Questions
- Secretariat of the Section for Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs

Directorate B — Consultative work

- Secretariat of the Section for Regional Development
- Secretariat of the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services
- Secretariat of the Section for Transport and Communications

Directorate C — Consultative work

- Secretariat of the Section for Energy and Nuclear Questions
- Secretariat of the Section for Agriculture
- Secretariat of the Section for External Relations

Directorate-General for Administration, Translation and General Affairs

- Secretariat
- Personnel directorate
- Specialized financial service
- Translation
- Division for document production, coordination and internal affairs

**List of opinions, studies and information reports
issued during 1984**

214TH PLENARY SESSION OF 25-26 JANUARY 1984

- Exemption from turnover tax and excise duty on imports in international travel
(Sixth amendment of Directive 69/169/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr de Grave) (CES 90/84)
- Exemption from turnover tax and excise duty on imports in international travel
(Seventh amendment of Directive 69/169/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr de Grave) (CES 89/84)
- Limit values and quality objectives for discharges of hexachlorocyclohexane, and in particular lindane
(Rapporteur: Mr Zoli) (CES 84/84)
- Revision of the sectoral research and development programme in the field of environment (environmental protection and climatology) — Indirect and concerted action — 1981-85
(Rapporteur: Mr von der Decken) (CES 88/84)
- Standard exchange arrangements
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 85/84)
- Outward processing relief arrangements
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 86/84)
- Making-up by volume of certain prepackaged liquids
(Amendment of Directive 75/106/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Flum) (CES 81/84)
- Taxes other than turnover taxes which affect the consumption of manufactured tobacco
(Amendment of Directive 72/464/EEC)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Swift) (CES 87/84)

215TH PLENARY SESSION OF 29 FEBRUARY TO 1 MARCH 1984

- Fixing of prices for agricultural products and related measures (1984/85)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Schnieders) (CES 22/84)
- System of neutral margins and dismantlement of monetary compensatory amounts applying to certain agricultural and processed products (Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 974/71); Impact of the European Monetary System on the common agricultural policy (Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 652/79); Laying down of rules for calculating the levy and sluice-gate price for eggs (Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 2773/75); Laying down of rules

for calculating the levy and sluice-gate price for poultrymeat (Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 2778/75)
(Rapporteur: Mr Hilkenes) (CES 218/84)

- Improvement of the efficiency of agricultural structures and common measures to improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed (Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 355/77) and stimulation of agricultural development in the less-favoured areas of the West of Ireland (Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 1820/80) (two Regulations)
(Rapporteur: Mr Flum) (CES 224/84)
- Tax on certain oils and fats
(Rapporteur: Mr de Caffarelli) (CES 226/84)
- Possibility of granting aids for the use of butter in the manufacture of certain foodstuffs (Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 1723/81); Fat content of drinking milk (Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 1411/71); General rules on the granting of aid for concentrated skimmed milk and concentrated milk for use as animal feed; Terms for the disposal of butter at a reduced price for direct consumption (Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 1269/79) (four Regulations)
(Rapporteur: Mr Paggi) (CES 221/84)
- Common organization of the market in cereals
(Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75)
(Rapporteur: Mr de Caffarelli) (CES 226/84)
- Special measures to encourage the processing of certain varieties of oranges (Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 2601/69); Common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables (Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72); Common organization of the market in products processed from fruit and vegetables (Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 516/77) (three Regulations)
(Rapporteur: Mr de Caffarelli) (CES 228/84)
- Common organization of the wine market
(Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 337/79)
(Rapporteur: Mr de Caffarelli) (CES 227/84)
- Establishment of a common organization of the market in oils and fats
(Amendment of Regulation No 136/66/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr de Caffarelli) (CES 225/84)
- Adoption of a concerted-action project of the European Economic Community on the use of lignocellulose containing by-products and other plant residues for animal feeding
(Rapporteur: Mr Wick) (CES 217/84)
- Marketing of seed potatoes
(Amendment of Directive 66/403/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr de Tavernier) (CES 216/84)

- General measures in the field of data processing
(Amendment of Council Decision 79/783/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Nierhaus) (CES 214/84)
- Measures to be taken for uniform application of the nomenclature of the Common Customs Tariff
(Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 97/69)
(Rapporteur: Mr Mourgues) (CES 212/84)
- Tax reliefs to be allowed on the importation of goods in small consignments of a non-commercial character within the Community
(Fourth Council Directive amending Directive 74/651/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Flum) (CES 213/84)
- Council recommendation to the national railway undertakings on technical matters concerning operation and internal barriers to the crossing of frontiers affecting the international carriage of goods
(Rapporteur: Mr Schneider) (CES 215/84)

216TH PLENARY SESSION OF 28-29 MARCH 1984

- Establishment of a European Regional Development Fund
(Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 724/75)
(Rapporteur: Mr Regaldo) (CES 342/84)
- Community relations with the EFTA countries
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Zinkin) (CES 338/84)
- Community programme for the development of the specialized information market in Europe
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Nierhaus) (CES 343/84)
- Community's role as regards the safety of nuclear installations and the protection of public health (communication); trans-frontier radiological problems
(Draft resolution)
(Rapporteur: Mr Bordes-Pages) (CES 339/84)
- Implementation of Decision 83/200/EEC empowering the Commission to borrow under the New Community Instrument for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community
(Rapporteur: Mr Drago) (CES 341/84)
- Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 on the common organization of the market in milk and milk products and general rules applying to the milk sector levy specified in Article 5 (c) and (d) of that regulation
(Three proposals for Regulations)
(Rapporteur: Mr Zinkin) (CES 336/84)

- Animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade and imports from third countries of semen of domestic animals of the bovine and porcine species
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Storie-Pugh) (CES 337/84)
- Work programme for the first phase of the implementation of an information system on the state of the environment and the natural resources in the Community (1984-87)
(Rapporteur: Mr Schnieders) (CES 340/84)
- Fuel rationing of commercial transport between Member States
(Rapporteur: Mr Law) (CES 335/84)

