

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY

# ANNUAL REPORT 1987



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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL  
CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY

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## Foreword

1987 brought its ups and downs for the Community (and the rest of the world). The ESC's members, representatives of the 'people's Europe', worked resolutely for the creation of a genuine European Community. The 30th anniversary of the Rome Treaties provided an opportunity to look back over the road already travelled. The growing conviction that the internal market must be completed by 1992, with the attendant social implications, was not, however, sufficient to prevent national and sectoral interests from holding up the decisions which have to be taken. Both the delay in implementing the Single European Act and the disillusionment in the wake of the Copenhagen Summit showed that the Community still has many difficulties to overcome. We can now only hope that the forthcoming special Summit in Brussels will approve the Commission's realistic proposals so that the Community can finally tackle the economic, social, financial and institutional crisis which it is facing.

Annual reports seldom escape the end-of-year conclusion that the expectations cherished at the beginning of the year have not been fulfilled. But this must not detract from a positive assessment of the work put in over the year.

On 25 February the Commission President Jacques Delors asked the ESC to issue a general opinion on 'Making a success of the Single Act – A new frontier for Europe'. This request was warmly welcomed. An *ad-hoc* working party was set up to define more precisely the Committee's role with regard to the Single Act.

The Committee's plenary session on 23 May endorsed the completion of the internal market by 1992, provided the social aspects of European integration were not neglected. At the session the Belgian Prime Minister and President-in-Office of the Council, Mr Martens, saw for himself just how devoted the social and economic interest groups represented on the Committee are to the achievement of a genuine, united Community.

During the year the Committee had several opportunities to express its concern over economic developments and unemployment in the Community in the presence of the Council spokesmen, such as Belgian Minister Tindemans and Ministers Dyremose and Tygesen (Denmark), the late EC Commissioner and ex-ESC Vice-Chairman, Mr Alois Pfeiffer and his successor, Commissioner Schmidhuber.

Within the Committee too it was not always easy to arrive at a consensus between conflicting interests. Nevertheless, 1987 has again shown that permanent dialogue between the various interest groups makes it possible to draft well-thought-out, balanced opinions endorsed unanimously or by a clear majority of the Committee.

In 1987, as in the past, the Committee did not confine itself to delivering opinions on proposals referred to it by the Commission or taken up on its own initiative. It also turned its attention to the Community's external relations.

At the six-monthly meetings with the socio-economic interest groups from the EFTA countries, both parties expressed their determination to further improve their cooperation, with 1992 in mind.

The annual meeting with the socio-economic representatives of the ACP countries, which was devoted this year to 'The role of private investment in the developing countries', gave the Committee the opportunity to contribute constructively towards the achievement of the objectives of the Lomé Convention.

The Committee, its Chairman and competent Section also had the opportunity to consult with representatives of official bodies and socio-economic groups from, *inter alia*, Yugoslavia, the United States of America and Japan.

Although the Committee's work does not always receive the response which it deserves, and although the citizens of the Community are only slowly awakening to the meaning of a 'people's Europe' you may rest assured that the representatives of the socio-economic interest groups will continue resolutely to fulfil their duties in the coming year.

Alfons MARGOT  
Chairman



## CHAPTER I

# Role and influence of the Committee

### MAIN DEVELOPMENTS

#### **The changes brought about by the Single European Act (SEA)**

The adoption of the Single European Act clearly provides the Committee with an opportunity which it has to seize. The new timetable for the decision-making process, resulting from the cooperation procedure, make it necessary to achieve better synchronization of the decision-making powers between the responsible bodies so as to enable the functions of proposing, consulting, cooperating and decision-making to be carried out effectively. To this end it will be necessary for the institutions to engage in a higher level of consultations with regard to the planning of their work. The Committee will in future ask to be involved in the consultations between the Commission and the enlarged Bureau of the European Parliament over the establishment of the EC legislative programme.

With this aim in view, the Committee has set up an *ad-hoc* group on the Single Act (rapporteur: Mr F. Staedelin) with the task of considering the consequences of the implementation of the procedures set out in the SEA as regards the Committee's position in the institutional framework of the Community. The *ad-hoc* group has also been asked to propose measures to be taken by the Committee in order to enable its interventions to tie in effectively with the timetable of the new decision-making process.

The cooperation procedure set out in Article 7 of the SEA, which amends Article 149 of the Treaty, introduces an additional stage in the decision-making process which should in future consist of two basic stages. In the initial stage, the Commission's proposal is forwarded to the Committee for its opinion and to the European Parliament. This constitutes the consultation stage. The Council's communication of its common position to the European Parliament opens the second stage in which cooperation in the strict sense comes into play. In order to enable the Committee to intervene in the

most effective way possible in this new decision-making process, the *ad-hoc* group has proposed that:

- (i) the Committee's working methods be adapted in order to enable it to issue more concise opinions in the shortest possible time;
- (ii) the processes of informing the Committee and interinstitutional programming be extended;
- (iii) an arbitrating procedure be set up by the Bureau;
- (iv) the intervention procedure be strengthened.

The Committee also invited Mr Jacques Delors to attend its plenary session in February and present his document entitled 'Making a success of the Single Act'. The Committee has already issued an opinion in which it endorsed this document and gave its support to the measures being carried out by the Commission. The document drew particular attention to four main measures designed to provide the Community with the increased room for manoeuvre which it required. The measures in question were the following:

- (i) the adaptation of the CAP to the new situation applying on the world-wide market;
- (ii) the implementation of EC policies having a real economic impact in the fields of technology, transport and telecommunications and the reform of the so-called structural policies, which would involve increasing the financial allocations to the European Social Fund, the European Regional Development Fund and the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund;
- (iii) the introduction of a new financial system to provide the Community with stable funds which would be both adequate and guaranteed;
- (iv) the need for real budgetary discipline; this would involve the European Parliament, the Commission and the Council.

This year the Committee has done its utmost to respond to the challenge issued by the President of the Commission, Mr J. Delors, and with a view to the forthcoming key meeting. The Committee has thus prepared the ground to enable it to draw up five opinions dealing with issues set out in the programme for the SEA. The Committee issued opinions on agricultural policy, the social aspects of the internal market and structural reform in 1987. The issues of the Community's financial resources and budgetary discipline have been placed on the agenda for the Committee's plenary session in January 1988.

## **Relations with the institutions**

Relations with the other institutions are continuing to expand. In particular, the Committee is developing more systematic contacts with the Council.

The President-in-Office of the Council, Mr Leo Tindemans, accepted an invitation to address the Committee at the end of January. He informed the Committee of the four decisive issues with regard to employment on which the Belgian Presidency should concentrate its efforts, namely:

- (i) measures to stimulate the establishment of new enterprises;
- (ii) the need for more efficient labour markets;
- (iii) training for young people and adults;
- (iv) effective measures to combat long-term unemployment.

Some time later at its plenary session in May, the Committee extended an invitation to the Belgian Prime Minister, Mr Wilfried Martens, to address the Committee in connection with the Belgian Presidency. Mr Martens told Committee members that, in his view, the economic and social interest groups had a fundamental role to play, firstly as pressure groups bringing an influence to bear on the European Council and the governments of each of the Member States and, secondly, as a source of constructive proposals in the social field.

The Belgian Minister for Communications and External Trade, Mr Herman De Croo, came to the Committee on 1 March to address the Transport Section.

In connection with the Danish Presidency during the last six months of the year, the Danish Minister for Labour, Mr Henning Dyremose, addressed the Committee. He informed members that he would like the second action programme for the handicapped to be tackled during the Danish Presidency. His colleague, the Secretary-of-State at the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Tygesen, addressed the Committee and drew attention to the main issues to be tackled by the European Council.

Contacts between the Commission and the Committee are now proceeding at full momentum. Among the Commission representatives who addressed the Committee during the year was the late Mr Alois Pfeiffer, Member of the Commission, whose visit demonstrated the growing importance which the Commission attaches to the Committee's work. In his address to the Committee at its plenary session in July, Mr Pfeiffer told members that if clear progress were not to be made in the very near future in the fight against un-

employment, the consensus on economic policy which had been attained could be called into question.

The other Members of the Commission who took part in Committee meetings were: Mr Peter Schmidhuber, who attended the November plenary session, Lord Cockfield, Mr Sutherland, Mr Clinton Davis, Mr Matutes and Mr Cheysson, who all attended meetings of various Committee Sections.

### **Important events**

1987 also saw the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome. For the first six months of the year, Belgium held the Presidency of the European Council. These facts were some of the reasons behind the organization of major events in Brussels in which the Committee played a part. The Committee participated with the other European institutions in the organization of the 'European festivities' held in the Cinquantenaire Park from 28 to 30 June. The Committee had a stand at these festivities at which it exhibited posters and slides and showed a video film explaining to the many interested visitors the role of the Committee and the way in which it operates.

Also in connection with the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Treaties of Rome, the Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee, Mr Fons Margot, took part on 25 March in the ceremonies organized by the Italian Government in Rome. Mr Margot was accompanied by a delegation from the Committee's Bureau which included the two Committee Vice-Chairmen, Mr William Poeton and Mr José-Maria Zufiaur Narvaiza, and the Secretary-General, Mr Roger Louet.

Another important event was the celebration in 1987 of the European Year of the Environment (EYE). The Committee had the honour of opening the EYE by organizing a conference in Luxembourg from 30 March to 1 April, entitled 'Qualitative growth and consumption: a strategy for improving the environment'. The conference brought together some 300 representatives from socio-professional organizations and local and regional governments in the Saar region, the Rhineland-Palatinate, Lorraine, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Belgian Province of Luxembourg, together with representatives from the EC Member States and young people. The aim of the meeting was to demonstrate that problems caused by the pollution of, *inter alia*, air and water and waste management respected no frontiers. Frequently solutions to problems affecting large areas had to be found at local level. A number of other events were also held, including the two joint meetings of

the Economic and Social Committee and the EFTA Consultative Committee in Basle and Dublin. Those two meetings clearly demonstrated the need to give practical application to the political desire to achieve still closer contacts and to engage in concerted action between the EFTA and EC States.

The 11th annual meeting of representatives of ACP and EC economic and social interest groups on 25, 26 and 27 November was held in conjunction with the Lomé III Convention. Special attention was given at this meeting to discussing the role and promotion of the private sector as a development instrument and factor.

Two annual meetings of the economic and social councils of the EC Member States were also held on 10 April and 25 September 1987. The latter meeting was held in Rome and was given over to considering the economic and social repercussions of ageing populations in the European countries.

Attention should also be drawn to the visit to the United States made by a Committee delegation in October. This visit enabled the Committee to secure contacts at the highest level with American external trade officials.

### **Main opinions and reports**

Amongst the most noteworthy subjects dealt with this year, mention may be made of the own-initiative opinions on the common railway policy, the consequences of the nuclear accident at Chernobyl and the economic situation in the Community in mid-1987. The Committee has had the right to issue opinions on its own initiative since 1973 and has been availing itself of this right more and more frequently. Attention may also be drawn to the opinions on the protection of the Rhine and oil spillages at sea and the information report on public health. More detailed information on these opinions may be found in the chapter dealing with the work of the Committee.

### **Appointment of a new Secretary-General**

In the year under review staff changes also took place at the highest level in the Committee's administration. The Committee's Secretary-General, Mr Roger Louet (France), having served at the Committee for 14 years, became entitled to retire on pension and was succeeded by Mr Jacques Moreau (France), former Chairman of the European Parliament's Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs.

It is clearly becoming more and more of a tradition for leading figures – Council Ministers-in-Office and Members of the Commission – to come and address the Committee. All these visits testify to the increasing influence which this assembly is acquiring from year to year and this influence is likely to increase still further with the implementation of the Single European Act.

## CHAPTER II

# Work of the Committee

### 1. AGRICULTURAL POLICY

Ever since the early 1980s, the gap between supply and demand for basic farm products has been steadily widened by increased production capacity and the world recession, compounded by the new-found self-sufficiency of certain major importer countries. This state of affairs has generated a market policy rooted in complicity between the interested parties rather than competition, to which remedies must be found at Community, international and multilateral levels. Consequently the Community has embarked on a reform of its common agricultural policy (CAP) – a reform which is particularly vital because market problems are aggravated by the dictates inherent in the projected creation of a large Community-wide market in 1992 and in the turn taken by the GATT negotiations, which got under way last year at Punta del Este and aim to slash protectionist practices through stringent curbs on agricultural market subsidies.

The Committee, as the contact point *par excellence* for Community and socio-economic and trade union groups, has long voiced the anxieties felt by farmers, workers and consumers over a CAP which needs to be adjusted to meet the challenges of the new Community and international situation. The Committee has repeatedly urged that these changes be pursued as part of a coherent blueprint to be implemented in accordance with the CAP's aims and principles. Under the blueprint, changes in the common organization of markets will go hand in hand with structural measures designed to: (a) balance supply and demand more satisfactorily, and thereby streamline costs; and (b) continue to preserve the proper international political and trade position of Community agriculture.

The Committee is aware of the difficulties posed by the fact that any economic action must be reconciled with the social demands of all groups active in this sector – owner-farmers, smallholders and hired farm workers, as well as industries and services which supply farms and use their produce. Their

livelihood and very presence on the land must be safeguarded and actively encouraged so as to ease the transition from an agricultural to a rural economy – a transition which, it is already clear, will be the keynote of the far-reaching transformation of Community agriculture to be expected in the decades ahead.

To compound these difficulties, agriculture – the only sector to be regulated by a common policy – is exposed to the repercussions of policies which have not yet been integrated at Community level.

These points were reiterated by the Committee in 1987 when it adopted a set of opinions focusing, albeit from differing angles, on reform of the CAP.

The Committee endorses the strategy already outlined as a result of the consultations on the 1985 Green Paper (a restrictive-prices policy, more flexible guarantees and intervention mechanisms, greater producer co-responsibility). But its approval is qualified by a number of considerations.

Above all, adjustments to the CAP must reflect the need to protect employment and the environment and preserve an adequate level of self-sufficiency. These adjustments must not be dictated solely by budgetary factors.

The measures adopted to curb and control surplus output and farm spending must take account of the need to rectify national, regional and sectoral disparities, and of the potential side effects for everyone engaged in agriculture, including hired farm workers. In other words, farm incomes and social policies will have to be reviewed in the light of a prices' policy geared more closely to market indicators.

In the Committee's view, income support must be provided for producers in disadvantaged areas and for farmers whose presence on the land is indispensable on environment-protection grounds. At the same time farmers forced by structural policy to abandon their holdings must be eligible for benefits similar to those enjoyed by unemployed persons in other sectors.

In view of the key importance of direct, selective farm income support as a part of the back-up measures, the Committee felt obliged to point out that the proposed arrangements left the Member States considerable latitude. They must not be allowed to generate disparities between farmers, regions or Member States, or lead to a dangerous shift towards 'renationalization' of the CAP.

The Committee essentially considers these measures to be an initial step towards greater allowance for the social side-effects of the socio-economic re-



structuring process which is required of Community agriculture and which must be accommodated by the whole range of CAP measures. This is particularly important as regards funding since a restrictive prices' policy, coupled with production ceilings, is bound to increase the number of potential beneficiaries from the proposals.

Alongside its work on the basic alternatives for CAP reform, the Committee studied a set of specific Commission proposals for individual sectors.

On the oils and fats stabilizer scheme, the Committee observed that the Commission proposal differed somewhat from earlier ones but reiterated its opposition to any form of tax on oils or fats. The Committee also reminded the Commission and the Council that retail prices for a wide range of food products could be pushed up. And difficulties were liable to arise in connection with the GATT and Asean agreements and the Lomé Convention.

In the field of veterinary medicine, the Committee expressed support for Community health controls designed to facilitate freedom of trade in meat products, both among the Member States and with non-Community countries, and ensure maximum protection of public health and consumer interests.

When appraising a number of amendments to wine regulations, pursuant to the accession of Spain and Portugal to the Community, the Committee urged the Commission, following the revision of a number of existing rules, to submit proposals designed to enable wine-producers in the enlarged Community to face up to the market problems that could be anticipated in the next few years.

In connection with Community food regulations, the Committee drew the Commission's attention to the need to embark on the harmonization and legislation needed to ensure proper consumer protection, market transparency and free, fair and lawful movement of goods.

### **Fisheries policy**

As a result of the accession of Spain and Portugal, Community fishery patterns have changed significantly. At the same time the projected creation of a single market has necessitated a general overhaul of the common fisheries policy. After amending the regulations governing conservation of stocks, structures, aquaculture and land-based investment, the Commission is now proposing an extension of the intervention scheme to new fish species, a

change in private storage aid and arrangements for regulating the tuna market.