217TH PLENARY SESSION OF 23-24 MAY 1984

- Commission's proposals on integrated Mediterranean programmes
(Rapporteur: Mr Lauga) (CES 537/84)
- Dialogue and cooperation between consumer, producer and retail representatives
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Hilken) (CES 530/84)
- Waste management, treatment and recycling
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Kölbl) (CES 540/84)
- Community action to combat unemployment — The contribution of local employment initiatives
(Commission communication)
(Rapporteur: Mr Roycroft) (CES 529/84)
- Action to combat unemployment amongst women
(Rapporteur: Mrs Weber) (CES 532/84)
- Turnover taxes — Common system of value-added tax: expenditure not eligible for deduction of value-added tax (Twelfth Directive)
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 528/84)
- Parental leave and leave for family reasons
(Rapporteur: Mr Fuller) (CES 535/84)
- Adoption of a European emergency health card
(Draft recommendation)
(Rapporteur: Mr Brassier) (CES 523/84)
- European Regional Development Fund, eighth Commission report
(Rapporteur: Mr Cavazzuti) (CES 524/84)

- Air quality standard for nitrogen dioxide
(Rapporteur: Mr de Normann) (CES 521/84)
- Ranges of nominal quantities and nominal capacities permitted for certain pre-packaged products
(Amendment of Directive 80/232/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Flum) (CES 525/84)
- Extraction solvents used in the production of foodstuffs and food ingredients
(Rapporteur: Mrs Williams) (CES 522/84)
- Conclusion of an agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Spain on the international combined road rail carriage of goods
(Rapporteur: Mr Schneider) (CES 526/84)
- Noise emission of rail-mounted vehicles
(Rapporteur: Mr Masprone) (CES 533/84)
- Implementation of a Community programme on road safety
(Draft resolution)
(Rapporteur: Mr Masprone) (CES 539/84)
- Community measures for the control of classical swine fever
(Amendment of Directive 80/217/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Storie-Pugh) (CES 534/84)
- Application of Article 85(3) of the Treaty to categories of agreements relating to research and development
(Draft regulation)
(Rapporteur: Mr Mourgues) (CES 531/84)
- Cocoa and chocolate products intended for human consumption
(Rapporteur: Mr Stahlmann) (CES 527/84)

218TH PLENARY SESSION OF 4-5 JULY 1984

- Economic situation in the Community (Mid-1984)
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Pelletier) (CES 670/84)
- Enlargement of the Community to include Portugal and Spain
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mrs Strobel) (CES 666/84)
- Protection of Community forests against fire and acid rain
(Community scheme) (Additional opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Schnieders) (CES 654/84)

- Drawing-up of contingency plans to combat accidental oil spills at sea
(Rapporteur: Mr Zoli) (CES 664/84)
- Signing of the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region
(Commission communication and proposal for Council decision)
(Rapporteur: Mr Zoli) (CES 665/84)
- Implementation of a long-term programme for the use of telematics for Community information systems concerned with imports, exports and the management and financial control of agricultural market organizations
(Caddia/telematics)
(Rapporteur: Mr Nierhaus) (CES 662/84)
- Application of Article 85(3) of the Treaty to certain categories of patent licensing agreements
(Rapporteur: Mr Poeton) (CES 658/84)
- Fire safety in existing hotels
(Rapporteur: Mr Van Meickenbeke) (CES 655/84)
- Extension of the derogation accorded to Ireland relating to the rules governing turnover tax and excise duty applicable in international travel
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 657/84)
- Exemption from turnover tax and excise duty on imports in international travel
(Amendment of Directive 69/169/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Noordwal) (CES 667/84)
- Exemption from value-added tax on the final importation of certain goods
(Amendment of Directive 83/181/EEC determining the scope of Article 14(1)(d) of Directive 77/388/EEC and standardization of provisions regarding the duty-free admission of fuel contained in the fuel tanks of commercial motor vehicles (Amendment of Directive 68/297/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Binnenbruck) (CES 659/84)
- Access to the occupation of carrier of goods by waterway in national and international transport and on the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications for this occupation
(Rapporteur: Mr Cremer) (CES 673/84)
- Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States
(Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 3164/76) and standardization of certain rules relating to authorizations for the carriage of goods by road between Member States (Amendment of Directive 65/269/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Bonety) (CES 660/84)

- Temporary importation of means of transport
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 656/84)
- Further provisions in relation to Regulation (EEC) No 234/68 in respect of certain floricultural products
(Rapporteur: Mr van der Veen) (CES 669/84)
- Emulsifiers, stabilizers, thickeners and gelling agents for use in foodstuffs
(Third amendment of Directive 74/329/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mrs Williams) (CES 668/84)
- Coffee extracts and chicory extracts
(Amendment of Directive 77/436/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Storie-Pugh) (CES 663/84)
- Fixing of export refunds for certain agricultural products by tendering procedure
(Amendment of Regulation No 136/66/EEC and Regulations (EEC) No 804/68, 805/68, 727/70, 1035/72, 2727/75, 2759/75, 2771/75, 2777/75, 1418/76, 516/77, 337/79 and 1837/80)
(Rapporteur acting on his own: Mr Schnieders) (CES 672/84)
- Foot-and-mouth disease and swine vesicular disease
(Amendment of Directive 64/432/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Storie-Pugh) (CES 661/84)

219TH PLENARY SESSION OF 26-27 SEPTEMBER 1984

- Social developments in the Community in 1983
(Rapporteur: Mr Beretta) (CES 853/84)
- Occupational medicine
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Mourgues) (CES 858/84)
- Community's system of own resources
(Rapporteur: Mr van der Mensbrugge) (CES 856/84)
- Shipbuilding aid
(Amendment of Directive 81/363/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Arena) (CES 854/84)
- Ratification of the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels and the application of the provisions thereof by the Member States pending the entry into force of the Convention at international level
(Rapporteur: Mr Morselli) (CES 849/84)

- Turnover taxes — Common system of value-added tax: derogations in connection with the special aids granted to certain farmers to compensate for the dismantlement of monetary compensatory amounts applying to certain agricultural products (20th Directive)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr de Bievre) (CES 859/84)
- Financing of health inspections and controls of fresh meat
(Rapporteur: Mr Wick) (CES 848/84)
- Summer time arrangements
(Third Directive)
(Rapporteur: Mr Binnenbruck) (CES 851/84)
- Designations used in the marketing of milk and milk products
(Rapporteur: Mr Strauss) (CES 855/84)
- Customs treatment applicable to goods returned to the customs territory of the Community
(Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 754/76)
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 852/84)
- Relations between the European Community and Yugoslavia
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Stahlmann) (CES 857/84)
- Technological change and social adjustment
(Commission communication)
(Rapporteur: Mr Nierhaus) (CES 850/84)

220TH PLENARY SESSION (24 AND 25 OCTOBER)

- Current social security problems in the countries of the EEC
(Own initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mrs Engelen-Kefer) (CES 982/84)
- Migrant workers
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Dassis) (CES 984/84)
- Thirteenth Report on Competition Policy
(Rapporteur: Mr Bagliano) (CES 980/84)
- Programme on the management and storage of radioactive waste (1985-89)
(Rapporteur: Mr Pearson) (CES 979/84)
- Fixing the Community's generalized tariff preferences scheme for 1985
(Rapporteur: Mr Cremer) (CES 983/84)

- 'Stimulating European cooperation and scientific and technical interchange'
(Plan 1985-88)
(Communication from the Commission)
(Rapporteur: Mr Querleux) (CES 981/84)
- Protection in respect of the indication of prices for non-food products and
Indication of the prices of foodstuffs amending Directive 79/581/EEC (two
proposals for directives)
(Rapporteur: Mr Ramaekers) (CES 985/84)
- Application of the principle of equal treatment as between men and women
engaged in an activity, including agriculture, in a self-employed capacity and
on the protection of self-employed women during pregnancy and mother-
hood
(Rapporteur: Mrs Heuser) (CES 978/84)

221ST PLENARY SESSION (21 AND 22 NOVEMBER)

- The Commission's annual economic report 1984-85
(Rapporteur: Mr Pelletier) (CES 1093/84)
- Specific Community action to combat poverty
(Rapporteur: Mr Roycroft) (CES 1084/84)
- Action to combat long-term unemployment
(Communication from the Commission)
(Rapporteur: Mr Noordwal) (CES 1080/84)
- Promotion of positive action for women
(Draft Council recommendation)
(Rapporteur: Mrs Weber) (CES 1090/84)
- Third joint programme to encourage the exchange of young workers within
the Community
(Rapporteur: Mr Löw) (CES 1079/84)
- Multiannual research action programme of the European Economic Com-
munity in the field of biotechnology (1985-89)
(Rapporteur: Mr de Normann) (CES 1085/84)
- Research and training programme (1985-89) in the field of controlled
thermonuclear fusion and the
Council decision complementing Council Decision 84/1/Euratom, EEC, of 22
December 1983 — Realization of a tritium handling laboratory
(two proposals for decisions)
(Rapporteur: Mr von der Decken) (CES 1083/84)

- Proposal for a Seventeenth Council Directive on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to turnover taxes — Exemption from value-added tax on the temporary importation of goods other than means of transport
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 1082/84)

- Financial support by the Community in favour of industries producing solid fuels
(Amended Regulation)
(Rapporteur: Mr Flum) (CES 1087/84)

- Research and development programme for the optimization of the production and utilization of hydrocarbons 1984-87
(Rapporteur: Mr Binnenbruck) (CES 1089/84)

- Limitation of emissions of pollutants into the air from large combustion plants
(Rapporteur: Mr Vercellino) (CES 1092/84)

- Health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat
(Amending Directive 64/433/EEC)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Storie-Pugh) (CES 1088/84)

- List of simulants to be used for testing migration of constituents of plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 1081/84)

- Lead content of petrol and motor-vehicle emissions
(Amended Directive 20/220/EEC)
(two proposals)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Poeton) (CES 1094/84)

- Common organization of the market in wine (amended Regulation (EEC) No 337/79); Quality wines produced in specified regions (amend Regulation (EEC) No 338/79); Derogation to the scheme provided for in Regulation (EEC) No 456/80 on the granting of temporary and permanent abandonment premiums in respect of certain areas under vines and of premiums for the renunciation of replanting; Granting for the 1985/86 to 1989/90 wine years of permanent abandonment premiums in respect of certain areas under vines (four proposals)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr de Grave) (CES 1086/84)

- Protective measures against the introduction into the Member States of organisms harmful to plants or plant products
(Amendment of Directive 77/93/EEC)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr de Tavernier) (CES 1091/84)

222ND PLENARY SESSION (12 AND 13 DECEMBER 1984)

- Prohibition of certain substances having a hormonal action and of any substances having a thyrostatic action
(Amendment of Directive 81/602/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Jaschick) (CES 1177/84)
- Common organization of the market in fishery products
(Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81)
(Rapporteur: Mr Morselli) (CES 1170/84)
- Impact of the European Monetary System on the common agricultural policy
(Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 652/79)
(Sole Rapporteur: Mr Schnieders) (CES 1171/84)
Customs debt
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 1173/84)
- Application of generalized preferences for 1985 in respect of certain industrial products originating in developing countries;
Generalized tariff preferences for 1985 to textile products originating in developing countries;
Generalized tariff preferences for 1985 in respect of certain agricultural products originating in developing countries
(Amended draft Council regulations)
(Rapporteur: Mr Cremer) (CES 1175/84)
- Statistical machinery to establish the order of priority to be applied when granting European Social Fund assistance to regions
(Rapporteur: Mr Beretta) (CES 1174/84)
- Introduction of Community methods of sampling and analysis for the monitoring of foodstuffs intended for human consumption
(Rapporteur: Mrs Williams) (CES 1167/84)
- Health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat
(Amendment of Directive 64/433/EEC);
Health problems affecting trade in fresh poultrymeat (Amendment of Directive 71/118/EEC);
Health problems affecting intra-Community trade in meat products
(Amendment of Directive 77/99/EEC)
Three directives
(Rapporteur: Mr Brassier) (CES 1172/84)
- Certain measures relating to classical swine fever and African swine fever
(Amendment of Directives 64/432/EEC and 72/461/EEC)
Certain measures relating to African swine fever
(Amendment of Directive 80/215/EEC)
(Three draft directives)
(Rapporteur: Mr Wick) (CES 1169/84)