The Committee had doubts about this package, which would not seem to guarantee the long-term coexistence of a healthy fishing fleet and a healthy Community processing industry. Greater attention should be given to the situation in the poorest areas of the Community to ensure fair application of private storage aid arrangements, which will now be routed through producers' organizations instead of to individual vessels as previously. The Committee disagreed with the tuna-market proposals on the grounds that they did not solve the Community's problems, i.e. maintenance of an economically viable tuna-fishing industry and supply of raw materials to the tuna processing industry at prices which enable it to compete with canned products from non-Community countries.

## 2. TRANSPORT POLICY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

In the period under review the Committee received 18 requests for opinions (16 from the Council and 2 from the Commission). The Committee also issued two own-initiative opinions; of the 20 subjects dealt with, four had not been completed at the end of the year (registration of ships, tyre tread depth, regional goods transport statistics and transit traffic via third countries – Austria, Switzerland and Yugoslavia).

The opinions broke down as follows:

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Rail (1) and road (11)                      | 12 |
| 2. Transport routes (infrastructure financing) | 1  |
| 3. Modes of transport (transit)                | 1  |
| 4. Sea (1) and air (1) transport               | 2  |
| 5. Summer time                                 | 1  |
| 6. Telecommunications                          | 3  |

The time-lag must be taken into account in assessing the Committee's consultative work, especially in terms of its impact on the Council and the Commission. The Commission document, the Committee opinion and the Council Decision are seldom at the same stage of consideration, at any rate in the transport field. However, since 1 July 1987 the position has changed as regards referrals where a cooperation procedure between Council and Parliament is envisaged under the terms of the Single European Act. The Decision on summer time is a case in point.

This part of the report covers the Committee's activity in connection with Council Decisions taken or meetings held during the reference period. On 24 March 1987 the Council reconsidered the question of raising the Community quota in road goods transport. It also discussed the Commission document on access to the market and the Communication on tax harmonization questions. A causal connection was established confirming the earlier Committee opinion on the matter.<sup>(1)</sup> Above all, the Council shared the Committee's view on the need (a) to proceed cautiously with automatic increases and (b) to introduce safety mechanisms for the transitional period up to 1992 (abolition of bilateral and Community quotas). It also confirmed the Committee's repeatedly expressed belief that opening the markets to competition in accordance with the Treaty should be accompanied by measures to harmonize or approximate differing conditions of competition. The Committee took the view that, subject to that proviso, cabotage traffic in goods and passenger transport was also possible.

In the infrastructure sector the Committee has long advocated a consistent Community policy and solid arrangements for financing infrastructure projects of Community interest. In 1987, the Council failed yet again to agree to this, and the 53 million ECU granted were once more the result of a further *ad hoc* decision.

In the air transport sector, the Council finally decided, in accordance with the Committee opinions, on opening the markets, after protracted difficulties and negotiations. On 7 December 1987 lengthy discussions, which had got bogged over the Gibraltar question, were at last successfully concluded at Council level. The Committee had repeatedly expressed its preference for a Council decision rather than a European Court of Justice ruling. Thus from 1 January 1988 a range of measures are applicable, which the Committee had also advocated, and which can be revised from 30 June 1990.

From now on air fares can be significantly reduced – even under certain conditions to 65% to 90% or in some cases 45% to 65% of the 'Economy class' fare. Even more flexible fare arrangements will be possible later on. The Council agreement also provides for a capacity allocation on the basis of a 55%/45% breakdown in the first two years of the agreement, to be broadened to 60%/40% in the third year. However, partial derogations from this rule are also possible where airlines suffer serious disadvantages.

Access to the air transport market was also liberalized (for 'third, fourth and

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(1) See 1986 Annual Report, page 22.

fifth freedom' air traffic) and regulated under competition regulations adopted by the Council.

On transit traffic through Austria, Switzerland and Yugoslavia, the Council gave the Commission a mandate for negotiations to be completed by 1 June, or failing that by 30 September 1988. The Committee is using an accelerated procedure to adopt an opinion on this matter (by March 1988). It is intended to ascertain the views of representatives of the economic sectors concerned in those countries in early 1988 and to communicate them to the Commission.

On summer time the Council endorsed a Commission proposal, supported by the Committee, to extend the existing arrangements by one year. They are however subject to the Single European Act 'cooperation procedure' whereby the Council's common position is first communicated to the European Parliament.

Other questions in the field of transport on which the Committee has taken a position are still pending at Council level or require practical Commission proposals. These include speed limits for road traffic. The Committee broadly supported indicative speeds for motorway traffic. The proposal on wider refrigerated commercial vehicles, supported by the Committee, has not yet been adopted by the Council. The Council or Commission have still not moved on various questions to which the Committee has devoted special attention: there is still no common rail transport policy; nor has the Commission document on tax harmonization, promised for the end of 1987, yet appeared, despite repeated calls by the Committee.

In the communications field, the Committee's Section for Transport and Communications developed a number of interesting themes on mobile radio communication services (on which a Council Decision was issued in June 1987), Drive (information technology and communications in road traffic) and the Green Paper on Telecommunications. The latter all come under the new forward-looking activities covered by the Single Act, and were still under consideration at the end of the year. The Committee is still awaiting practical Commission proposals, primarily in the field of the Green Paper.

In the period under review, the Committee's external relations were further improved. As well as the continuing fruitful cooperation with the European Parliament's Transport Committee (contacts between the respective chairmen, rapporteurs and secretariats), the Committee also took part in a number of international meetings in this field (colloquia on sea and air transport, and rail transport policy, in Marseilles, Antwerp, Mannheim, Brussels, etc.).

### 3. SOCIAL POLICY

The Committee opinion on social developments in the Community in 1986 was highly critical of the snail's pace of Community decision-making on social matters.

Despite the mandate of the Council of 22 June 1984 for a new Community social action programme, and despite the continuation of the Val Duchesse social dialogue, sponsored by the EC Commission, no draft Community legislation (Directives) or concrete Community-level guidelines had emerged. The Committee stated that the Commission and the Council had to assume the responsibilities vested in them by the Treaty and the Single Act (e.g. Article 118 A) in order that new social measures could be initiated, various outstanding proposals for Directives could be adopted and a Community social policy worthy of the name could be fostered.

The Committee stressed the close interdependence between economic and social policy. Sustained economic growth must be accompanied by parallel social development; social solidarity and cohesion were indispensable for economic growth.

The opinion concentrated on five priority areas of Community social policy: qualitative, job-creating growth; new forms of employment, education and training; protection of health and safety at the workplace; safeguarding social protection.

In conclusion the Committee stated that a revival of Community social policy was contingent on the Member States affirming their political will.

In this connection, on the basis of a major information report forwarded to the Community institutions, the Committee adopted an own-initiative opinion on the Social aspects of the internal market (European social area), which emphasized that the large 'internal market' had to be backed by a parallel European social policy of a similar scale and nature.

Stressing that the Community ought to adopt legislation guaranteeing basic social rights immune to competitive pressures as a key stage in the creation of the single market, the Committee argued that Article 118 A of the Single Act (providing for qualified majority voting in Council on measures relating to the 'working environment') should be applied in its broadest sense. This was all the more the case, given that EC directives were deemed to be flexible legal instruments (Article 189), 'binding, as to the result to be achieved' but leaving each Member State 'the choice of form and methods'.

The Committee therefore felt that in the present situation the adoption of a framework Directive setting out inalienable basic social rights was both feasible and necessary in order to infuse Community policy as a whole with fresh momentum and meaning. Such a framework Directive, which could be inspired by existing Commission proposals, should be designed to secure:

- (i) the right of all workers, irrespective of contractual status and thus including part-time and fixed-term contract workers, (a) to negotiate and be covered by collective bargaining agreements or professional agreements, (b) to be protected by health and safety measures at the workplace, and (c) to contribute to and benefit from social security schemes;
- (ii) a ban on repeated renewal of fixed-term contracts;
- (iii) the right of workers to be informed and consulted in decision-making bodies on technological innovation and on changes which affect business structures, the organization of production, and employment.

Other measures were needed:

- (i) to support the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups outside the labour market;
- (ii) to help safeguard family unity and family values;
- (iii) to guarantee free movement of Community citizens;
- (iv) to promote mutual recognition of educational and vocational qualifications;
- (v) to protect the rights of ethnic minorities;
- (vi) to guarantee women more tangible equal opportunities;
- (vii) to involve consumers and users in the definition of plant and product safety standards;
- (viii) to help coordinate social security schemes in the EC;
- (ix) to promote a negotiated reduction of working hours, taking account of productivity gains and the specific features of individual sectors;
- (x) to double EC structural Funds.

The information report and the opinion received significant attention in the media and in political circles. A major editorial in *Agence Europe*, for example, considered the proposal for a framework Directive to be of 'considerable importance', and complimented the Committee on its 'courageous and responsible position on the eve of the Copenhagen Summit'. The Belgian Prime Minister's office also commented favourably. A press conference and

a hearing at the European Parliament's Social Affairs Committee were also held.

In 1987 the Committee also drew up important opinions on the problem of education and vocational training.

The Committee strongly endorsed the Erasmus programme for promoting student mobility throughout the Community, and reaffirmed its support when the proposal was resubmitted after the difficulties encountered at the first Council meeting. The Committee specifically stressed the need for suitable levels of financial support to students, and supported the attempt to include a broad cross-section of higher education establishments in the exchange scheme. Credit transfer facilities were also welcomed.

The opinion on adult training in firms underlined the increasing pace of technological change and the high level of skills required of workers. The Committee endorsed specific support for the exchange of information between both sides of industry on the consequences of the increased use of new technologies. While approving the general guidelines proposed by the Commission, the Committee thought that it was unrealistic to limit support to in-house training. External or inter-firm training establishments also fulfilled an important role by complementing and extending the scope of in-house training.

The opinion on the action programme for the training and preparation of young people for adult and working life made the point that economic development in the highly-industrialized countries was characterized on the one hand by an increasing shortage of jobs for lower-skilled workers and on the other by a relative increase in the demand for well-trained specialists in all sectors of the economy. It also stressed that the European economy would not be able to compete at all on world markets unless well-trained specialists were turned out at all levels and in all branches of the economy and society. The various measures recommended by the Commission were approved, although the Committee noted that vocational training policy could neither dispense with nor replace an active labour market policy.

The opinion on the Delta programme for the promotion of European learning through technological advance, again stressed the importance of training and the need to ensure that new learning support techniques were adequately framed in this connection. The Committee also argued that relevant economic and social interest groups should be consulted on the development of the programme, that an on-going dialogue between suppliers and users was needed, and that easy access to a wide range of learning facilities was necessary.

In the field of the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work, the Committee adopted an opinion on the harmonization of exposure limits for 100 substances. The Committee emphasized the importance it attaches to improving workers' protection against health hazards at the workplace. It therefore welcomed the measures proposed by the Commission to harmonize exposure limits or biological indicator limits for chemical, physical and biological agents at work. The resultant Community list of limit values must however be based on definitions of the most important terms (especially 'limit value') that are both clear and generally acceptable throughout the Community. Furthermore, such a list must be backed up by a common measuring and sampling strategy.

The Committee deplored the fact however that the proposal's would-be strategy seems to have been largely sacrificed to pragmatism and a tactical approach.

The Committee also pointed out that in earlier opinions, the emphasis had always been on the priority to be given to workers' protection, without detriment to economic interests. The importance of involving workers and employers in the planning and application of the requisite measures was also underlined.

The opinion on the industrial, social and regional aspects of the shipbuilding industry welcomed the proposed accompanying social measures which could make a major contribution to the policy which was urgently needed to help all the Community's shipbuilding workers.

The Committee, however, deplored the delay in presenting the proposal which was a vital adjunct to the industrial policy measures already taken. The Council was therefore urged to adopt the proposed social measures as a matter of urgency and to provide the budgetary funds vital to their implementation.

The Commission's extremely pessimistic forecasts concerning the drop in capacity in both the shipbuilding and shipping sectors were highly questionable; but if there was to be a significant improvement in the position of the Community's shipbuilding sector, a coherent, overall package of measures had to be adopted by the Member States and the Community in the fields of industrial and trade policy. In the absence of a precise industrial policy and a purposeful coordinated foreign trade policy taking account of overall relations with the relevant rival countries, regional and social-policy measures (however necessary and valuable they might be) would not prevent the Community shipbuilding sector, or rather the remains thereof, from having to



continue the struggle to remain competitive under distorted terms of competition.

Coordination between the Renaval programme and the accompanying social measures was of key importance. The stress had to be on an integrated approach to obtain the maximum synergy. More generally, all the regional and social measures to help shipbuilding (ERDF, Social Fund, Renaval, accompanying social measures) had to be consistent and complementary. This integrated approach would help ensure that the accompanying social measures had the maximum effect, and that all workers benefited regardless of whether they were employed in the shipbuilding sector proper or in ancillary industries.

The opinion on support for the vocational rehabilitation, the economic and social integration and the independent living of people with disabilities endorsed the Commission's approach with its emphasis on the integration of people with disabilities into economic and social life rather than on aid. The Committee did however express some criticisms and suggestions related to the definition of the term 'people with disabilities' and to the membership of the proposed consultative committee.

While fully endorsing the principle of eliminating intra-Community checks on the possession of weapons, the Committee took the view that the proposed Directive was completely inadequate on its own to ensure that the replacement of internal frontier checks would take place in proper conditions, particularly as regards the safety of Community citizens. The necessary completion of the 'people's Europe' could not be at the expense of personal safety.

#### 4. ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL AND MONETARY POLICY

On 2 July 1987 the Committee issued an own-initiative opinion on the economic situation in mid-1987. At the same time it also produced a report on the economic situation in the country holding the Presidency of the Council during this period, namely Belgium.

The first part of the opinion recapitulated economic trends and prospects in the Community, saying that 1987 was not going to be as good a year as forecast, inflation would be higher and growth lower than originally expected. The opinion then looked at a number of major international trade issues, the need for a more stable international monetary system, the Community's domestic market, and the cooperative strategy for growth and jobs.

The Committee suggested a number of economic and social measures:

- (i) a reduction in interest rates; high interest rates are a deterrent to investment and are highly detrimental to economic growth;
- (ii) an increase in productive investments by industry and investments of general social benefit;
- (iii) labour problems and shorter working hours;
- (iv) specific problems to solve the problems of youth and female unemployment;
- (v) effective implementation of the social dialogue;
- (vi) R&D policy;
- (vii) the development of the economic and social cohesion of the Community.

In its report on the economic situation in Belgium, the Committee describes macroeconomic trends and the policies pursued by the Belgian authorities from 1982 to 1986.

It follows this up with an analysis of these trends, the current situation and the short-term outlook.

Two Commission draft Directives on financial and monetary issues were referred to the Committee in the first half of 1987.

The first draft Directive amended Directive 77/388/EEC on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to turnover taxes in respect of the common VAT scheme applicable to SMEs.

The Committee broadly welcomed the draft Directive but argued that Member States ought to be granted a freer hand in taxing small business. That would enable each Member State to take account of those businesses' specific and possibly varying situations. Greater simplicity in the tax treatment of taxable persons would be appreciated.<sup>(1)</sup>

The second draft Directive amended Directive 80/390/EEC regarding the drawing-up, scrutiny and distribution of the listing particulars to be published for the admission of securities to official stock exchange listing.

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(1) CES 95/87 pt. 1.2.

The Committee approved the draft amendment. The adoption of the proposal, and the proposal concerning the prospectus to be published when transferable securities are offered for subscription or sale to the public, would help towards the integration of the securities and the capital markets in the Community. (1)

The Committee asked the Council to adopt the two draft Directives rapidly.

The Committee opinion on the Commission's *Annual Economic Report* pointed out that the Report was drawn up before the stock market crisis. Because of this the exact consequences of the crisis were difficult to predict although the general tendency seemed reasonably clear.

The crisis would curb growth:

- (i) firstly, firms would invest more cautiously, especially since there might be some fall in demand; firms would also obviously find it more difficult to raise capital;
- (ii) secondly, individuals had seen their stocks and share prices fall and were likely to be worried about the future, especially in those countries with a folk memory of a real depression, i. e. basically the United States; demand, particularly for consumer durables, was therefore likely to fall.

Governments themselves, severely shaken by the warning signals sent out by the financial markets, would no doubt decide to tackle the root causes of the crisis with greater vigour.

A sharper reduction in the US budget deficit was one likely consequence of the crisis. But the fear was that this reduction (now essential from a psychological point of view) coupled with the spontaneous reaction of consumers (referred to above) would cause the brakes to be slammed on too hard, holding back US growth and leading to world recession.

One could but hope that just as the US Government should have made greater efforts to trim the budget deficit, so the Government of Japan (whose trade surplus played a significant role in the world trade disequilibrium) would for the same reasons, do more to reflate the Japanese economy and open it up more to imports. The Committee also hoped that Community Governments – led by Germany whose cautiousness was praiseworthy but probably now misplaced – would make a concerted, vigorous effort to reflate their economies; the Committee in fact called upon them to do so as the

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(1) CES 360/87 pt. 1.

dangers of a recession were now much more serious than the risks of inflation.

The Committee considered that, under these circumstances, the Community would first and foremost have to generate growth from within. To this end there would have to be greater solidarity and bolder action to stimulate the Community's economy.

The Community must:

- (i) in the short term, pursue a policy of reducing taxation and other fiscal charges for the benefit of both firms and individuals, whilst also boosting public investment (particularly productive public investment), stimulating private investment and seeking to bring down real interest rates. All this would have to be done against a background of increased fiscal and monetary harmonization;
- (ii) in the medium term, speed up as much as possible the establishment of a single market (a binding duty for all Community citizens).  
Nevertheless, the creation of a single market would have to be backed up by a greater effort to secure cohesion; this presupposed that growth in the more backward countries would be higher than in the more developed countries, it was particularly important to improve the competitive supply of goods and services in the less-developed regions;
- (iii) in the long term, expand European research and, above all, secure greater coordination of research whilst developing vocational training.

The Committee noted with interest that the Commission Report had drawn attention to the positive effects on employment of a reduction in average working hours. It recalled in this respect that a phased long-term reduction of working hours negotiated between the social partners, in particular via collective agreements, held out the best prospects for boosting employment provided it was implemented in such a way as to avoid damaging the competitiveness of Community industry.

The Committee also welcomed the Commission's emphasis on the importance of social dialogue at all levels.

In conclusion the Committee solemnly appealed to European Governments to finally shed their reserve and, in the face of mounting perils to announce in concert a number of major economic and monetary measures designed to give a new, vigorous boost to economic growth, thereby encouraging Europe's major economic partners to do their duty likewise in order to fore-

stall the serious world recession which would be the inevitable consequence of insufficiently firm action.

The Committee also drew up a Report on the economic situation in Denmark, which held the Presidency of the Community in the second half of 1987. The Report touched on economic balance, current trends, competitiveness, employment market trends and economic prospects.

The Committee was also asked by the Council to give an opinion on the amended Directive relating to indirect taxes on transactions in securities. The Committee welcomed this initiative and approved the Draft Directive which it asked the Council to adopt rapidly.

The Committee felt that the abolition of these taxes would further the integration of the securities and capital markets and encourage business investment, with all the consequent benefits for the competitiveness of the European economy and job-creation.

Stock market problems were also discussed in the opinion on a Draft Council Directive coordinating regulations on insider trading. The Committee supported the Commission's proposal for coordinating the Regulations on insider trading in the European Community via a Council Directive. Differences in national insider trading regulations, or the absence of such regulations, would hamper the completion of a European capital market by 1992, jeopardize equality of opportunity for investors and protection for savers, and make it more difficult to expose cross-border abuses of insider knowledge. The Committee similarly supported the Commission in its eagerness to introduce Community-wide laws on insider trading and abandon voluntary codes of conduct which were only obeyed by companies and/or persons who agree to do so. Finally, the Committee pointed out that a ban on the use of insider information could, at best only be made to stick if all EEC countries uniformly punished violations of the Draft Directive.

The Committee tackled a major aspect of European cohesion in its opinion on a Commission Communication on the financing of major Community infrastructure projects. In view of the new financial context in Europe, which calls for a redistribution of roles in the promotion, financing and management of large-scale infrastructure projects and greater commitment of private capital, the Commission has introduced new Community arrangements to facilitate and encourage private capital participation in the various development stages of large-scale infrastructure projects.

The Committee emphasized that the launching of large-scale infrastructure projects was a necessary condition for European integration and develop-

ment and would represent an important contribution to strengthening economic and social cohesion in the Community and also to unifying the internal market. The European institutions had a major role to play in overcoming the problems relating to the attraction of private finance, particularly in the planning and initial capital raising phases. In the identification and preliminary appraisal of potential projects, the Committee proposed that a Commission Task Force be created for this purpose and specific criteria be established for designating projects as of 'potential European interest'. The Committee was not against the creation of a European infrastructure agency, as proposed by the Commission, provided it was small and flexible, and that it did not become involved in construction and project management. Non-member States could also participate as associated partners in such an agency, where appropriate, the Committee felt.

The opinion on the financing of the Community emphasized that the European venture could not be reduced to the objective of creating a large internal European market by 1992 but must be accompanied by a very strong political will backed by public opinion.

Achievement of the large internal market was inconceivable without appropriate back-up policies on transport, research and development, the environment and consumer protection, without economic, monetary and financial convergence, without a social dimension comprising more meaningful dialogue between the two sides of industry and coordinated action to combat unemployment, and without consideration for the specific problems of certain Member States, particularly regions in industrial decline and agricultural regions affected by the reform of the CAP.

The Committee believed that, despite certain predictable difficulties, using the GNP criterion would improve the Community's own resources system since GNP more closely reflected reality and took greater account of Member States' ability to contribute. In the long term the system would be fairer.

Budgetary reform was thus the cornerstone of any future action. The objection might of course be raised that the main priority should be to reform the CAP and administer the Community's current resources more effectively. The CAP reform must certainly be continued but could not be used as an alibi for doing nothing else – firstly, because the resources which might possibly be clawed back from agriculture would not be sufficient to cover expenditure in other sectors; secondly, because the CAP reform could only be gradual, while some needs had to be met immediately.

Finally, the Committee makes the point that the principle of a 'fair return' could not be reconciled with the essential solidarity between Member States

on which the Community was based. The advantages and drawbacks which Community membership entails clearly could not be assessed in purely budgetary or financial terms. Too many unknown factors, political aspects or non-quantifiable consequences were involved for a simple mathematical calculation to be adequate.

## 5. REGIONAL POLICY

By the end of 1987, the Section for Regional Development and Town and Country Planning had issued eight opinions – a high level of output. Admittedly, four of these opinions were bunched at the end of the year and they were drawn up under the urgency procedures.

Apart from the traditional opinion on the annual report on ERDF activities, the opinions all addressed controversial subjects of considerable importance.

The following topics were covered:

- (i) Inter-regional air services  
(Rapporteur: Mr Speirs)
- (ii) 11th Report on ERDF activities  
(Rapporteur: Mr Della Croce)
- (iii) Disadvantaged island regions  
(Rapporteur: Mr Vassilaras)
- (iv) Business and innovation centres  
(Rapporteur: Mr Vassilaras)
- (v) Renaval Community programme  
(Rapporteurs: Mr Schmitz and Mrs Bredima)
- (vi) Resider Community programme  
(Rapporteur: Mr Schmitz)
- (vii) Reform of the structural Funds  
(Rapporteur: Mr Serra Caracciolo)
- (viii) Third periodic report on the social and economic situation of the regions of the Community  
(Rapporteur: Mr Della Croce)

## **Inter-regional air services**

The opinion on inter-regional air services complements the main opinion drawn up by the Section for Transport and Communications.

Inter-regional air services would not only complement the main air services network but, in regional development terms, could also make a highly effective contribution to opening up certain regions which were difficult to reach by land. For many less-developed, island and peripheral regions transport services for passengers and goods were a precondition for development, the opinion said. If demand was inadequate to cover costs regional air services could be subsidized by the ERDF.

Safety regulations would be no less stringent than those applying to other air transport services.

## **Disadvantaged island regions**

This opinion came at a time when a number of institutions, the European Parliament among them, were taking an interest in the development, or rather the under-development, of island areas.

Estimates of the size of the population concerned range between 5 and 10 million.

The opinion, which was adopted unanimously, was submitted by the rapporteur to the Conference of Island Regions (Isle of Man), the Conference of European Regions (Venice) and the Conference of Peripheral and Maritime Regions (Reunion). It was also discussed during an official visit to the Canary Islands.

The opinion could well have an even more interesting follow-up, and this will be covered in our next report.

## **Business and innovation centres**

The relevant Commission proposal is very important for endogenous regional development and was broadly endorsed by the Committee. No major changes were recommended.



## **Resider and Renaval programmes**

These are two programmes from the same mould, one to support regions affected by the decline of the steel industry, and the other for those affected by the decline of shipbuilding. The aim is to stimulate, with ERDF support, alternative forms of productive activity, mainly via new, small firms.

In both cases the Committee pointed out that in establishing selection criteria for these zones, account should be taken not only of current unemployment but also of employment trends, both past and future. The Committee also stressed that the emphasis should not be placed exclusively on alternative activities, but that aid to the dominant sectors (steel or shipbuilding) should also be contemplated (*after* over-capacity had been reduced) as this was compatible with the two aid systems in question. The Committee felt that it was unrealistic to expect regions dominated by a single industry to wipe the slate clean and to start from scratch, if only because of the region's traditions and the specific skills of several generations of workers.

Finally, the opinion stressed (a) the contribution which firms themselves could make and (b) the benefits to be gained from setting up regional development agencies involving the social and economic interest groups concerned.

## **Reform of the structural Funds**

The 30th anniversary of the Community's foundation and the goal of setting up the single market by 1992 have finally driven the message home that the Community's structural intervention machinery has been made obsolete by historical and economic change. Radical changes are needed to tackle its shortcomings.

The Committee welcomed this new awareness but was rather critical of the proposed reform which it felt did not go far enough.

Specific criticisms were levelled at: the lack of clearly presented objectives, the lack of any system of priorities or allocation of specific funds to specific goals. Finally the Committee was critical of the doubling of resources which, even if it actually took place, would be insufficient to fill the gap left by the CAP.

### **Third periodic report**

The periodic report on the economic and social situation of the regions is a vital document for anyone concerned with regional development. It is submitted to the Committee every two and a half years. It has always been enthusiastically approved and, subject to the comments and criticisms already voiced, has developed remarkably. This year the Committee's opinion concentrated in particular on the problems of enlargement and economic cohesion in the light of the 1992 deadline for the single market. It stressed that the regions themselves must shoulder much of the responsibility for initiatives and management.

## **6. INDUSTRIAL POLICY**

### **Competition policy**

In accordance with the practice which has been established for some years, the Committee expressed its views on the report which the Commission draws up every year on competition policy.

The Committee's opinion on the XVIth Report focuses on the 'new Community dimension' created by completing the internal market, which is and will be a cause and effect of increasing the competitiveness not only of enterprises but also of the Community system as a whole. In this new Community dimension, the role of competition policy is a central one, since it seeks to stimulate healthy internal and international competitiveness. Following the established practice, certain key points of competition policy – such as State aid, social aspects and exemption regulations by category – are analysed. On the last point, it was decided to draw up an own-initiative opinion on two important draft regulations covering know-how licensing agreements and franchising agreements.

### **Completing the internal market**

This aspect of Community work, which increasingly involves all the internal components of the Committee, has been tackled by the Section for Industry from many angles, including customs harmonization and the regulations relating to certain industrial products.

The Committee's efforts to make an effective contribution to completing the internal market have been mainly devoted to the public works and public supply contracts sector. In two important opinions (Rapporteurs: Mr Speirs

and Mr Kaaris) the Committee agrees with the Commission proposal's main objective of transparency and open competition. It believes, however, that the Commission proposal, which is intended to achieve that objective, is based on two debatable assumptions.

The first is that major contractors are only interested in securing contracts above 7 million ECU in value; the second is that the lower application threshold of 700 000 ECU will protect SMEs located close to frontiers. Although the Committee is in favour of any measures which serve to encourage greater SME participation in public contracts, it cannot agree with the Commission's proposals for a double threshold with a lower level of 700 000 ECU in favour of certain contracts for SMEs. A two-threshold situation to protect not all firms but just those based near borders flies in the face of the basic objective of the proposal which is to put firms (including SMEs) everywhere on an equal competitive footing in bidding for public contracts throughout the Community.

The Committee has therefore proposed that a single threshold limit of 3.5 million ECU be set.

Moreover, while wholeheartedly endorsing the basic idea behind the Commission proposals – that a tenderer should be able to initiate proceedings against illegal behaviour in the Member State where he makes his tender – the Committee considers that in some respects the Commission does not draw the relevant operative conclusions from that principle.

The Committee fears that injured parties will still have no guarantee that their complaint will be dealt with in any Member State in accordance with the same criteria and legal principles, and within the same time-limits, as those of the other Member States. Moreover, it is neither fair nor reasonable to expect individual Member States to dismantle their rules protecting domestic producers unless they can be confident that the other Member States will follow suit.

The Committee therefore urges the Commission to cooperate with the Member States on working out uniform standards and provisions regarding time-limits, the scale of penalty payments, and administrative procedures.

### **SME action programme**

In its opinions the Committee has often advocated developing an overall strategy for promoting SMEs. At last, after long years of hesitation, an action programme for SMEs has been adopted by the Council, and will contribute

to creating a favourable environment for SMEs' activities with a view to the completion of the large internal market.

In its opinion on this action programme, the Committee considers first and foremost that a favourable business environment is the cornerstone on which any action to support SMEs will rest.

Among other things, it would be desirable for the national authorities to employ a tax system which favours firms and for the Commission to consider two new facilities for providing financial aid for SMEs (a line of finance to cover interest rate differentials and the setting-up of reciprocal guarantee companies at Community level to participate in the capitalization of firms, alongside the firms themselves).

In particular, the Committee supported the Commission's plan to set up Community information centres in all the Member States, which will help to give entrepreneurs better access to the information which they need.

### **Banking and insurance sector**

Completion of the internal market by the end of 1992 has been the guiding principle of the Industry Section's work, including its examination of certain specific sectors, such as banking and insurance. In two opinions on credit institutions' own funds and on publication of accounting documents of branches of credit institutions, the Committee expresses the hope that all the conditions needed to create a true internal market may be quickly established.

In the field of credit institutions the achievement of a genuine internal market, however, requires the strengthening of economic cohesion through free movement of capital, tighter coordination in the area parities between Member States' currencies and, more generally, through coordination of economic policies.

The proposal on the publication of accounting documents prohibits Member States from requiring the publication of annual accounts relating to the business of the branch.

The Committee suggests that, in order to take account of the socio-economic peculiarities of each Member State, they should be allowed to require branches or groups of branches with considerable economic and social influence to publish their accounts. If this were the case, objective criteria

should be laid down in the Directive and the same obligation should be imposed on branches of equal size belonging to credit institutions and financial institutions whose head office is located in the particular Member State concerned.

The same position was adopted by the Committee in its opinion on the 11th Directive concerning disclosure requirements in respect of branches.

In the insurance field, the Committee's interest was focused on the proposals relating to annual accounts and compulsory liquidation.

The special features of insurance companies which led to their being excluded from the scope of the Fourth and Seventh Directives remain, and would justify the drafting of a complete set of rules embracing all the decisions adopted with regard to the insurance sector, even if this means repeating some of the clauses in the Fourth and Seventh Directives. This ought to make it easier to compare published accounts, so that competition between insurance companies can develop.

It would be desirable for the subsidiaries of foreign companies also to be subject to the Directive on annual accounts of companies which have their head office in the Community.

### **Pharmaceutical sector**

Among the industrial sectors specifically considered by the Committee is the pharmaceutical sector. This was prompted by the presentation by the Commission of a proposal for a Directive on the transparency of pricing of medicinal products for human use and their inclusion within the scope of a national health insurance system.

The Committee welcomes any initiative which tends to encourage a balance between social security requirements and the development of Community industrial research in competition with non-Community industrial systems, in a market which is basically atypical in the sense that it is not guided by the independent choices of individual consumers.

Price and refund eligibility controls are applied in most of the Member States, and there is a considerable disparity in control arrangements for prices, and even more as regards control of eligibility for refund. The application of 'transparency' criteria to such disparate systems is therefore an extremely complex objective, but it is worth pursuing.

With regard to the transparency of procedures for determining eligibility for refund, there is a need for maximum certainty about time-limits for updating lists and access to the medicinal products available under the social security systems. In the interests both of manufacturers and of consumers it would be desirable to harmonize the systems of lists since the existence of 'negative' and 'positive' lists can create complications. The situation could be simplified by adopting one of the two criteria. Although the difference in terms of actual refunds would be marginal, for clarity's sake the Committee expresses its preference for positive lists, provided that national authorities make up their minds within 90 days of receiving the application. After the expiry of this deadline, the product would have to be officially included in the positive list of medicaments eligible for refund.