- Coordination of the activities of the Member States and Community institutions with a view to setting up a Community interinstitutional information system (Insis)
(Rapporteur: Mr Nierhaus) (CES 1168/84)
- Tariff treatment applicable to goods contained in travellers' personal luggage or sent in small consignments to private individuals
(Amending Regulations (EEC) No 918/83 and No 950/68)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Flum) (CES 1176/84)
- Integrated Mediterranean programmes
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Lauga) (CES 1207/84)

**List of opinions drawn up by the Economic and Social Committee
on its own initiative (1973-84)**

- Multilateral GATT negotiations
(Rapporteur: Mr de Précigout) 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 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: Mr 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
- The common agricultural policy in the international context (possible consequences and improvements)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Berns) January 1977
- How regional development helps solve unemployment and inflation by making for a more balanced distribution of the working population
(Rapporteur: Mr Bornard) March 1977
- The GATT multilateral trade negotiations (additional own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Évain) April 1977
- The implementation and development of the Community's consumer protection and information programme
(Rapporteur: Mr Ramaekers) May 1977
- Transport problems in relations with Eastern bloc countries
(Rapporteur: Mr Hennig) June 1977

- Direct cooperation between the bodies designated by Member States to verify compliance with Community and national provisions in the wine sector (Rapporteur: Mr Guillaume) June 1977
- Industrial change and employment — A review of the Community's industrial policy and future prospects (Rapporteur: Mr Carstens) September 1977
- European Regional Development Fund (Second Annual Report 1976) (Rapporteur: Mr Loughrey) September 1977
- Small- and medium-sized enterprises in the Community context (Rapporteur: Mr Kolbensschlag) November 1977
- Transport problems in relations with Eastern bloc countries (Additional own-initiative opinion) (Rapporteur: Mr Hennig) November 1977
- Communication on the amendment of the common organization of the market in beef and veal, report on the merits of premiums and intervention measures in the beef and veal sector (Rapporteur: Mr Schnieders) December 1977
- Community regional policy guidelines (Rapporteur: Mr Laval) January 1978
- Common principles to be adopted in export credit insurance system for medium and long-term transactions with public and private buyers (Rapporteur: Mr Miller) February/March 1978
- Report on starch products in the Community and the starch production refund (Rapporteur: Mr Masprone) February/March 1978
- State of the customs union of the European Economic Community (Rapporteur: Mr Marvier) February/March 1978
- Education and vocational training for young workers (Rapporteur: Mr Sloman) End March 1978

- Part-time work
(Rapporteur: Mr van Rens) May 1978
- Draft Council decision on the activities of certain
State-trading countries in cargo liner shipping
(Rapporteur: Mr Hoffmann) May 1978
- Community stand in the face of international
monetary disorder
(Rapporteur: Mr Charpentie) June 1978
- Progress made in implementing the Lomé Con-
vention in view of the opening of negotiations for a new
convention
(Rapporteur: Mr Soulat) July 1978
- The future of forestry in the European Community
(Rapporteur: Mr Maher) July 1978
- Means of communication in the Londonderry/
Donegal frontier area
(Rapporteur: Mr Cremer) July 1978
- Greek application for membership of the European
Community
(Rapporteur-General: Mr De Ridder) November 1978
- Problems of frontier workers
(Rapporteur: Mr Delourme) January 1979
- Third ERDF Annual Report
(Rapporteur: Mr Pearson) February 1979
- New shipping nations, flags of convenience and
flag discrimination
(Rapporteur: Mr Rouzier) April 1979
- Energy objectives for 1990 and Member States'
programmes
(Rapporteur: Mr Margot) May 1979
- Greater economic policy convergence
(Rapporteur: Mr Margot) May 1979
- Community enlargement — Requests for member-
ship from Greece, Spain and Portugal
(Rapporteur: Mr Pfeiffer) June 1979

- Role and influence of local and regional authorities in framing the common regional policy (Rapporteur: Mr Ventejol) October 1979
- Industrial restructuring in the Community (Rapporteur: Mr van Campen) October 1979
- Multiannual programme for achieving the customs union (Rapporteur: Mr Marvier) October 1979
- ERDF Funds for 1980 (Rapporteur-General: Mr Milne) October 1979
- The European Regional Development Fund (Fourth Annual Report 1978) (Rapporteur: Mr Pearson) November 1979
- The problems of trade barriers and the alignment of laws in this area (Rapporteur: Mr Évain) November 1979
- Report on some structural aspects of growth (Rapporteur: Mr Querini) February 1980
- Regional programmes (Rapporteur: Mr Hall) April 1980
- Use of medicine and its effects on public health (Rapporteur: Mr De Grave) April 1980
- The report on European institutions (Rapporteur-General: Mr Friedrichs) May 1980
- Development cooperation policy and the economic and social consequences of the application of certain international standards governing working conditions (Rapporteur: Mr Soulat) July 1980
- Distribution of the total catch possibilities of stocks or groups of stocks occurring in the Community fishing zone (Rapporteur: Mr Leo) November 1980
- Community accession to the European Convention on Human Rights (Rapporteur: Mr Williams) December 1980

- Protection of investment in less-developed countries
(Rapporteur: Mr Breitenstein) December 1980
- European Regional Development Fund (Fifth Annual Report 1979)
(Rapporteur: Mr Curlis) December 1980
- The Community competition policy in the light of the current economic and social situation
(Rapporteur: Mr Bagliano) April 1981
- Revision of the ERDF Regulation
(Rapporteur: Mr Hall) April 1981
- Implementation of the Second Lomé Convention
(Rapporteur: Mr Clavel) May 1981
- Economic and commercial relations between the Community and Japan
(Rapporteur: Mr Évain) July 1981
- The automobile sector
(Rapporteur: Mr Laval) July 1981
- The present situation in the Community's construction sector and the most appropriate measures by which the EEC can promote growth and employment in this sector
(Rapporteur: Mr Évain) July 1981
- The situation and problems of the handicapped
(Rapporteur: Mr Davies) July 1981
- The Community's food aid policy
(Rapporteur: Mr Williams) September 1981
- The agricultural aspects of the enlargement of the Community to include Spain
(Rapporteur: Mr Lauga) September 1981
- Review of energy policy objectives for 1990 and Member States' investment programmes
(Communication from the Commission)
(Rapporteur: Mr Margot) September 1981
- Prospects for the Communities' policies in the 1980s
(Rapporteur: Mr De Bruyn) October 1981