## 7. EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The Economic and Social Committee, through its Section for External Relations, is closely monitoring the progress of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, having already issued an opinion on the prospects for this Round in 1986. Greatly concerned by the economic and political trend in the United States and its potential repercussions for international trade, the Committee thought it necessary to state its views on this problem which is not just a US domestic policy issue, but which involves the economic, monetary and financial balance of the whole world and brings with it the danger of generalized recession.

The Committee believes that international trade is likely to face serious pressures if the US adopts unilateral decisions and insists on imposing bilateral solutions. This is why, in its opinion on the impact of current US economic and political developments on the Uruguay Round and international trade, the Committee urges the Commission and Council to:

- (i) react firmly to any measures taken outside the GATT framework which prejudice exports from Community firms and thus the employment levels of the Member States;
- (ii) make the Community's views clear – not only to American politicians but also, via the media, to the American public – on the dangers of an escalation of protectionism and on the need for a concerted effort by all to strengthen the GATT system and make the Uruguay Round negotiations a success.

The Committee urges the Member States to show the greatest consistency and cohesion, so that Community action is unanimous and unwavering.

Lastly, the Committee calls for a joint effort from the industrialized nations and NICs, by means of growth policies and multilateral talks, to solve the current most pressing problems (trade, debts, monetary matters).

Also on the subject of international trade, the Committee gave its views on the Commission's proposals for the Community scheme of generalized tariff preferences (GSP) for 1988; although these preferences represent a derogation from GATT rules, the Committee has long held the view that they should be regarded as provisional and that the developing countries should gradually come back under the GATT regime.

While acknowledging that the GSP should safeguard the development of those countries really in need, the Committee insists that cross-selectivity must be used to exclude certain products from particularly competitive countries. The Committee stresses the potential threat to the world economy posed by the over-aggressive export policies of the newly-industrialized countries (particularly Asia), which have the same technology and facilities at their disposal as Western countries, while enjoying much lower labour costs, and can thus engage in 'social dumping'. Furthermore, the currencies of some of these countries are linked to the dollar and have followed its fall at a time when their trade is in surplus, they have no or no worse than average foreign debts, and their prices are already highly competitive.

The Committee is working on the Community's policy *vis-à-vis* the eastern and southern Mediterranean countries and on relations with (European) State-trading countries.

Finally, the Section for External Relations has prepared a file on 'The role of private investment in the ACP countries' for the annual meeting of the representatives of ACP/EEC socio-economic groups.

### **Contacts with socio-economic organizations from third countries or groups of third countries**

As part of the regular contact with socio-economic organizations from the member countries of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), two joint meetings (14th and 15th) were held in 1987 between the delegations of the EC Economic and Social Committee and the EFTA Consultative Committee. At these meetings the need for translating into reality the political will for even closer ties and combined action between the EFTA countries and the EC clearly come to the fore.

In the discussions at the 14th joint meeting, held in Basle on 1 and 2 April, the participants paid particular attention to the ongoing action aimed at

completing the EC internal market, as well as to the possible influence of the EC Single Act, notably in relation to the new voting procedure it will introduce within the Community in the process of reducing technical barriers to trade and substantially accelerating the work on harmonization amongst EC Member States.

The participants underlined the need for common efforts towards the removal of all obstacles to trade, thereby leading to a system of free commercial exchange. They particularly supported the idea that no discrimination towards EFTA countries should result from the completion of the EC's internal market.

The importance of creating a European economic space covering all the EC and EFTA countries was underlined by the meeting. It was stressed that the social aspect should be included in order that the peoples of Western Europe would benefit from the welfare resulting from the establishment of that European economic space foreseen by the Luxembourg Declaration.

Evoking the current situation of world trade, the participants highlighted Europe's particular responsibility in the efforts to be pursued in order to sustain the free trade system. In that respect they favoured a strengthening of common action to be undertaken by the Community and the EFTA countries, aimed at developing their reciprocal trade relations as well as the world-wide free trade system.

Finally, the participants had a first discussion on the transport problems within Europe. This subject was debated in depth at the 15th joint meeting, held in Dublin on 8 and 9 October, which strongly stressed the need for speedy decisions to achieve harmonization of legislation and greater liberalization in the field of transport policy in the European Community and in its relations with EFTA member countries. The meeting called for a joint examination of general transport policy issues with special emphasis on transit traffic problems.

The completion of the internal market within the EC by 1992 calls for arrangements between the Community and the EFTA countries to replace bilateral agreements now in force governing transport issues between them. Any final solution for these arrangements should take into account the interests of all 18 countries involved. The Economic and Social Committee and the Consultative Committee of EFTA will work closely together to give clear indications in this field to the EC Council and the governments of the EFTA countries.



The meeting agreed that greater liberalization, though not total deregulation, should rapidly be introduced, particularly in air transport. It stressed the need to create conditions allowing airlines to compete with equal opportunity and called for the implementation of the package of measures which has been blocked in the EC Council. In general, the meeting recalled the necessity to keep the many social aspects, especially the effect on employment and working conditions, in mind while making proposals to enhance competitiveness in the transport sector.

An ESC delegation, led by the Chairman, Mr Margot, visited Washington to meet with American trade, employers' and workers' organizations. The aim was to express the concern felt by the European socio-economic groups over the problems facing international trade. Many comments were expressed on the Committee's opinion which had been widely circulated beforehand. A dialogue was initiated which enabled both sides to put forward their point of view and, even if solutions could not be found, and awareness began to emerge on the need to act together within the framework of GATT.

The Economic and Social Committee organized the 11th Annual Conference of ACP and EEC economic and social groups, which took place on the initiative of the ACP/EEC Joint Assembly on 26 and 27 November 1987; discussion centred on the role of private investment in the ACP countries.

The Conference concluded with the adoption of a Resolution inviting private investors to join forces with the public authorities in order to contribute effectively to economic activity in ACP countries through investments planned in a spirit of cooperation and meeting the development needs of those countries.

Apart from the need to lessen political risks by means of guarantee systems, the Conference stressed that the chances of success for investments are notably improved by participation of the social partners at all decision-making levels, especially in planning and vocational training in the widest sense.

The Conference also drew attention to the importance of the rural economy and healthy agriculture for the development of the ACP countries.

The representatives of the economic and social groups reiterated their unreserved condemnation of the apartheid system in South Africa; they proposed that their next conference be devoted, at least in part, to assessing the implementation of the Third Lomé Convention, with a view to the drafting of the next Convention, especially with regard to the role of socio-occupational organizations.

## 8. ENERGY POLICY, NUCLEAR QUESTIONS AND RESEARCH

The Economic and Social Committee's activities in the fields of energy and research respectively have been dominated during the course of 1987 by three events.

The first of these was Chernobyl or, rather, its aftermath.

The consequences of the April 1986 nuclear plant accident at Chernobyl prompted the Committee to give an own-initiative opinion bearing a like-title (May 1987); the Commission, in turn, under Article 31 of the Euratom Treaty, consulted the Committee on the drafts of a Regulation and Decision respectively it was to present to the Council, the genesis of which was in both cases the Chernobyl disaster.

The second event was the coming into effect on 1 July 1987 of the Single European Act. For the first time the Council was obliged to refer to the ESC all-draft Decisions/Regulations etc., in the field of technological research and development. Thus, for the first time, the institutions were involved in the cooperation procedure. This procedure was already, by the year-end, having its repercussions on the Committee's own procedures on account of the – on several occasions – shorter time available to the Committee for it to draw up considered opinions so as to be in the hands sufficiently early of the institutional bodies upon whose deliberations the Committee's opinions might be expected to exert some influence.

The third event which for a large part of the year threatened not to be an event at all, was the matter of the framework programme for Community activities in the field of research and technological development (1987–91). The Committee had already, even when 1987 dawned, given its opinion on the draft framework programme the Commission had submitted to the Council in 1986. Despite the apparent urgency for the 1987–91 research programme to be adopted in outline, and although research programmes – integral to the framework programme – should have been coming up for renewal, delays in its adoption ran through to 28 September 1987. Once it was adopted, of course, the long-delayed submissions from the Commission of draft research programmes for 1988 onwards, or revisions to existing on-going research programmes, were passed on by the Council to the Committee fast and furious, for an early opinion.

On energy policy, generally, the Committee was not in fact involved, formally, during the course of 1987. On the matter of nuclear, however, as stated earlier, the Committee gave an opinion on the consequences of the Chernobyl nuclear accident.

It looked closely at the sequence of events at Chernobyl; it reviewed previous nuclear accidents, and compared safety technology used in Western reactors with that of Chernobyl.

As regards the matter of affecting an immediate improvement in the safety of existing reactors, it concluded that any type of existing reactor can release large quantities of radioactive substances – however unlikely this may be.

Serious accidents with reactors in the Community are not impossible.

The following steps, some of which have already been taken in certain countries are necessary for improved reactor safety:

- (i) the establishment and dissemination of assessment criteria and standards in the interests of protecting the population and the environment;
- (ii) the setting up of an inspectorate, the composition of which reflects the socio-political dimension of the safety issue;
- (iii) inspection of old and new reactors on the basis of various criteria and standards, as well as the scrutiny of plant organization and operating methods;
- (iv) recommendations for administrative and technical improvements and the pinpointing of cases of non-compliance with criteria and standards.

The Committee expected that once necessary remedial work has been properly carried out, most of the existing reactors will be able to remain in operation.

Its overall conclusions and recommendations were many and varied, ranging from a proposal that a broad-based nuclear inspectorate be set up, to a proposal that more resources be devoted to developing and introducing alternative energy sources.

When the Commission, following an undertaking given shortly after Chernobyl, came out with proposals for a Decision on a rapid exchange of information in cases of unusually high levels of radioactivity or of a nuclear accident, on the one hand, and a proposal for a Regulation laying down on a permanent basis, permitted radioactivity levels for agricultural products and drinking water on the other, the Committee responded rapidly.

It was in favour of both proposals. As for the Community system of rapid information, it felt it should only be a first step, and that its effectiveness should be substantially increased. The Committee considered that the Com-

munity system of rapid exchange of information should rapidly be supplemented by a mutual assistance arrangement in the event of a nuclear accident or radiological emergency. Finally, it called for greater consistency between the provisions of the Decision and those of the Convention on early notification of a nuclear accident (prepared in the IAEA framework) which entered into force on 27 October 1986.

In welcoming the Commission's draft proposal for a Regulation laying down maximum permitted radioactivity levels for agricultural products and water for drinking, the Committee emphasized that the smooth functioning of the procedure proposed depended on the prior establishment of a Community system of rapid exchange of information and accession by the Community to the Convention on early notification of a nuclear accident.

It concluded its opinion by saying that it is essential that we avoid agricultural products that do not meet the maximum permitted radioactivity levels set by the Council, being marketed or exported, and that to this end uniformity of measures taken by Member States must be obtained. At the year-end, Member States had not yet agreed on maximum permitted radioactivity levels as proposed.

As far as Community research is concerned, the Committee expressed its views on a diverse set of draft research programmes as well as two 'horizontal' research plans. In the one instance the plan aims at stimulating international cooperation and interchange needed by European research scientists. In the other, the plan is designed to offer to European researchers easier access to existing or future scientific and technical facilities in Community countries. The purpose of the latter plan is for the Community thereby to get the chance of improving and upgrading the large-scale facilities that exist in Europe. The Committee could only but give its whole-hearted support to the 'horizontal' plans which it feels are an important feature of the otherwise vertical or sectoral lines of action for research and accompanying programmes.

Of the specific draft research programmes which the Council referred to the Committee for an opinion, two in particular stand out: a Regulation governing a research and development programme in the field of science and technology for development 1987-90; and a Decision revising the existing multi-annual R and D programme in the field of basic technological research and development of new technologies (Brite).

On the matter of science and technology for development, the Committee considered, perhaps more so than does the Commission, that the main purpose of the programme is to create a north to south flow of technical benefit

with a progressively larger share of research work being undertaken in developing countries. For this reason, every possible effort should be made to increase the developing countries' scientific and technical independence and capability.

It attached great importance to the development of an objective assessment system for future programmes, and noted that the assessment of the first programme as a whole appeared somewhat subjective.

As regards the 'highly successful' and 'widely acclaimed' Brite programme revision proposal, which the Committee had no difficulty whatsoever endorsing, it urged none the less that in implementing the programme in the future, the Commission pay particular heed to three specific pleas.

The first concerned the assessment of the social impact and of the programme results. The Committee believed that each assessment needed to include an appraisal of the impact of a completed project on industrial competitiveness, employment, health, safety at work, the environment, the quality of life and the working environment.

The second concerned participation of small firms in Brite. Although the Committee welcomed greater involvement of small firms in Brite, the scale of the projects was crucial and could not be compromised. It was thought that the Commission should encourage large firms to subcontract parts of projects out to small firms.

Finally Brite programme management should be reminded of the importance of making use of the results of completed projects. The Committee reiterated the need to define and implement a suitable procedure and endorsed the Commission's ideas on introducing funding instruments for project study and development.

As the year drew to a close, the Committee was in the final throes of drawing up its opinion on the much-debated proposals for specific research programmes to be implemented by the Joint Research Centre for the period 1988-91.

## 9. PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

As in previous years the Committee continued its work within the overall guidelines laid down in the Community's environment and consumer action

programmes and within the framework of the emerging Community public health policy.

## **Environment**

The Committee's main activity during the year is its involvement in the European Year of the Environment, a major promotional activity initiated by the European Commission which runs from March 1987 to March 1988.

The object of this exercise is to create an awareness among the public at large of the importance of the environment and the necessity to protect it.

This is being done not only by publicity in the sense of media coverage, but by specific projects and events which will not only contribute to the protection of the environment but in many cases will also create employment.

The Economic and Social Committee played a substantial role on the promotional side by the organization, in collaboration with the European Commission and the European Parliament, of the Opening Conference for the Environmental Year in Luxembourg in March and also the organization of two other conferences in Naples and Bilbao.

The principal recommendation of the Opening Conference was that an inter-regional organization to coordinate environmental activities be set up to cover the area of Luxembourg and the continuous zones in Germany, France and Belgium.

A follow-up meeting organized by the Committee later in the year confirmed this recommendation and the first steps have already been taken to implement it.

Naples and Bilbao were selected for particular study because of the exceptionally acute pollution problems in these cities. While the local authorities there are taking steps to tackle these problems, the ESC considers that the support and interest of the European Community will demonstrate once more that pollution knows no frontiers and must be tackled at international level. Published reports on these conferences are available.

The second major theme in which the Committee is involved during the year is the EEC fourth environment programme 1987-92 which sets out the guidelines for measures to be taken over the next five years, during which it is envisaged that protection of the environment should become an integral part of EEC economic and social policies and not just an optional extra.

In its opinion on the programme, the ESC sees the following areas as priorities:

- (i) the monitoring of existing environmental protection provisions and their adjustment to technical progress;
- (ii) the inclusion of environmental protection in all EC policy areas and financial instruments;
- (iii) precautionary measures against large-scale, international pollution;
- (iv) the provision of information to workers in businesses affected by environmental problems.

The Committee also made the following proposals:

- (i) employers, workers and environmental groups should be consulted in the implementation of the programme;
- (ii) extensive use should be made of the Single Act to supplement existing Community environmental law;
- (iii) the role of company environmental protection officers should be standardized;
- (iv) the Commission should devise policies for promoting the use of products which are not harmful to the environment or the consumer;
- (v) where several polluters are involved, the joint responsibility of all concerned should be taken into consideration.

One particular aspect of the fourth programme on which the Committee gave an opinion was the Commission's proposal on the stimulation of employment through environmental protection action. The Commission proposed a five-year-programme of 'demonstration projects' throughout the Member States. This is a subject of much interest to the Committee because of the close involvement of the social partners in its membership, and the opinion recommends a series of principles on which the programme could be based – for example the necessity of using rehabilitation technology to restore soil contaminated by industry or agriculture.

On the vexed question of financing, the Committee approved a Commission proposal to extend the scope of an earlier regulation (ACE programme) to grant financial support to three priority areas – demonstration projects involving clean technologies, demonstration projects involving new technologies and the protection of endangered species – but asked that the funds allocated be increased.

The problem of pollution of the sea and the seashore is a subject on which the Committee has issued a number of opinions in the past. This year, it drew up a further opinion on the exchange of information on pollution caused by oil spills at sea, principally from wrecked ships, highlighted by a series of disasters from the *Torrey Canyon* to the recent *Kowloon Bridge* disaster off the south coast of Ireland.

The Committee emphasized the inadequacy of existing legal and administrative measures to deal with this problem and made a number of recommendations to remedy this state of affairs.

Still under the heading of water pollution, the Committee in two separate opinions approved the acceptance by the Community of certain technical amendments to the Berne Convention on the pollution of the Rhine by discharges of mercury and of carbon tetrachloride.

On a Commission proposal concerning the establishment of limit values and quality objectives for the pesticides known as the 3-drins (aldrin, dieldrin and endrin), the Committee generally considered the proposals as inadequate and suggested a number of technical amendments.

The Committee also approved a proposal setting out procedures for the control of the export of dangerous chemicals to Third World countries.

In a supplementary opinion on diesel engine emissions (the main opinion was prepared by the Industry Section) the Environment Section went into some detail on technical matters but basically took the view that environmental, public health and safety factors should take priority over technical and commercial considerations.

Finally, the Committee approved a proposal amending Annex II of Directive 86/280/EEC regarding two items on the 'black list' of dangerous substances – HCB and HCBd, two chemicals frequently utilized in dry-cleaning and metal-cleaning products.

## **Public health**

During the year the Committee was particularly active on the subject of public health, a topic which is assuming greater importance as the Community moves gradually towards the elaboration of a public health policy.

The Committee prepared a detailed information report in three parts as follows:



The first part refers to patients in the Community in the context of problems of organization in the event of illness including: relationship with the health professions; drugs, self-diagnosis and self-care; infectious diseases, including AIDS, and the availability of facilities for cross-border action in case of disasters (e. g. Seveso and Chernobyl).

The second part, entitled 'Medical progress for the citizen' deals with advanced medical technology, biotechnology and genetic engineering, the exchange and application of research findings and the introduction of information technology into medical practice in hospitals and the home.

The third part covers the utilization of health information based on the exchange of experiences and data, leading in turn to early detection and prevention.

The report gives examples of specific subjects which were chosen because they are topical or because Community-wide solutions suggest themselves, and concludes by urging the establishment by the Commission of a single public health directorate with adequate resources.

The Committee also approved the fourth programme for R&D in the field of medical and health research 1987-89 with the following suggestions:

- (i) greater efforts should be made to publicize the results of the research programmes;
- (ii) half of the available funds should be devoted to cancer epidemiology;
- (iii) two further areas of study, namely 'therapy-induced secondary cancers' and 'cancer and psychological factors' should be included;
- (iv) social and behavioural research into AIDS should be promoted and supported.

The Committee's third major opinion on a public health matter concerns the Europe against cancer action programme 1987-89 which describes 75 actions designed to combat cancer during that period including a campaign against tobacco, improvement in nutrition, protection against carcinogenic agents, systematic screening and early diagnosis, etc.

The Committee approved the programme with two significant observations: the Committee's earlier proposals on the connection between excessive alcohol consumption and cancer had not been taken up and attention should be drawn to the possible adverse socio-economic effects which would follow from rapid and indiscriminate implementation of the anti-tobacco measures.

Finally, the Committee issued an opinion on a proposed pilot phase under the AIM programme (Advanced informatics in medicine). This pilot phase envisages substantial expenditure on the development of a European-wide medical and bio-informatics system by building an equipment devised for other uses. The Community will contribute to the necessary research work sub-contracted to competent enterprises on an average of 50% of the cost.

The Committee in its opinion was concerned that funds should be made available to continue work after the pilot phase; that medical data on individuals be protected, and that the medical and other socio-economic groups be adequately represented on the Committee to be set up to advise on the project.

### **Consumer affairs**

As regards consumer affairs, the accent during this year was placed on an aspect which is assuming increasing importance – namely product safety.

The Committee issued two opinions on Commission proposals under this heading, one on the safety of toys and the other on dangerous imitation products, officially described as 'products appearing to be other than they are'. The latter in practice refer to products which resemble foodstuffs, such as erasers which imitate sweets and are dangerous for children, and products such as cosmetics in imitation beer bottles, which could harm adults.

The Committee in its opinions welcomed the proposals to harmonize Community legislation on such matters and situated them in the context of a forthcoming Directive on the safety of consumers in relation to consumer products, still awaited from the Commission.

The Committee in both opinions made a large number of recommendations of a semi-technical nature, all in the general sense of tightening up the Commission's proposals. Particular emphasis was laid on the need to monitor imports from non-Community sources.

The Committee also issued an opinion approving a proposal to update an earlier Directive harmonizing Community legislation on cosmetics and made the significant point that special provisions should be included on the protection of professional users, particularly hairdressers, against certain cosmetic products which may cause skin irritation.

Continuing its work in the extensive field of foodstuffs, the Committee adopted an opinion on a proposal for the official inspection of foodstuffs,

designed to standardize monitoring systems which at present can differ considerably from one Member State to another. The Committee felt that this proposal needed to be more specific on a number of points, notably on (1) an extension of the actual scope of inspection to cover raw materials and possibly to form a basis for the establishment of Community-wide guidelines for manufacturing practice; (2) the introduction of EEC provisions on standards for inspection personnel, and (3) the penalties for infringements.

Under another aspect of inspection, the Committee approved a proposal to standardize throughout the Community good laboratory practice (GLP) in respect of a wide range of chemicals (e. g. cosmetics, medicinal food additives, pesticides, etc.). The Section suggested that a central list of laboratories be established, and that interested parties should have access to inspection reports.

Finally, on a completely different aspect of consumer affairs, the Committee approved a proposal calling on those Member States which have not signed and ratified the 1980 Hague Convention to facilitate international access to the courts to do so. This measure is specifically designed to facilitate tourists and the Committee recommended in particular that a deadline date be established for adherence to the Convention which if not observed should be followed by the introduction of an alternative juridical instrument.



### CHAPTER III

## Press relations and outside echo

In countries with a free press, it is often difficult to say whether public feelings and opinions influence editors – as they often claim – in their choice and presentation of information, or whether it is the other way about. Or, whether it is the subject matter itself which commands an interest or fails to do so. Thus we see interest for the integration of the European Community waxing or waning as a subject for the press in this or that country.

Some specific points emerge: more general interest is shown for the Community in the newer Member States while in some of the older ones, the tendency for a more nationalistic outlook seems to be growing. These points were mirrored in the events of this year; high hopes for progress for Europe at the beginning but few results and deception at its end.

In this general context of editors' and journalists' attitudes to the European Community, the information emanating from the Economic and Social Committee had to struggle for space in the newspapers and on the radio waves. However, from the reports and newspaper clippings received at the Secretariat, which evidently gives an incomplete picture, it appears that the press echo of the ESC in the year under review has shown a considerable improvement (12%) over 1986.

Viewed by countries, the best results were achieved in the press of Belgium, considerably aided by the fact the Committee's President is a well-known citizen there, then Spain where several missions took place. Next came Germany where the economic news agency VWD assiduously reports our opinions, followed by the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Luxembourg and Ireland. The specialized agencies which cover European affairs, such as Agence Europe, European Report ('Europolitique' in French), 'la lettre européenne', 'l'Européen', etc., regularly report the Committee's activities. Television reporting of the Committee also showed a reasonable increase, but still remains confined to specific occasions, such as missions and press

conferences. The plenary session was, however filmed on three occasions, for Spanish and Greek television.

As far as themes are concerned, the appeal to the Committee in February by Mr Jacques Delors, President of the Commission, to make the Single Act a reality ('Réussir l'Acte Unique') and the Committee's response had the widest affect in the press. This was particularly noticeable by the reporting of the opinion on the mid-year economic situation and various opinions concerned with completing the single market. (It has not been possible to include the press echo for the latest opinions on the subject at the time of going to press). The conference to mark the Year of the Environment, organized by the Committee in Luxembourg, obtained good coverage.

Social questions and the opinion on the social situation were also widely reported, the Committee's own-initiative opinion and report on the consequences of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, as well as its views on radioactivity levels in foodstuffs were positively commented on, particularly in Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands. The joint meetings between the ESC and the Consultative Assembly of EFTA in Basle and Dublin obtained good coverage, also beyond the boundaries of the European Community. Another visit which made the headlines and the television news was the Committee's mission to the Canary Islands. A good example of the advantage of reacting immediately to news was the President's letter to the Belgian Prime Minister in July when his Government proposed to demand toll from foreign vehicles using Belgian motorways. The President's letter, which warned of probable Committee opposition to the proposal, received wide publicity. As usual, the Committee's opinions on agriculture, particularly on farm prices, were well reported.

The participation of government ministers, representing the President-in-Office of the Council, at the Committee's plenary session are generally covered in the press, particularly in their own country. This was also the case in the year under review when we received Mr Tindemans, Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Wilfried Martens, Belgian Prime Minister, Mr H. Dyremose, Danish Minister for Labour, Mr Tygesen, Danish Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Mr Herman De Croo, Belgian Minister for Transport.

The same is true for Members of the Commission: in addition to its President, mentioned above, the Committee's plenary sessions and section meetings were attended by the following Commissioners: Henning Christophersen, Aloïs Pfeiffer and Peter Schmidhuber.

The number of press conferences, briefings and interviews organized continues to rise year by year. In 1987, the Press/information/publications

Division arranged 37 compared to 30 in 1986 and 20 in 1985. Apart from interviews by the President or the Secretary-General, most of the press conferences were organized outside Brussels, generally by the Rapporteurs of Committee's opinions, or on the occasion of missions and meetings.

They include press conferences held in the Canary Islands, in Ireland (Dublin), in Spain (Madrid, Bilbao, Almeria), in Italy (Naples and Milan), in Luxembourg, in Switzerland (Basle), in the United Kingdom (London), in Germany (Dusseldorf), in France (Paris, Strasbourg) and in Denmark (Copenhagen).

The Committee was present among other Community institutions, at the 'European festivities', a vast fair held in Brussels on 30 June and 1 and 2 July, organized to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Rome Treaty. A special stand showing the three groups of Committee members – Employers, Workers and Various Interests – was designed and executed in our own workshop and displayed at the Parc du Cinquantaire where it was manned by staff of the Press/information/publications Division.

The Committee's videofilm was projected on the grand screen and also on show in the Committee's stand. The Committee was also present with brochures and publications at the fairs of Saragossa and Barcelona. The Community's cycle race through Europe was marked by the Committee members' distributing prizes to winners at different stages and by the participation of the President at the arrival in Brussels.

The end of the 30th anniversary celebrations of the Community was crowned by a musical evening organized by the ESC musical society and chaired by the Committee's President at the Brussels Town Hall. All these events, festive, sportive, musical or merely informative, helped to get the institution more widely known.

Knowledge about the Committee, especially its role as a further link between the citizen and the Community's law-making procedure, is also spread by lectures given to visiting groups. As more and more Committee members are prepared to act as lecturers to supplement the officials, the presentation becomes more personal and lively. The number of visitors continues to rise and reached 6 654 or 13.6% more than last year, while the number of groups (165) remained level. Most of the visitors were students of whom quite a few will become influential in due course, others were managers, farmers, trade unionists, professionals, officials, politicians, journalists, lawyers, economists, representatives of women's organizations and teachers. As far as countries of origin are concerned, we noted that French and British visitors have increased considerably in relation to 1986 while there were far fewer

German groups. The other countries' contingents remained unchanged with a slight rise for Danish groups.

The Committee's outside echo can also be gauged by the demands received for its opinions, reports and brochures. Of these a total of 18 500 were sent out on request.

Several of the publications produced by the committee in 1987 were concerned with safeguarding the environment. A survey of the economic and social councils or similar bodies in the Member States came off the press in December. The full list of publications follows:

1. Annual Report 1986 – nine languages.
2. Ten numbers of the Bulletin – nine languages.
3. European environment policy – nine languages.
4. European Year of the Environment and the ESC. (Volume I – Luxembourg – nine languages).
5. European Year of the Environment and the ESC. (Luxembourg – Appendix to Volume I – in French, English and German).
6. European Year of the Environment and the ESC. (Volume II – Naples – in French, English, Italian).
7. European Year of the Environment and the ESC. (Volume III – Bilbao – in French, English, Spanish).
8. Naples and Campania (in French, English, Italian, German, Spanish).
9. Bilbao, industrial and trade centre of the Basque area (in French, English, German, Spanish).
10. Integrated operations (in English, Italian).
11. Competition policy – (in French, English, Italian, German and Spanish).
12. The other assembly (revised version) – nine languages.
13. Chernobyl – nine languages.
14. Community rail policy (in French, English, German).
15. The economic and social situation in the Community (in French, English and German).
16. Vade-mecum.
17. Economic and social consultative assemblies (in French).



While the Secretariat strives to gain the attention of the public for the Committee with the modest means at its disposal, it must be kept in mind that the real spokesmen or women of the Committee can only be its members.



## CHAPTER IV

### The Groups

#### GROUP I – EMPLOYERS

Group I members are drawn from public- and private-sector industry, chambers of commerce, the transport industry and transport users, banking and insurance, the distributive trades, agriculture and the tourist industry.

Group I has only 57 members, as against the 65 and 67 members respectively of Group II (Workers) and Group III (Various Interests). Group I members consequently have to make a major effort to ensure that account is taken of their views.

In the year under review, Group I held nine meetings – primarily to discuss the opinions to be dealt with at plenary sessions and to propose members for new study groups.

The Group's monthly meetings were addressed by various speakers: a Unice representative spoke on social policy, in anticipation of the statement by Mr Martens, President-in-Office of the Council, on the outcome of the Val Duchesse meeting; the Committee's Director-General, Mr Graziosi, recapitulated previous meetings of ACP/EEC interest groups, in anticipation of the 11th annual meeting; he also introduced the theme of the year; Mr Tyskiewicz, Unice Secretary-General, outlined the social policy of his organization; Mr Ratjen, Unice President, gave details of the Unice agenda for the Community after the Copenhagen Summit in December.

The ESC Chairman personally introduced the new Secretary-General to each Group member.

Group members played an active role in the work of the ESC on the Single European Act and on its implications for the ESC.

Group I members contributed to efforts to secure a consensus between workers, employers and other interests. 40 of the 56 opinions drafted by a Group Rapporteur were adopted *nem. con.* The most important of these opinions concerned farm prices, public sector contracts, the 16th report on competition policy, the Uruguay Round (GATT), Community finances, annual accounts of insurance companies, the economic scenario half way through 1987 and the annual report on the economic situation. Numerous opinions were also adopted on trade barriers and the Common Customs Tariff.

Group members helped to publicize the opinions and work of the ESC through press conferences, interviews and speeches.

In connection with the European Year of the Environment, a number of Group members played an active part in the Opening Conference at Luxembourg and in most of the events held throughout the Community. Other members contributed to the success of the meetings held in Basle and Dublin between delegations from the ESC and the EFTA Consultative Committee.

At the annual meeting on 25 to 27 November 1987, representatives of EEC and ACP economic and social interest groups discussed a working paper drawn up by Mr Neto da Silva and Mr Jenkins (Group II) on the role of private investment in ACP countries. At a preliminary meeting, ACP and EEC employers considered this paper along with a statement by Mr Poeton, ESC Vice-Chairman, on the financial problems of small businesses (drawn up in the light of the conference of ACP/EEC economic operators held in Harare on 9 to 14 November). After the preliminary meeting, the ACP-EEC employers issued a joint declaration.

Increasingly closer contacts have been established with the many sectoral, national and Community-level socio-economic organizations. They are of considerable help to Rapporteurs and members when opinions are drawn up. The annual reception for Group I members and senior figures in the socio-economic organizations strengthens links and provides a useful occasion for personal contacts.

In all bodies on which it is represented, Group I consistently upheld the need to respect the spirit of initiative and free trade.

## GROUP II – WORKERS

Aware of the need to forge ahead with European integration, Group II has spared no effort to foster the kind of Europe sought by the majority of its peoples.

Thus, in all fields where the Committee has been consulted, Group II members have sought to ensure that the measures envisaged are practicable and will benefit the citizens of the Community.

Of course, it is not easy to reconcile national or sectional interests with European requirements; but in most cases Group II representatives have achieved the necessary compromises enabling them to exert real influence on Community policy.

In addition, the Group adopted a pragmatic approach to the other interests represented on the Committee, in order to seek a consensus acceptable to all. The purpose was to hammer out a cohesive socio-economic standpoint which transcended hair-splitting bureaucracy and chauvinistic political positions.

Apart from official requests for opinions, Group II has endeavoured to fill major gaps in Community policy. The Group is convinced that the internal market cannot be completed without the support of the vast majority of Community citizens, and it has therefore called for practical proposals in its own-initiative opinion on the Commission document 'Making a success of the Single Act'.