- Reform of the common agricultural policy
(Rapporteur: Mr Zinkin) November 1981
- European Regional Development Fund (Sixth Annual Report 1980)
(Rapporteur: Mr Zoli) December 1981
- The situation and prospects of the textile and clothing industries in the Community
(Rapporteur: Mr Masucci) January 1982
- The coordination of labour market instruments
(Rapporteur: Mr Vanni) February 1982
- The development of the European Monetary System (EMS)
(Rapporteur: Mr Évain) April 1982
- The 1982 programme for the attainment of the customs union
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) April 1982
- The promotion of the small and medium-sized enterprises sector in the European Community
(Rapporteur: Mr Kolbensschlag) May 1982
- Communication from the Commission to the Council on the development of an energy strategy for the Community and energy pricing — policy and transparency
(Rapporteur: Mr Zünkler) May 1982
- The economic situation in the Community (mid-1982)
(Rapporteur: Mr Loccufier) July 1982
- Commission report to the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers on the administration of financial and technical cooperation in 1980 under the Lomé Convention
(Rapporteur: Mr Cremer) July 1982
- Transport policy of the European Community in the 1980s
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Rouzier) October 1982
- European Regional Development Fund — Seventh Annual Report (1981)
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) February 1983

- Youth employment (Rapporteur: Mr Burnell) June 1983
- Young people and their role in the development of the European Community (Rapporteur: Mr De Bruyn) June 1983
- Preparation for the 6th United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) (Rapporteur: Mr Elkan) June 1983
- Economic situation in the Community (First half of 1983) (Rapporteur: Mr Pfeiffer) July 1983
- Relations between the European Community and the USA (Rapporteur: Mr Staratzke) July 1983
- Implementation of environmental job-creating measures (Rapporteur: Mr De Grave) September 1983
- Community policy on oils and fats (Rapporteur: Mr Lauga) October 1983
- Enlargement of the Community to include Portugal and Spain (Rapporteur: Mrs Strobel) November 1983
- EEC-EFTA relations (Rapporteur: Mr Zinkin) March 1984
- Dialogue and cooperation between representatives of consumers, producers and distributors (Rapporteur: Mr Hilken) May 1984
- European Community action programme on the management (prevention, recycling disposal of waste) European waste management programme (Rapporteur: Mr Köible) May 1984
- Economic situation in the Community in the first half of 1984 (Rapporteur: Mr Pelletier) July 1984
- Spanish and Portuguese accession to the Community (Rapporteur: Mrs Strobel) July 1984

- Industrial medicine
(Rapporteur: Mr Mourgues) September 1984
- EC-Yugoslav relations
(Rapporteur: Mr Stahlmann) September 1984
- Current social security problems in the EEC
(Rapporteur: Mrs Engelen-Kefer) October 1984
- Migrant workers
(Rapporteur: Mr Dassis) October 1984

**Tables indicating the extent
to which opinions led to proposals
being amended**

These tables, which cover more than the year under review, update the follow-up given to the Committee opinions. 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	Referred on	Referred by	Committee opinion	Decision published	Opinion taken into account			EP opinion
					To a small extent	In several respects	To a large extent	
Processing of goods in bond before they are marketed	23.1.1973	Council	29.3.1973 OJ C 69 of 28.8.1973	OJ L 272 of 5.10.1983	Committee opinion endorsed Commission proposal		OJ C 37 of 4.6.1973	
Group accounts	18.5.1976	Council	24.2.1977 OJ C 75 of 26.3.1977	OJ L 222 of 14.8.1978 OJ L 193 of 18.7.1983	X		OJ C 163 of 10.7.1978	
Qualifications of persons responsible for auditing company accounts (Eighth company law directive)	12.5.1979	Council	5.4.1979 OJ C 171 of 9.7.1979	OJ L 126 of 12.5.1984	X		OJ C 140 of 5.6.1979	
Measuring instruments and methods of metrological control (Amendment of Directive 71/316/EEC of 26.7.1971)	7.2.1979	Council	18.7.1979 OJ C 247 of 1.10.1979	OJ L 332 of 28.11.1983	Committee opinion endorsed Commission proposal		OJ C 127 of 21.5.1979	
Rapid exchange of information on dangers arising from the use of consumer products	21.2.1979	Council	27.3.1980 OJ C 182 of 21.7.1980	OJ L 70 of 13.3.1984	Article 4 amended by Commission, following Committee opinion		OJ C 182 of 19.7.1982	
Consumer credit	16.3.1979	Council	31.1.1980 OJ C 113 of 7.5.1980			X		
Textile names (Amendment to Directive 71/307/EEC)	8.2.1980	Council	3.7.1980 OJ C 230 of 8.9.1980	OJ L 353 of 15.12.1983	X		OJ C 197 of 4.8.1980	

Restrictions of the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations (Fifth amendment to Directive 76/769/EEC)	19.5.1980	Council	30.10.1980 OJ C 331 of 17.12.1980	Modified OJ L 263 of 24.9.1983	X	X	OJ C 125 of 17.5.1982
Insurance against civil liability in respect of the use of motor vehicles (Second directive)	2.10.1980	Council	26.2.1981 OJ C 136 of 9.6.1981	OJ L 8 of 11.1.1984	X	X	OJ C 287 of 9.11.1981
Proprietary medicinal products (Amendment of Directives 65/65/EEC, 75/318/EEC and 75/319/EEC)	16.12.1980	Council	26.5.1981 OJ C 189 of 30.7.1981	OJ L 332 of 28.11.1983	X		OJ C 287 of 9.11.1981
Limit values for discharges of cadmium into the aquatic environment and quality objectives for cadmium in the aquatic environment	11.3.1981	Council	2.7.1981 OJ C 230 of 10.9.1981	OJ L 291 of 24.10.1983	Annex I, point (7), amended by Commission after Committee opinion	X	OJ C 334 of 20.12.1982
Community trade marks (Two proposals)	5.12.1980	Council	23.9.1981 OJ C 310 of 30.11.1981	Modified	X		
Cosmetic products (Third Amendment of Directive 76/768/EEC)	4.2.1981	Council	23.9.1981 OJ C 310 of 30.11.1981	OJ L 332 of 28.11.1983	X		OJ C 307 of 14.11.1983
Protection of workers against risks related to exposure to agents at work: asbestos (Second directive)	7.10.1980	Council	24.9.1981 OJ C 310 of 30.11.1981	OJ L 263 of 24.9.1983	X		OJ C 125 of 17.5.1982
Authorization of scheduled inter-regional air services for the transport of passengers, mail and cargo between Member States	17.12.1980	Council	28.10.1981 OJ C 343 of 31.12.1981	OJ L 237 of 26.8.1983	X		OJ C 287 of 9.11.1981