A fully-fledged Community social policy is essential if workers and unions are to support the completion of the internal market, a project which a substantial majority regard as vital. Thus, at the Group's instigation the Committee has called for the adoption – alongside legislation in the fiscal, monetary, banking, standardization and market interpenetration fields – of directives to protect wage-earners in key areas. However, Group II is against excessive centralization, since it is convinced that national measures are necessary and that collective bargaining must be encouraged at all levels.

The Group nevertheless feels that it is essential to distinguish between fields covered by statutory measures – in this case Community law – and those which fall under collective bargaining (although even here the basic rights guaranteed at European level must be preserved).

Since this approach has been accepted by the bulk of Committee members, the next step is to lobby the Commission to draft practical proposals and the Council of Ministers to adopt them.

Group II has also made concrete proposals in other equally important fields:

- (i) on the functioning of the Community, on which we called for an increase in the resources essential for implementing Community policies;
- (ii) on reform of the common agricultural policy to take equal account of all those working in agriculture – including agricultural wage-earners – the interests of the Third World and the need to absorb surpluses while preserving the family structure of holdings;
- (iii) on the structural Funds, where along with additional resources, priorities must be established to enable underdeveloped regions to catch up.

Events in the last few months have vindicated Group II's consistent opposition to excessive liberalism. The stock market crash shows that without disaster legislative controls *laissez-faire* is a recipe for a disaster.

That is why the Worker's Group supports the Commission's economic strategy for growth and employment. But the Group has pointed out that no government has yet taken the essential steps to implement this strategy. It has reiterated time and again that better Community-level coordination of national economic policies is imperative, and that the narrow national approach adopted is suicidal in view of the competition from other world industrial powers. Group II has also advocated reform of the EMS – an irreplaceable instrument of cooperation policy.

In fields as varied as the environment, transport, regional policy, research, energy and telecommunications, Group II has consistently sought upward harmonization placing the emphasis on better living conditions in general rather than on purely financial interests.

Recognizing that Europe cannot ignore the problems of the rest of the world, Group II has made a substantial contribution to defining and implementing the Lomé Convention, demanding that the social provisions be taken into account here also. Similarly, it monitors GATT work closely, stressing that trade wars must give way to international trade agreements.

Convinced that the creation and success of a united Europe will require considerable dedication, Group II takes the view that the ESC remains an effective vehicle for promoting European integration.

Group II would like to see the Committee's work being given more prominence. It advocates strengthening links with the other institutions – the Council, the Commission and the Parliament. Following the adoption of the Sin-

gle Act, the Group endorses the need to reform the ESC's working methods in order to make it more effective and enhance its contribution to the success of the new legislative approach. The *quid pro quo* must be new rights for the ESC above all in the field of information: it is incomprehensible that the Council does not periodically report on the follow-up to opinions. Increased efficiency must be accompanied by corresponding financial rewards. Is it realistic to ask ESC members who devote considerable time and energy to their Committee work to depend financially on the organizations who delegate them, when the latter not only pay their salaries but also all the secretarial expenses arising from ESC work?

These questions are crucial to the Committee's future. Group II will spare no effort in the quest for solutions, for it remains convinced that a united Europe will not be achieved by fine words but by practical action, which, in order to be feasible and effective, must be instigated and monitored by those who, through their national organizations have a sense of responsibility for the future.

### GROUP III – VARIOUS INTERESTS

The Various Interests Group brings together representatives of agriculture and fisheries, SMEs and the craft sector, the liberal professions, family, consumer and environmental protection organizations. In addition to these socio-economic interest groups, Group III also brings together members representing regional, scientific and cultural interests. The Group has 67 members.

The consistency of intellectual approach which gives Group III its identity is ensured by members' awareness of their special role, alongside employers' and workers' representatives, in reflecting within the ESC the diversity of contemporary European society.

In 1987 the Group has spent considerable time discussing the consequences of the Single European Act on its and the ESC's working methods. To this end an extraordinary Group meeting was held in February. Further discussions were held on this matter and on the ESC's public relations at a number of Group meetings throughout the year. The Group Chairman was entrusted with the task of being Rapporteur for the Committee's opinion on 'Making a success of the Single Act' as well as coordinating the work on three more detailed opinions on the same subject adopted by the ESC at its November plenary session.

Members of Group III played a creative role in the preparation of a number of major opinions. Rapporteurs from Group III were appointed for a variety of complex and important issues such as:

- (i) Europe against cancer
- (ii) Broadcasting
- (iii) Problems of island regions
- (iv) Agricultural income
- (v) Creation and development of business and innovation centres
- (vi) Action programme concerning people with disabilities
- (vii) Esprit
- (viii) Development of an information services market
- (ix) Structural Funds reform

1987 saw a continuation of the development of contacts between Group III and relevant European interest groups. A number of these organizations made presentations about themselves at Group III meetings. The circulation of *Europe III*, the Group's monthly newsletter, continued to expand. Furthermore, Group III also recognized two additional organizations, Europeche and Cecop (European Committee of Workers' Cooperatives). The Group's recognized interests groups were all represented at a reception held in May whose aim was to consolidate contacts between them and Group members.

Group III is chaired by Mr Roger Burnel; Mr Pietro Morselli and Mrs Alma Williams are the two Vice-Chairman. The Secretariat is run by Mr Nicholas Leapman.



CHAPTER V

## Appointments and resignations

During 1987 the composition of the Committee and its constituent bodies underwent several changes as a result of the resignation of some members.

During the period covered by this Report the Council of the European Communities appointed the following as members of the Economic and Social Committee:

Mr Forgas i Cabrera  
Mrs Flather  
Mr Gayetot  
Mr Schade-Poulsen  
Mrs Tiemann  
Mr van Eekert

in place of, respectively

Mr Larranaga Lizarralde  
Mrs Blatch  
Mr Delourme  
Mr Springborg  
Mrs Heuser  
Mr Van Greunsven

The Council will shortly be appointing new members to replace Mr Stahlmann and Mr Ventejol, deceased, and Mr Emo Capodilista, Mr Lancastre, Mr Lopez de la Puerta, Mr Van der Veen, resigned.



## CHAPTER VI

### Internal aspects of the Secretariat

#### 1. STAFF

In 1987 the Secretariat had 471 established posts, including 23 designed to cater for the accession of Spain and Portugal. This represented a 4.88% increase (23 posts) on the 1986 figure.

#### 2. BUDGET

At 35 729 580 ECU, appropriations were 8.99% up on the 1986 figure (32 779 900 ECU). The increase was designed to cover inflation and the spill-over from Spanish and Portuguese accession.

#### 3. MEETINGS

Nine plenary sessions and 12 Bureau meetings were held during the year.

The Committee's constituent bodies held meetings as follows:

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Sections  | 74  |
| Study Groups  | 280 |
| Groups I, II and III                                    | 86  |
| Miscellaneous meetings                                  | 164 |
| Meetings of sub-groups sponsored<br>by the three Groups | 188 |

A total of 130 outside groups also visited the Committee.

#### 4. STRUCTURE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT 1987

##### **Chairman**

Private office

Group secretariats

Financial control

##### **Secretary-General**

Secretariat

Public relations division

Division for the Registry, the Assembly and the Bureau

Mail/records/library/documentation

Studies and research division

Press, information and publications division

##### **Directorate A – Consultative work**

Division for economic, financial and monetary questions

Department for social, family, educational and cultural affairs

Department for protection of the environment, public health and consumer affairs

##### **Directorate B – Consultative work**

Division for industry, commerce, crafts and services

Department for regional development and town and country planning

Division for transport and communications

##### **Directorate C – Consultative work**

Division for agriculture

Department for energy, nuclear questions and research

Division for external relations

**Directorate-General for Administration, Translation and General Affairs**

Secretariat

Security

**Directorate D – Directorate for Personnel, Finance and Technology**

Division for recruitment and personnel management

Financial service

Technology service

**Directorate E – Directorate for Coordination, Translation, Document Production and Internal Affairs**

Coordination

Translation

Department for typing, printing and despatch

Internal affairs department



*ANNEX A*

**List of opinions,  
studies and information reports  
issued during 1987**

## 243rd PLENARY SESSION OF 28 AND 29 JANUARY 1987

Plan for the transnational development of the supporting infrastructure for innovation and technology transfer (Sprint)  
(amendment to Decision 83/624/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr John A. de Normann) (CES 92/87)

Harmonization of turnover taxes in respect of the common value-added tax scheme applicable to small and medium-sized businesses  
(amendment to Directive 77/388/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Paul Broicher) (CES 95/87)

Common organization of the market in wine  
(amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 822/87)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Joseph Yverneau) (CES 94/87)

Supplementary Community financial measures for the eradication of classical swine fever; conditions designed to render and keep the territory of the Community free from classical swine fever (amendment to Directive 80/1095/EEC); Community measures for the control of classical swine fever (amendment to Directive 80/217/EEC); certain measures relating to swine fever (amendments to Directives 64/432/EEC and 72/461/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Hans-Jürgen Wick) (CES 91/87)

Health rules for fresh meat and the level of fees to be charged in respect of such meat pursuant to Directive No 85/73/EEC  
(Rapporteur: Mr Hans-Jürgen Wick) (CES 90/87)

Permissible sound power level of tower cranes  
(amendment to Directive 84/534/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Gordon Pearson) (CES 98/87)

Ratification of the Convention of 25 October 1980 designed to facilitate international access to the courts  
(Council Recommendation)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Manuel Sa Coutinho de Lancastre) (CES 89/87)

Erasmus: the European Community action scheme for the mobility of university students  
(Rapporteur: Mr Gordon Pearson) (CES 93/87)



## 244th PLENARY SESSION OF 25 AND 26 FEBRUARY 1987

Stocktaking and prospects for a common rail policy

(Own-initiative opinion)

(Rapporteur: Mr Ian Campbell) (CES 202/87)

Public health (Information Report)

(Rapporteur: Mrs Hedda Heuser) (CES 539/87 fin)

Research and development programme in the field of medical and health research (1987-88)

(Rapporteur: Mrs Hedda Heuser) (CES 200/87)

Europe against cancer programme: plan of action 1987-89 concerning the information of the public and the training of members of the health professions

(Rapporteur-General: Mrs Hedda Heuser) (CES 204/87)

Convention for the protection of the Rhine against chemical pollution

(Council decision and Commission Communication)

(Rapporteur-General: Mr. Gerrit C. van Dam) (CES 203/87)

Community programme on trade electronic data interchange systems (Tedis)

(Rapporteur: Mr Herbert Nierhaus) (CES 196/87)

Common Customs Tariff (amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 950/68) and

Community system of reliefs from customs duty (amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 918/83)

(Rapporteur: Mr Paul Broicher) (CES 197/87)

Authorization of scheduled inter-regional air services for the transport of passengers, mail and cargo between Member States

(amendment to Directive 83/416/EEC)

(Rapporteur: Mr John Kenna) (CES 198/87)

Community system of rapid exchange of information in cases of unusually high levels of radioactivity or of a nuclear accident

(Rapporteur: Mr Michel Saiu) (CES 201/87)

Common organization of the market in wine

(amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 822/87)

(Rapporteur: Mr Joseph Yverneau) (CES 199/87)

## 245th PLENARY SESSION OF 14 APRIL 1987

Prices for agricultural products and related measures (1987/88)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Kenneth J. Gardner) (CES 356/87)

Industrial products with respect to the distinctive numbers and letters indicating the Member States (amendment to certain Council Directives); common provisions for both measuring instruments and methods of metrological control (amendment to Directive 71/316/EEC); making-up by volume of certain prepackaged liquid (amendment to Directive 75/106/EEC); ranges of nominal quantities and nominal capacities permitted for certain prepackaged products (amendment to Directive 80/232/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Paul Flum) (CES 351/87)

Cooperation in automation of data and documentation for imports/exports and for the management of the agricultural markets (Caddia) (extension of the period of validity of Decisions 85/214/EEC and 86/23/EEC)  
(Sole Rapporteur: Mr Herbert Nierhaus) (CES 352/87)

Tax exemptions applicable to permanent imports from a Member State of the personal property of individuals  
(first amendment to Directive 83/103/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Paul Broicher) (CES 353/87)

Common organization of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat  
(12th amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 1837/80)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Michael P. Strauss) (CES 354/87)

Research and development programme in the field of science and technology for development (1987-90)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Ian Campbell) (CES 357/87)

Abolition of exit formalities at internal Community frontiers – introduction of common border posts  
(Rapporteur: Mr Paul Broicher) (CES 358/87)

Fruit juices and certain similar products  
(third amendment to Directive 75/726/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Leopoldo Quevedo Rojo) (CES 359/87)

Animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade in meat products  
(amendment to Directive 80/215/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Peter Storie-Pugh) (CES 355/87)

Coordination of the requirements for the drawing-up, scrutiny and distribution of the listing particulars to be published for the admission of securities to official stock exchange listing  
(amendment to Directive 80/390/EEC)  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Jean Pardon) (CES 360/87)

Products which endanger the health or safety of consumers  
(Rapporteur: Mrs Alma Williams) (CES 350/87)

## 246th PLENARY SESSION OF 13 AND 14 MAY 1987

Making a success of the Single Act: a new frontier for Europe  
(Commission Communication)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Roger Burnel) (CES 481/87)

Adult training in firms  
(Commission Communication)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Herbert Nierhaus) (CES 472/87)

Training and preparation of young people for adult and working life (action programme)  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Herbert Nierhaus) (CES 486/87)

European Community policy and action programme on the environment  
(1987-92)  
(Draft Resolution)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Klaus Boisseree) (CES 482/87)

European Regional Development Fund  
(11th Annual Report from the Commission, 1985)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Luigi Della Croce) (CES 485/87)

Permissible sound power level of lawnmowers  
(amendment to Directive 84/538/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Gordon Pearson) (CES 473/87)

Tax exemptions within the Community for certain means of transport temporarily imported into one Member State from another  
(amendment to Directive 83/182/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Paul Broicher) (CES 474/87)

Exemption from value-added tax on the final importation of certain goods  
(third amendment to Directive 83/181/EEC determining the scope of Article  
14(1)(d) of Directive 77/388/EEC)

(Rapporteur: Mr Paul Broicher) (CES 475/87)

Own funds of credit institutions

(Rapporteur: Mr Robert Pelletier) (CES 487/87)

Type-approval of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors

(amendment to Directive 74/150/EEC)

(Rapporteur: Mr Alberto Masprone) (CES 476/87)

Conditions under which non-resident carriers may operate national road  
haulage services within a Member State

(Rapporteur: Mr René Bleser) (CES 483/87)

Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States

(amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 3164/76)

(Rapporteur: Mr Lawrence J. Smith) (CES 484/87)

International carriage of passengers by road by means of occasional coach  
and bus services (Asor)

(provisional application between the Community and Switzerland of  
Sections I and II of the agreement)

(Rapporteur: Mr René Bleser) (CES 478/87)

Fruit jams, jellies and marmalades, and chestnut purée

(amendment to Directive 79/693/EEC)

(Rapporteur: Mr Georges Proumens) (CES 479/87)

Maximum permitted radioactivity levels for agricultural products and drink-  
ing water

(Proposal for a Council Regulation)

(Rapporteur: Mr Michel Saïu) (CES 480/87)

Lead content of petrol

(amendment to Directive 85/210/EEC)

(Rapporteur: Mr William Poeton) (CES 477/87)

## 247th PLENARY SESSION OF 1 AND 2 JULY 1987

The mid-1987 economic situation in the Community – The economic  
situation in Belgium

(Own-initiative opinion)

(Rapporteur: Mr Michel Collas) (CES 647/87)

Social developments in the Community in 1986  
(Rapporteur: Mr Bernard Mourgues) (CES 648/87)

Measures to be taken following the Chernobyl accident  
(Commission Communication) (Own-initiative opinion)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Paul Flum) (CES 644/87)

Maximum permitted radioactivity levels for agricultural products and drinking water  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Michel Saiu) (CES 649/87)

Access to the market for the carriage of goods by road between Member States  
(Rapporteur: Mr Lawrence J. Smith) (CES 643/87)

Vehicle taxes, fuel taxes and road tolls  
(Commission Communication)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Robert J. Moreland) (CES 650/87)

Disadvantaged island regions  
(Own-initiative opinion)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Nikolaos Vassilaras) (CES 651/87)

Pursuit of broadcasting activities  
(Rapporteur: Mr Roger Ramaekers) (CES 642/87)

Action programme for SME  
(Draft Council Resolution)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Enrique Calvet Chambon) (CES 646/87)

Trade in dangerous chemicals  
(Rapporteur: Mr John A. de Normann) (CES 645/87)

Safety of toys  
(Rapporteur-General: Mrs Alma Williams) (CES 639/87)