Subject	Referred on	Referred by	Committee opinion	Decision published	Opinion taken into account			EP opinion
					To a small extent	In several respects	To a large extent	
Arrangements for movement within the Community of goods sent from one Member State for temporary use in one or more other Member States	13.8.1981	Council	28.10.1981 OJ C 343 of 31.12.1981	OJ L 2 of 4.1.1984			X	OJ C 40 of 15.2.1982
Annual accounts of banks and other financial establishments	28.4.1981	Council	24.2.1982 OJ C 112 of 3.5.1982	Modified		X		OJ C 242 of 12.9.1983
Supervision of credit institutions on a consolidated basis	7.10.1981	Council	28.4.1982 OJ C 178 of 15.7.1982	OJ L 193 of 17.1.1983		X		OJ C 13 of 17.1.1983
Multiannual programme (1979-83) in the field of data processing (Amending Council Decision 79/783/EEC)	23.7.1982	Council	25.11.1982 OJ C 346 of 31.12.1982	OJ L 126 of 12.5.1984		X		OJ C 128 of 16.5.1983
Infrastructure for innovation and technology transfer (1983-85)	29. 6.1982	Council	16.12.1982 OJ C 33 of 7.2.1983	OJ L 353 of 15.12.1983		X		OJ C 96 of 11.4.1983
Facilitation of formalities and inspections in respect of the carriage of goods between Member States	4.5.1982	Council	24.2.1983 OJ C 90 of 5.4.1983	OJ L 359 of 22.12.1983		X		OJ C 42 of 14.2.1983
Strengthening of the internal market; easing of frontier controls; simplification of customs formalities in trade within the Community; amendment, Council Regulation (EEC) No 2102/77 introducing a Community export declaration form, amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 222/77 on Community transit	27.7.1982	Council	24.2.1983 OJ C 90 of 5.4.1983	Resolution: OJ C 159 of 19.6.1984		X		

Action by the Community relating to the environment (ACE)	25.1.1983	Council	27.4.1983 OJ C 176 of 4.7.1983	OJ L 176 of 3.7.1984	X	OJ C 128 of 16.5.1983
Second programme of action of the European Communities on safety and health at work (draft resolution)	16.11.1982	Council	28.4.1983 OJ C 176 of 4.7.1983	Resolution: OJ C 67 of 8.3.1984	X	OJ C 46 of 20.2.1984
EEC research programme (1983-87) - Forecasting and Assessment in Science and Technology (FAST)	17.1.1983	Council	1.6.1983 OJ C 211 of 8.8.1983	OJ L 287 of 25.10.1983	X	OJ C 184 of 11.7.1983
Strengthening of the common commercial policy with regard in particular to protection against unfair commercial practices	17.4.1983	Council	2.6.1983 OJ C 211 of 8.8.1983	OJ L 252 of 20.9.1984	X	OJ C 205 of 1.8.1983
Limit values and quality objectives for mercury discharges by sectors other than the chloralkali electrolysis industry	12.1.1983	Council	6.7.1983 OJ C 286 of 24.10.1983	OJ L 74 of 17.3.1984	X	OJ C 10 of 16.1.1984
Basic safety standards for the health protection of the general public and workers against the dangers of ionizing radiation (Amendment, Annexes I and III to Directive 80/836/Euratom)	13.12.1982	Commission	7.7.1983 OJ C 286 of 24.10.1983	Modified: OJ L 265 of 5.10.1984	X	OJ C 127 of 14.5.1984
Research programme to be implemented by the Joint Research Centre for the European Atomic Energy Community and for the European Economic Community (1984-87)	24.6.1983	Council	28.9.1983 OJ C 341 of 19.12.1983	OJ L 3 of 5.1.1984	Committee opinion endorsed Commission proposal	OJ C 307 of 14.11.1983
Adoption of the second stage (January 1984 - March 1986) of the multiannual research and training programme in the field of biomolecular engineering	29.6.1983	Council	28.9.1983 OJ C 341 of 19.12.1983	OJ L 305 of 8.11.1983	Committee opinion endorsed Commission proposal	OJ C 307 of 14.11.1983
Adoption of the first European strategic programme for research and development in information technologies (Esprit)	17.6.1983	Council	29.9.1983 OJ C 341 of 19.12.1983	OJ L 67 of 9.3.1984	X	OJ C 307 of 14.11.1983

Subject	Referred on	Referred by	Committee opinion	Decision published	Opinion taken into account			EP opinion
					To a small extent	In several respects	To a large extent	
Formation of rates for the carriage of goods by road between Member States	5.10.1982	Council	29.9.1983 OJ C 341 of 19.12.1983	OJ L 359 of 22.12.1983	X		OJ C 161 of 20.6.1983	
Initial guidelines for a Community policy on tourism	30.11.1982	Commission	27.10.1983 OJ C 358 of 31.12.1983	Resolution: OJ C 115 of 30.4.1984	X			
Research action programme on the development of nuclear fission energy (1984-87) and research programmes on reactor safety (1984-87) and the decommissioning of nuclear installations (1984-1987)	15.6.1983	Council	23.11.1983 OJ C 23 of 30.1.1984					
Concerted action research project of the European Economic Community on the effects of processing and distribution on the quality and nutritive value of food	29.8.1983	Council	23.11.1983 OJ C 23 of 30.1.1984	OJ L 151 of 7.6.1984			OJ C 127 of 14.5.1984	
Special measures to help Greece in the social field	19.9.1983	Council	23.11.1983 OJ C 23 of 30.1.1984	OJ L 88 of 31.3.1984	X		OJ C 342 of 19.12.1983	
Combating of air pollution from industrial plants	27.4.1983	Council	23.11.1983 OJ C 23 of 30.1.1984	OJ L 188 of 16.7.1984		X	OJ C 342 of 19.12.1983	