Good laboratory practice  
(Rapporteur: Mr Rui Herländer Rolão Gonçalves) (CES 627/87)

Limit values for discharges of aldrin, dieldrin and endrin into the aquatic environment  
(Rapporteur: Mr Rui Herländer Rolão Gonçalves) (CES 628/87)

Action by the Community relating to the environment (ACE)  
(implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1872/84)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Klaus Schmitz) (CES 629/87)

Fluid fertilizers  
(amendment to Directive No 76/116/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr José Bento Gonçalves) (CES 630/87)

Publication of attestations and certificates  
(amendments to several Directives)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Gordon Pearson) (CES 631/87)

Type-approval of motor vehicles and their trailers (off-road/on-road)  
(amendment to Directive 70/156/EEC) (two opinions)  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr François Perrin-Pelletier) (CES 632/87 and CES 638/87)

Consolidated Resolution on the facilitation of road transport of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
(Sole Rapporteur: Mr Anthanasios Alexopoulos) (CES 633/87)

Impact of current US economic and political developments on the Uruguay Round and international trade  
(Own-initiative opinion)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Aldo Romoli) (CES 634/87)

Coordinated introduction of public pan-European digital mobile communication in the Community  
(Recommendation and Directive)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Jean Rouzier) (CES 635/87)

Preparation and marketing of liqueur wines produced in the Community; amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 822/87 on the common organization of the market in wine  
(Rapporteur: Mr Joseph Yverneau) (CES 636/87)

Health problems affecting the production and placing on the market of egg products  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Paul Broicher) (CES 637/87)

Tariff and statistical nomenclature; Common Customs Tariff  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Paul Broicher) (CES 640/87)

Common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables  
(amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72 as regards preventive with-  
drawals of apples and pears)  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Walter Luchetti) (CES 641/87)

## 248th PLENARY SESSION OF 23 AND 24 SEPTEMBER 1987

Social aspects of the internal market (Information Report)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Danilo Beretta) (CES 225/87 fin)

Protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to chemical, phys-  
ical and biological agents at work  
(amendment to Directive 80/1107/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Thomas Ety) (CES 800/87)

Five-year programme of actions in the environmental field  
(employment creation) (proposal for a decision and Commission Com-  
munication)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Klaus Schmitz) (CES 787/87)

Cosmetic products  
(fourth amendment to Directive 76/768/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Georges Proumens) (CES 788/87)

Pricing of medicinal products for human use  
(Rapporteur: Mr Giuseppe Frandi) (CES 801/87)

Community system of aids to agricultural income; framework system for  
national aids to agricultural income; Community scheme to encourage the  
cessation of farming  
(three Regulations)  
(Rapporteur: Mr André Laur) (CES 798/87)

Indirect taxes on transactions in securities  
(amendment proposal for a Council Directive)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Jean Pardon) (CES 807/87)

Community programme to create and develop business and innovation  
centres and their network  
(Rapporteur: Mr Nikolaos Vassilaras) (CES 802/87)

Disclosure requirements in respect of branches opened in a Member State  
by certain types of company governed by the law of another State

(11th Council Directive based on Article 54(3)(g) of the Treaty)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Jean Pardon) (CES 804/87)

Obligations of branches established in a Member State by credit institutions and financial institutions having their head offices outside that Member State regarding the publication of annual accounting documents  
(Rapporteur: Mr Jean Pardon) (CES 805/87)

Coordination of procedures for the award of public works contracts  
(amendment to Directive 71/305/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Graham Speirs) (CES 803/87)

Compulsory winding-up of direct insurance undertakings  
(Rapporteur: Mr Marc Cortois) (CES 790/87)

Annual accounts of insurance undertakings  
(Rapporteur: Mr Robert Pelletier) (CES 791/87)

Weights, dimensions and certain technical characteristics of certain road vehicles  
(amendment to Directive 85/3/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr René Bleser) (CES 795/87)

Generalized tariff preferences for 1988 in respect of certain industrial, textile, agricultural and steel products originating in developing countries  
(three proposed Regulations and a Draft Decision)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Gian Battista Cavazzuti) (CES 797/87)

Information system for the control and reduction of pollution caused by the spillage of hydrocarbons and other harmful substances at sea  
(amendment to Decision 86/85/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Georges Proumens) (CES 789/87)

Health protection at work against the dangers arising from ionizing radiations  
(amendment to Decision 74/325/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Preben Nielsen) (CES 796/87)

Procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical standards and regulations applying to agricultural products  
(two Directives) (amendment to Directive 83/189/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr John A. de Normann) (CES 792/87)



Permissible sound power level of lawnmowers  
(amendment to Directive 84/538/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Gordon Pearson) (CES 793/87)

Certain components and characteristics of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors  
(Rapporteur: Mr Gordon Pearson) (CES 794/87)

Common organization of the market in fishery products  
(amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81) and the Common Customs Tariff (amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 950/68)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Colin A. Hancock) (CES 799/87)

## 249th PLENARY SESSION OF 21 AND 22 OCTOBER 1987

Speed limits in the Community  
(Communication from the Commission to the Council)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Gian Battista Cavazzuti) (CES 928/87)

Action programme for the disabled  
(two proposals for a Decision)  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Roger Burnel) (CES 929/87)

Community action in the field of learning technology Delta  
(Developing European learning through technological advance)  
(Rapporteur-General: Mrs Alma Williams) (CES 930/87)

European strategic programme for research and development in information technologies (Esprit programme)  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Nikolaos Vassilaras) (CES 931/87)

Financing of major infrastructure projects  
(Rapporteur: Mr Colin Hancock) (CES 932/87)

Procedures for the award of public supply and public works' contracts  
(Rapporteur: Mr Paul Kaaris) (CES 933/87)

Drive programme (Dedicated road infrastructure for vehicle safety in Europe)  
(Rapporteur: Mr François Perrin-Pelletier) (CES 934/87)

Official inspection of foodstuffs  
(Rapporteur: Mr G. H. E. Hilken) (CES 926/87)

System for health control of imports from third countries at frontier inspection posts (Shift project)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Peter Storie-Pugh) (CES 927/87)

## 250th PLENARY SESSION OF 18 AND 19 NOVEMBER 1987

Financing of the Community  
(Own-initiative opinion)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Jean Pardon) (CES 1072/87)

Implementing the Single Act in the agricultural sector  
(Own-initiative opinion)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Paul Flum) (CES 1070/87)

Implementation of agricultural stabilizers (proposals concerning the following sectors: sugar, milk, sheepmeat and goatmeat, cereals, peas, field beans, sweet lupins, wine, fruit and vegetables and raw tobacco)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Willi Lojewski) (CES 1071/87)

Social aspects of the internal market (European social area)  
(Own-initiative opinion)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Danilo Beretta) (CES 1069/87)

Commission's report on the economic situation 1987-88  
(Rapporteur: Mr Michel Collas) (CES 1068/87)

Policy and a plan of priority actions for the development of an information services market  
(Rapporteur: Mr Nikolaos Vassilaras) (CES 1062/87)

Reform of the structural Funds  
(Rapporteur: Mr Francesco Serra Caracciolo) (CES 1067/87)

Green Paper on the development of the common market for telecommunications services and equipment  
(Communication by the Commission)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Jean Rouzier) (CES 1073/87)

Revision of the multiannual research and training programme for the European Atomic Energy Community in the field of radiation protection (1985-89)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Preben Nielsen) (CES 1063/87)

Multiannual research and development programme of the European Economic Community in the field of basic technological research and the application of new technologies (Brite) (1985-88)  
(amending Decision 85/196/EEC)  
(Rapporteur: Mr John de Normann) (CES 1064/87)

Protection of the Rhine against pollution by carbon tetrachloride discharges  
(Proposal for a Decision and Commission Communication)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Gerrit C. van Dam) (CES 1078/87)

Limit values and quality objectives for discharges of certain dangerous substances  
(amending Annex II to Directive 86/280/EEC)  
(Deputy Rapporteur-General: Mr Georges Proumens) (CES 1079/87)

Shipbuilding – industrial, social and regional aspects  
(Second Communication from the Commission)  
(Rapporteurs-General: Mrs Anna Bredima Savopoulou and Mr Klaus Schmitz) (CES 1074/87)

Community programme to assist the conversion of steel areas (Resider programme) (Proposal for a Regulation and Decision)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Klaus Schmitz) (CES 1075/87)

Community action in the field of information technology and telecommunications applied to health care AIM (Advanced informatics in medicine in Europe) – Pilot phase  
(Rapporteur: Mrs Susanne Tiemann) (CES 1066/87)

Conditions under which non-resident carriers may operate national road-passenger transport services within a Member State  
(Rapporteur: Mr Ulbo Tukker) (CES 1076/87)

Common rules for the international carriage of passengers by coach and bus  
(Rapporteur: Mr René Bleser) (CES 1077/87)

Common organization of the market in cereals  
(amending Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75)  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Walter Luchetti) (CES 1065/87)

Summer time  
(fourth Directive)  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Wolfgang Haas) (CES 1080/87)

Common organization of the market in fishery products  
(amending Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81)  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Colin Hancock) (CES 1082/87)

## 251st PLENARY SESSION OF 16 AND 17 DECEMBER 1987

XVIth competition policy report  
(Rapporteur: Mr Edoardo Bagliano) (CES 1163/87)

Granting of financial support to transport infrastructure projects  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Jean Rouzier) (CES 1161/87)

Insider trading  
(Rapporteur: Mr Klaus Meyer-Horn) (CES 1165/87)

Third periodic report on the social and economic situation and development  
of the regions of the Community  
(Rapporteur: Mr Luigi Della Croce) (CES 1164/87)

Acquisition and possession of weapons  
(Rapporteur: Mr Gerrit C. van Dam) (CES 1166/87)

Community plan to support large-scale scientific facilities of interest to  
Europe  
(Draft Regulation)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Michel Saïu) (CES 1155/87)

Research and development programme in the field of applied metrology and  
chemical analyses in the European Economic Community (1988–92)  
(Community Bureau of References – BCR)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Georges Proumens) (CES 1156/87)

Plan to stimulate the international cooperation and interchange needed by  
European research scientists (Science) (Plan 1988–92)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Robert J. Moreland) (CES 1157/87)

Agricultural nomenclature  
(eight proposals for Regulations amending Regulations (EEC) No 804/68,  
805/68, 1035/72, 2579/75, 2766/75, 2777/75, 1837/80, 426/86 and 827/67)  
(Rapporteur: Mr Colin Hancock) (CES 1158/87)

European Convention for the protection of animals for slaughter  
(Rapporteur: Mr Peter Storie-Pugh) (CES 1160/87)

**Fixing of rates for the carriage of goods by road between Member States  
(amending Regulation (EEC) No 3568/83)  
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Eike Eulen) (CES 1162/87)**



*ANNEX B*

**List of opinions  
drawn up by the Committee  
on its own initiative (1980–87)**

A full list of the opinions issued by the Committee since 1973 can be found in the 1985 Annual Report.

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Report on some structural aspects of growth<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Querini)  | February 1980 |
| Regional programmes<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Hall)   | April 1980    |
| Use of medicine and its effects on public health<br>(Rapporteur: Mr De Grave)  | April 1980    |
| The report on European institutions<br>(Rapporteur-General: Mr Friedrichs)   | May 1980      |
| Development cooperation policy and the economic<br>and social consequences of the application of cer-<br>tain international standards governing working<br>conditions<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Soulat) | July 1980     |
| Distribution of the total catch possibilities of stocks<br>or groups of stocks occurring in the Community<br>fishing zone<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Leo)  | November 1980 |
| Community accession to the European Convention<br>on Human Rights<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Williams)   | December 1980 |
| Protection of investment in less-developed coun-<br>tries<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Breitenstein)   | December 1980 |
| European Regional Development Fund –<br>Fifth Annual Report (1979)<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Curlis)  | December 1980 |
| The Community competition policy in the light of<br>the current economic and social situation<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Bagliano)   | April 1981    |
| Revision of the ERDF Regulation<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Hall)   | April 1981    |



|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Implementation of the Second Lomé Convention<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Clavel)  | May 1981       |
| Economic and commercial relations between the Community and Japan<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Évain)  | July 1981      |
| The automobile sector<br>(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<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Évain) | July 1981      |
| The situation and problems of the handicapped<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Davies)   | July 1981      |
| The Community's food aid policy<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Williams)   | September 1981 |
| The agricultural aspects of the enlargement of the Community to include Spain<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Lauga)  | September 1981 |
| Review of energy policy objectives for 1990 and Member States' investment programmes<br>(Communication from the Commission)<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Margot)                                     | September 1981 |
| Prospects for the Communities' policies in the 1980s<br>(Rapporteur: Mr De Bruyn)  | October 1981   |
| Reform of the common agricultural policy<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Zinkin)  | November 1981  |
| European Regional Development Fund – Sixth Annual Report (1980)<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Zoli)   | December 1981  |

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| The situation and prospects of the textile and clothing industries in the Community<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Masucci)  | January 1982  |
| The coordination of labour market instruments<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Vannin)   | February 1982 |
| The development of the European Monetary System (EMS)<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Évain)  | April 1982    |
| The 1982 programme for the attainment of the customs union<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher)  | April 1982    |
| The promotion of the small and medium-sized enterprises sector in the European Community<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Kolbenschlag)  | 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<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Zünkler) | May 1982      |
| The economic situation in the Community (mid-1982)<br>(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<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Cremer)      | July 1982     |
| Transport policy of the European Community in the 1980s<br>(Rapporteur-General: Mr Rouzier)  | October 1982  |
| European Regional Development Fund – Seventh Annual Report (1981)<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher)   | February 1983 |

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

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Economic situation in the Community in the first half of 1984<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Pelletier)   | July 1984      |
| Spanish and Portuguese accession to the Community<br>(Rapporteur: Mrs Strobel)  | July 1984      |
| Industrial medicine<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Mourgues)  | September 1984 |
| EC-Yugoslav relations<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Stahlmann)   | September 1984 |
| Current social security problems in the EEC<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Engelen-Kefer)   | October 1984   |
| Migrant workers<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Dassis)  | October 1984   |
| Current situation and medium-term prospects of the Community fisheries sector<br>(Information report and own-initiative opinion)<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Pietro Morselli)                    | February 1985  |
| Priorities for Community research initiatives: the next revision of the framework programme for Community scientific and technological activities<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Tomás Roseingrave) | March 1985     |
| Occupational cancer<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Thomas Ety)  | May 1985       |
| Economic situation in the Community (mid-1985)<br>(Rapporteur: Mr L. N. Goris)  | July 1985      |
| Green Paper on the establishment of the common market for broadcasting, especially by satellite and cable<br>(Rapporteurs: Mr Paul Broicher, Mr Bartholomeus Pronk, Mr Roger Ramaekers) | September 1985 |

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| National Regional Development Aid<br>(Rapporteurs: Mr Paul Broicher and Mr Luigi Della Croce)  | January 1986   |
| European Road Safety Year<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Alberto Masprone)   | February 1986  |
| The forthcoming round of GATT negotiations<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Finn Breitenstein)   | May 1986       |
| The effects of the CAP on the social situation of farmworkers in the Community<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Willi Lojewski)  | May 1986       |
| EC shared-cost research, development and demonstration projects<br>(Rapporteur: Mr John A. de Normann)   | May 1986       |
| The economic situation in the Community in mid-1986<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Michel Geuenich)  | July 1986      |
| Relations between the European Community and the Member States of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean)<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Herbert Nierhaus) | July 1986      |
| Relations between the European Community, Japan and the USA<br>(Rapporteurs: Mr Henry Curlis and Mr Hans-Werner Staratzke)                                 | September 1986 |
| Financial integration in the Community<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Francesco Drago)   | November 1986  |
| Local employment initiatives<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Tomás Roseingrave)   | December 1986  |
| Criteria and efficiency of integrated operations<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Luigi Della Croce)   | December 1986  |
| Stocktaking and prospects for a Community rail policy<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Ian Campbell)   | February 1987  |

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Economic situation in the Community in mid-1987<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Michel Collas)   | July 1987     |
| Community measures to be taken in the aftermath<br>of the Chernobyl nuclear accident<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Paul Flum)                            | July 1987     |
| Disadvantaged island regions<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Nikolaos Vassilaras)  | July 1987     |
| Impact of current US economic and political devel-<br>opments on the Uruguay Round and international<br>trade<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Aldo Romoli) | July 1987     |
| Financing of the Community<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Jean Pardon)  | November 1987 |
| Commission's agricultural proposals for imple-<br>menting the Single Act<br>(Rapporteur: Mr Paul Flum)  | November 1987 |