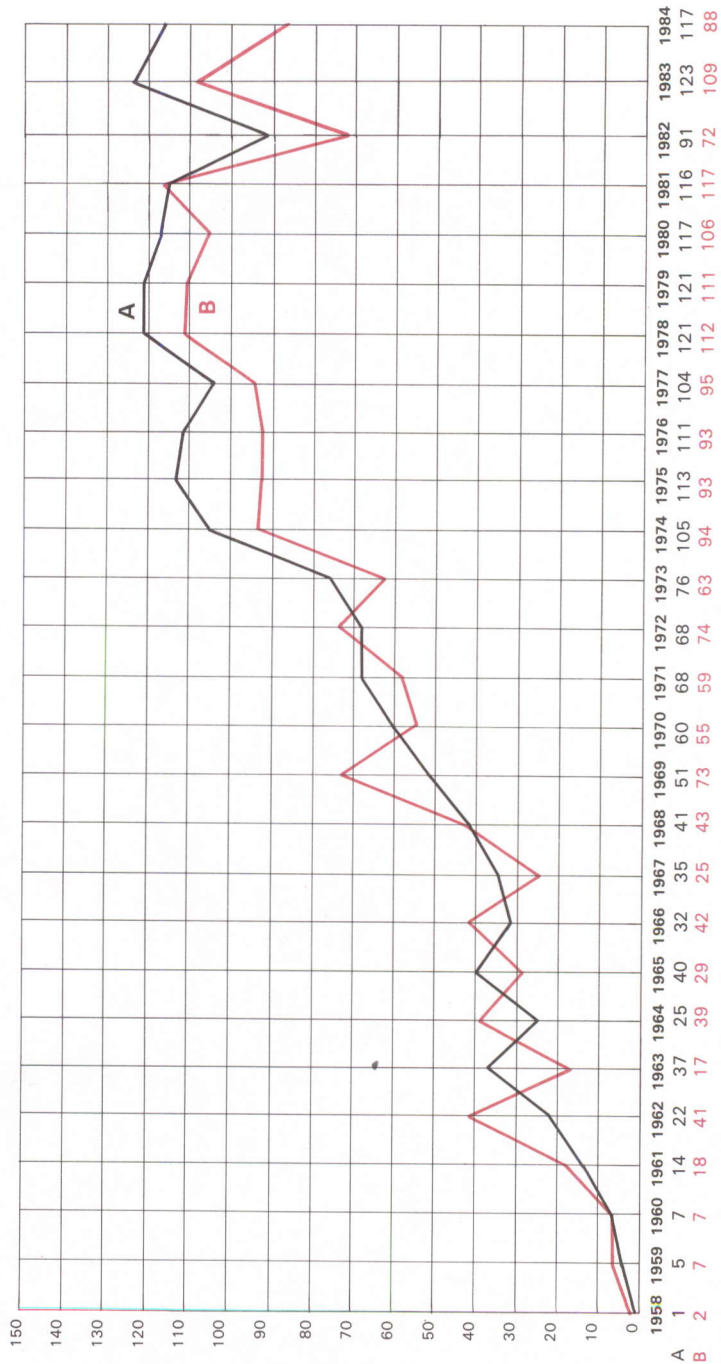
Communication on proposals for a balanced solid fuels policy and for a regulation concerning financial support of the Community in favour of industries producing solid fuels	27.6.1983	Council	15.12.1983 OJ C 35 of 9.2.1984	Communication: OJ C 157 of 18.6.1984	X	OJ C 104 of 16.4.1984
Exemption from turnover taxes and excise duties for imports by international travellers (Seventh Council Directive amending Directive 69/169/EEC)	23.4.1983	Council	25.1.1984 OJ C 57 of 29.2.1984	OJ L 117 of 3.5.1984	X	OJ C 10 of 16.1.1984
Revision of sectoral environment R&D programme (protection of environment and climatology) - indirect and concerted measures (1981-85) (Draft decision)	11.10.1983	Council	25.1.1984 OJ C 57 of 29.2.1984	OJ L 71 of 14.3.1984	Committee opinion endorsed Commission proposal	OJ C 77 of 19.3.1984
Creation of a European Regional Development Fund (amendment, Regulation (EEC) No 724/75)	30.11.1983	Council	29.3.1984 OJ C 140 of 28.5.1984	OJ L 169 of 28.6.1984	X	OJ C 127 of 14.5.1984
Commission communication to the Council on Community action to combat unemployment - the contribution of local employment initiatives	1.12.1983	Council	23.5.1984 OJ C 206 of 6.8.1984	Resolution: OJ C 161 of 21.6.1984	X	OJ C 117 of 30.4.1984

Annex D

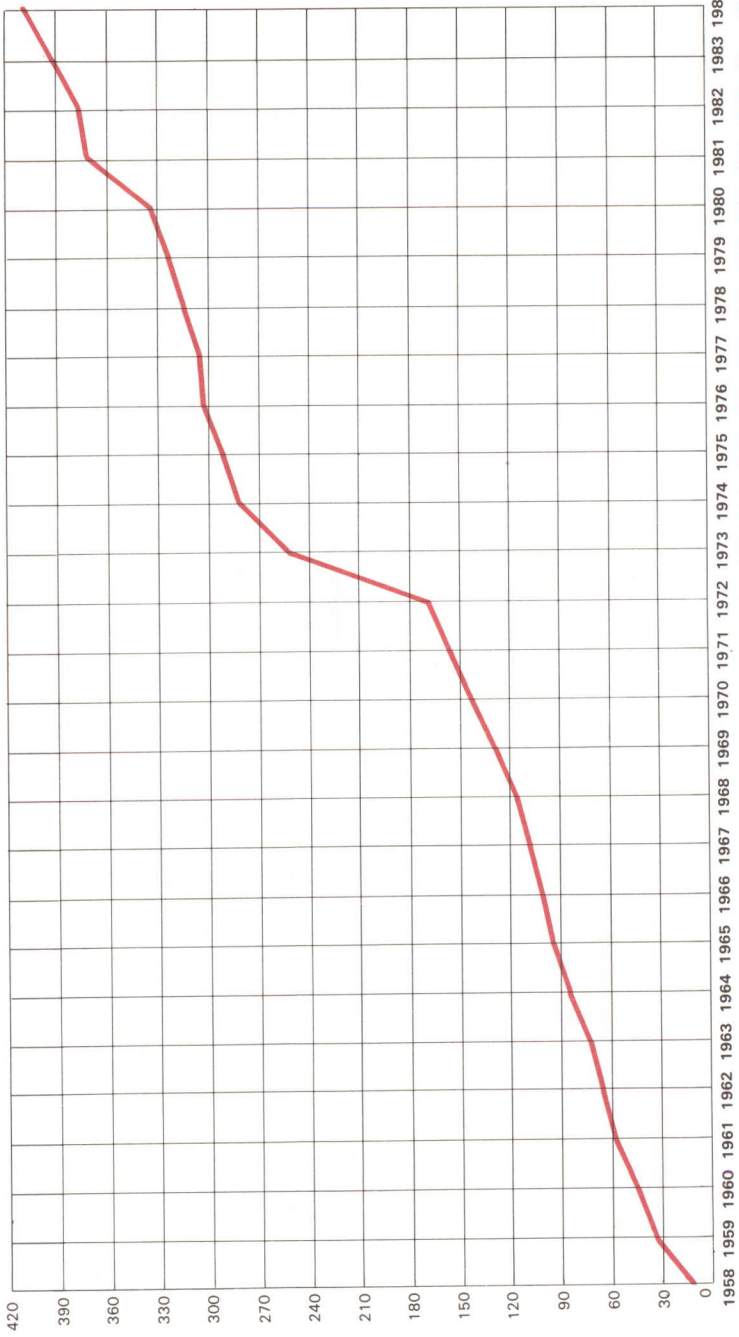
Graphs

A - TEXTS PRODUCED (Opinions, information reports, studies)

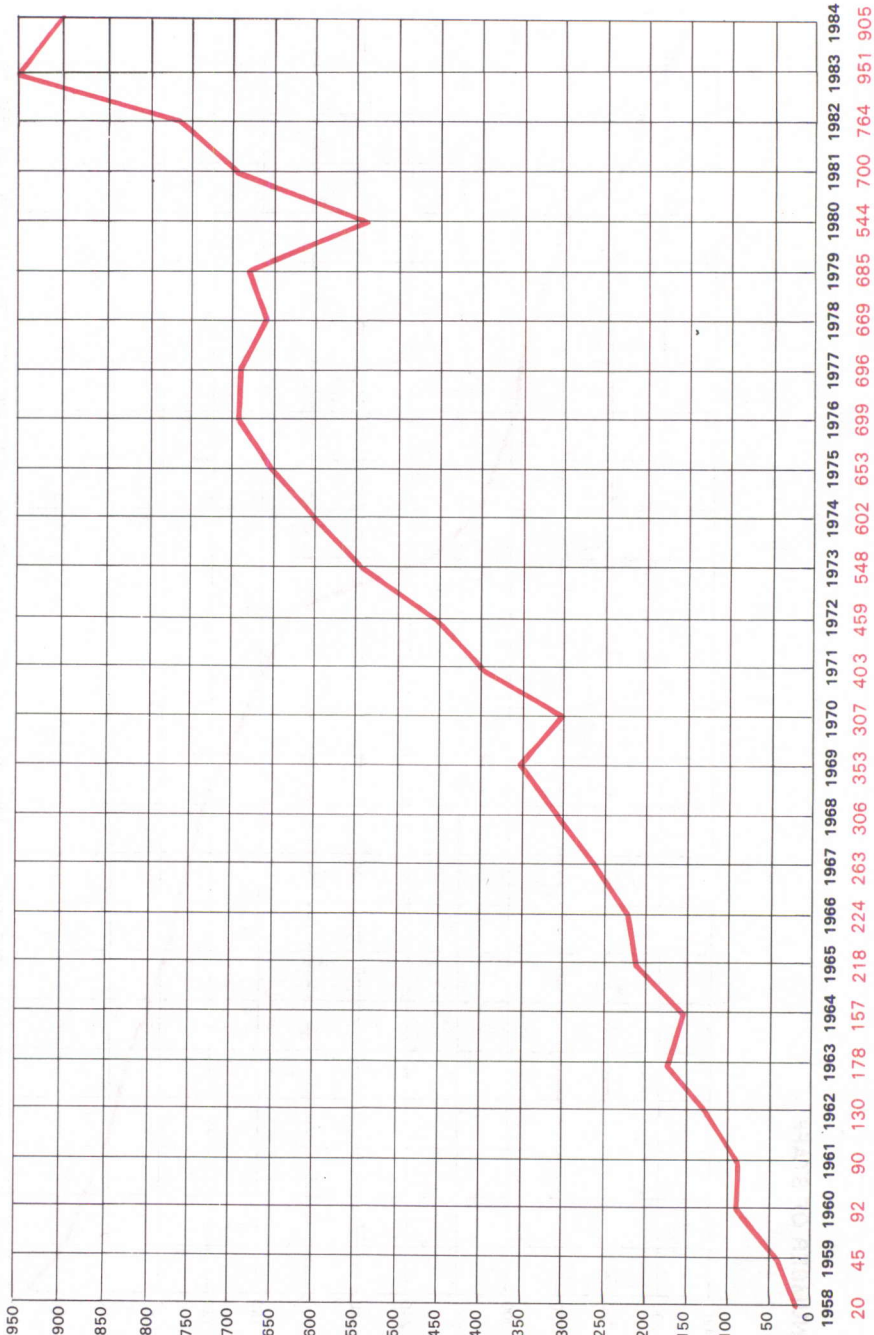
B - REFERRALS



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