**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 timelag 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  |            |
| Coordinating the laws of the Member States relating to (self-employed) commercial agents  | 12. 1. 1977 | Council     | 24. 11. 1977<br>OJ C 59<br>of<br>8. 3. 1978  | OJ L 382<br>of<br>31. 12. 1986                                  | The Committee<br>opinion approves<br>the Commission<br>proposal |                     | OJ C 239<br>of<br>9. 10. 1978                                  |            |
| Community transit<br>(amending for the second time<br>Regulation (EEC) No 222/77)   | 27. 9. 1979 | Council     | 12. 12. 1979<br>OJ C 83<br>of<br>2. 4. 1980  | OJ L 383<br>of<br>31. 12. 1981<br>OJ L 157<br>of<br>17. 6. 1987 | The Committee<br>opinion approves<br>the Commission<br>proposal |                     | OJ C 59<br>of<br>10. 3. 1980                                   |            |
| Limitation of noise emitted by hydraulic and<br>rope-operated excavators, and by dozers,<br>loaders and excavator-loaders<br>(Amended proposal) | 2. 11. 1981 | Council     | 15. 12. 1981<br>OJ C 64<br>of<br>15. 3. 1982 | OJ L 384<br>of<br>31. 12. 1986                                  | The Committee<br>opinion approves<br>the Commission<br>proposal |                     | OJ C 66<br>of<br>15. 3. 1982                                   |            |
| Fire safety in existing hotels  | 26. 1. 1984 | Council     | 4. 7. 1984<br>OJ C 248<br>of<br>17. 9. 1984  | OJ L 384<br>of<br>31. 12. 1986                                  | x   |                     | OJ C 262<br>of<br>14. 10. 1985<br>OJ C 36<br>of<br>17. 2. 1986 |            |
| Temporary importation of containers   | 11. 1. 1984 | Council     | 4. 7. 1984<br>OJ C 248<br>of<br>17. 9. 1984  | OJ L 196<br>of<br>17. 7. 1987                                   | The Committee<br>opinion approves<br>the Commission<br>proposal |                     |  |            |
| Customs debt  | 24. 9. 1984 | Council     | 12. 12. 1984<br>OJ C 44<br>of<br>15. 2. 1985 | OJ L 201<br>of<br>22. 7. 1987                                   | The Committee<br>opinion approves<br>the Commission<br>proposal |                     | OJ C 122<br>of<br>20. 5. 1985                                  |            |



|   |              |         |  |  |   |                                |
|---|--------------|---------|--|--|---|--------------------------------|
| Permissible sound level and exhaust system of motorcycles (amending Directive 78/1015/EEC)  | 14. 9. 1984  | Council | 27. 2. 1985<br>OJ C 104<br>of<br>25. 4. 1985 | OJ L 24<br>of<br>27. 1. 1987                                     | The Committee<br>opinion approves<br>the Commission<br>proposal | OJ C 94<br>of<br>15. 4. 1985   |
| Placing on the market of high-technology medicinal products, particularly those derived from biotechnology.<br>Analytical, pharmaco-toxicological and clinical standards and protocols in respect of the testing of proprietary medicinal products (amending Directive 75/318/EEC);<br>Analytical, pharmaco-toxicological and clinical standards and protocols in respect of the testing of veterinary medicinal products (amending Directive 81/852/EEC);<br>Tests relating to the placing on the market of proprietary medicinal products<br>(proposal for a recommendation by the Council);<br>approximation of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action relating to proprietary medicinal products (amending Directive 65/669/EEC (five proposals)) | 16. 10. 1984 | Council | 27. 3. 1985<br>OJ C 160<br>of<br>1. 7. 1985  | OJ L 15<br>of<br>17. 1. 1987<br><br>OJ L 73<br>of<br>16. 3. 1987 | The Committee<br>opinion approves<br>the Commission<br>proposal | OJ C 36<br>of<br>17. 2. 1987   |
| Health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat (amending Directive 72/461/EEC) on health and veterinary inspection problems upon importation of bovine animals and swine and fresh meat from third countries (amending Directive 72/462/EEC)   | 13. 3. 1985  | Council | 3. 7. 1985<br>OJ C 218<br>of<br>19. 8. 1985  | OJ L 34<br>of<br>5. 2. 1987                                      | The Committee<br>opinion approves<br>the Commission<br>proposal | OJ C 175<br>of<br>15. 7. 1985  |
| Facilitation of physical inspections and administrative formalities in respect of the carriage of goods between Member States (amending Directive 63/643/EEC)   | 17. 9. 1985  | Council | 26. 2. 1986<br>OJ C 101<br>of<br>28. 4. 1986 | OJ L 24<br>of<br>27. 1. 1987                                     | The Committee<br>opinion approves<br>the Commission<br>proposal | OJ C 352<br>of<br>31. 12. 1985 |
| Major-accident hazards of certain industrial activities (amending Directive 82/501/EEC)   | 13. 11. 1985 | Council | 26. 2. 1986<br>OJ C 101<br>of<br>28. 4. 1986 | OJ L 85<br>of<br>28. 3. 1987                                     | The Committee<br>opinion approves<br>the Commission<br>proposal | OJ C 76<br>of<br>23. 3. 1987   |

| Subject  | Referred on  | Referred by | Committee opinion                             | Decision published             | Opinion taken into account                             |                   | EP opinion                     |
|--|--------------|-------------|---|--------------------------------|--|-------------------|--------------------------------|
|  |              |             |   |                                | To a small extent                                      | To a large extent |                                |
| Legal protection of original topographies of semi-conductor products   | 20. 1. 1986  | Council     | 23. 4. 1986<br>OJ C 189<br>of<br>28. 7. 1986  | OJ L 24<br>of<br>27. 1. 1987   |  | x                 | OJ C 255<br>of<br>13. 10. 1986 |
| Convention on International Trade in Endangered species of wild fauna and flora (amending Regulation (EEC) No 3626/62)                         | 24. 4. 1986  | Council     | 22. 5. 1986<br>OJ C 207<br>of<br>18. 8. 1986  | OJ L 136<br>of<br>26. 5. 1987  | The Committee opinion approves the Commission proposal |                   | OJ C 7<br>of<br>12. 1. 1987    |
| Action programme in the field of tourism (Commission Communication to the Council)   | 19. 2. 1986  | Council     | 17. 9. 1986<br>OJ C 328<br>of<br>22. 12. 1986 | OJ L 384<br>of<br>31. 12. 1986 |  | x                 |                                |
| Introduction of the integrated services digital network (ISDN) in the European Community   | 9. 6. 1986   | Council     | 17. 9. 1986<br>OJ C 328<br>of<br>22. 12. 1986 | OJ L 382<br>of<br>31. 12. 1986 | The Committee opinion approves the Commission proposal |                   |                                |
| Plan for the transnational development of the supporting infrastructure for innovation and technology transfer (modifying Decision 83/624/EEC) | 29. 10. 1986 | Council     | 28. 1. 1987<br>OJ C 83<br>of<br>30. 3. 1987   | OJ L 153<br>of<br>13. 6. 1987  | The Committee opinion approves the Commission proposal |                   | OJ C 125<br>of<br>11. 5. 1987  |
| Adoption of an action scheme by the European Community for the mobility of University students (Erasmus)                                       | 22. 12. 1986 | Council     | 28. 1. 1987<br>OJ C 83<br>of<br>30. 3. 1987   | OJ L 166<br>of<br>25. 6. 1987  |  | x                 | OJ C 148<br>of<br>16. 6. 1986  |

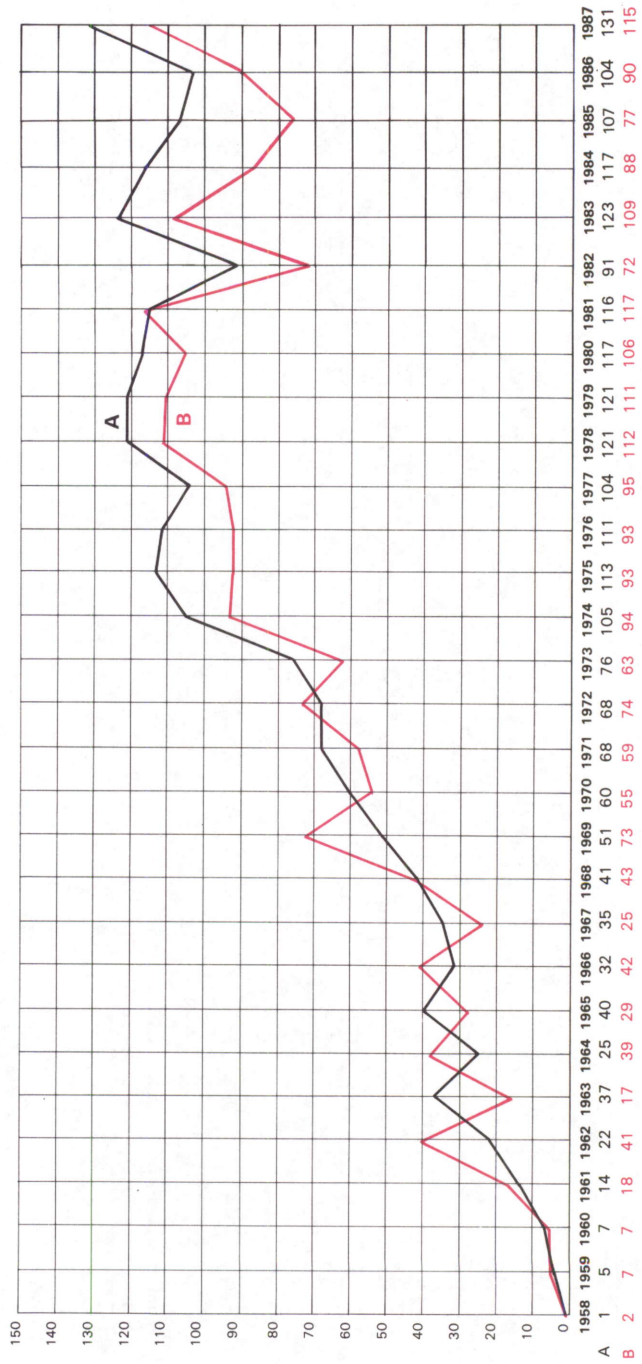
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|--|-------------|------------|---|---|--|-------------------------------|
| Extension of the period of validity of Council Decision 65/214/EEC and Council Decision 66/231/EEC concerning a long-term programme for the use of telematics information systems of the Community concerned with imports/exports and the management and financial control of agricultural market organizations (Caddia) | 25. 2. 1987 | Council    | 14. 4. 1987<br>OJ C 150<br>of<br>9. 6. 1987   | OJ L 145<br>of<br>5. 6. 1987  | The Committee<br>of opinion approves<br>the Commission<br>proposal | OJ C 125<br>of<br>11. 5. 1987 |
| Coordinating the requirements for the drawing-up, scrutiny and distribution of the listing particulars to be published for the admission of securities to official stock exchange listing (amending Directive 80/390/EEC)  | 30. 3. 1987 | Council    | 14. 4. 1987<br>OJ C 150<br>of<br>9. 6. 1987   | OJ L 185<br>of<br>4. 7. 1987  | x  | OJ C 125<br>of<br>11. 5. 1987 |
| Provisional application between the Community and Switzerland of Sections I and III of the agreement on the international carriage of passengers by road by means of occasional coach and bus services (ASOR)  | 14. 4. 1987 | Council    | 13. 5. 1987<br>OJ C 180<br>of<br>8. 7. 1987   | OJ L 143<br>of<br>3. 6. 1987  | x  |                               |
| Adult training in firms<br>(Communication from the Commission)   | 12. 2. 1987 | Commission | 14. 5. 1987<br>OJ C 180<br>of<br>8. 7. 1987   | Conclusions<br>from the<br>Council:<br>OJ C 178<br>of<br>7. 7. 1987 | x  |                               |
| Action by the Community relating to the environment (ACE)<br>(Implementation of Regulation (EEC) No 1872/84)   | 15. 1. 1987 | Council    | 1. 7. 1987<br>OJ C 232<br>of<br>31. 8. 1987   | OJ L 207<br>of<br>29. 7. 1987                                       | The Committee<br>of opinion approves<br>the Commission<br>proposal | OJ C 156<br>of<br>15. 6. 1987 |
| Community action to combat poverty<br>(amending Decision 85/8/EEC)   | 16. 6. 1986 | Council    | 2. 7. 1986<br>OJ C 263<br>of<br>20. 10. 1986  | OJ L 382<br>of<br>31. 12. 1986                                      | x  | OJ C 227<br>of<br>8. 9. 1986  |
| Agricultural structures and the adjustment of agriculture to the new market situation and the preservation of the countryside and the coordination of agricultural research<br>(amending Regulations (EEC) No 797/85, (EEC) No 270/79, (EEC) No 1360/78 and (EEC) No 355/77)   | 7. 5. 1986  | Council    | 18. 9. 1986<br>OJ C 328<br>of<br>22. 12. 1986 | OJ L 167<br>of<br>26. 6. 1987<br>OJ L 85<br>of<br>28. 3. 1987       | The Committee<br>of opinion approves<br>the Commission<br>proposal | OJ C 227<br>of<br>8. 9. 1986  |



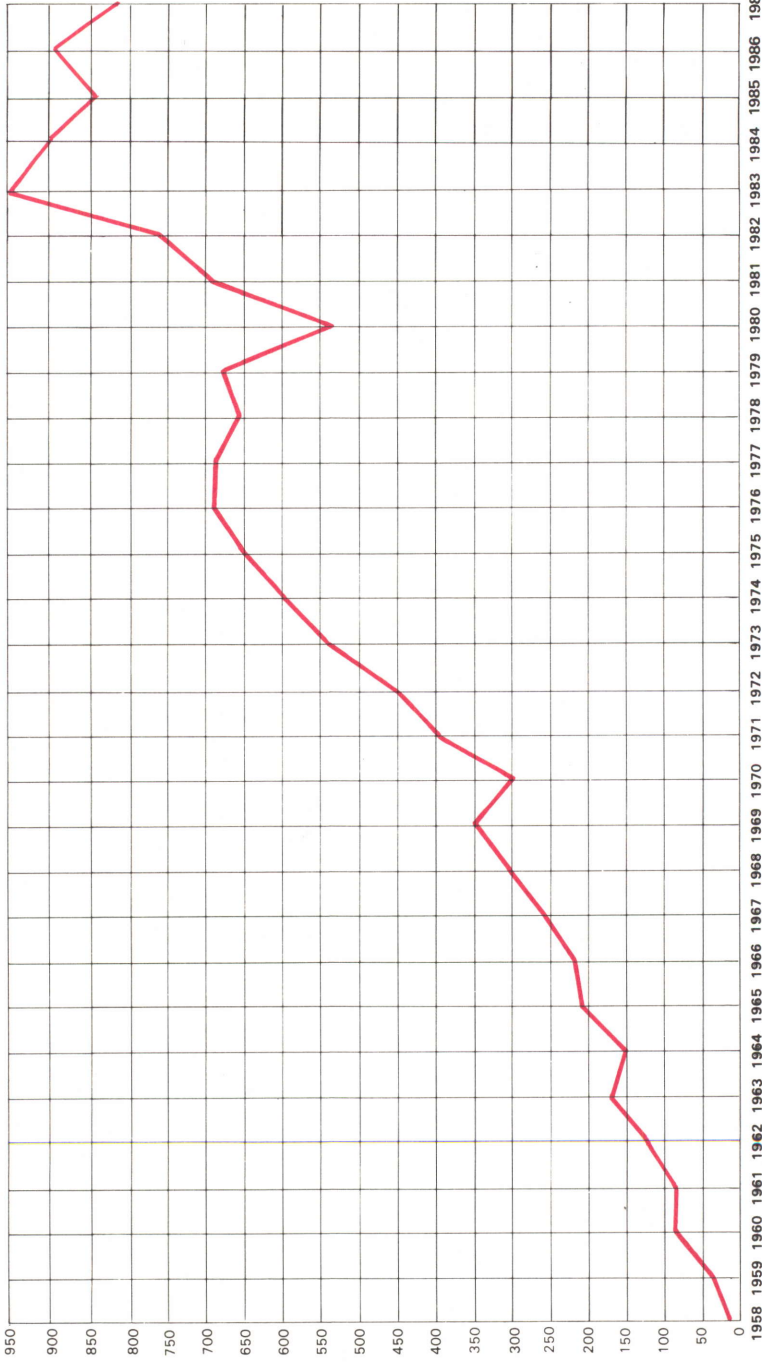
*ANNEX D*

## **Graphs**

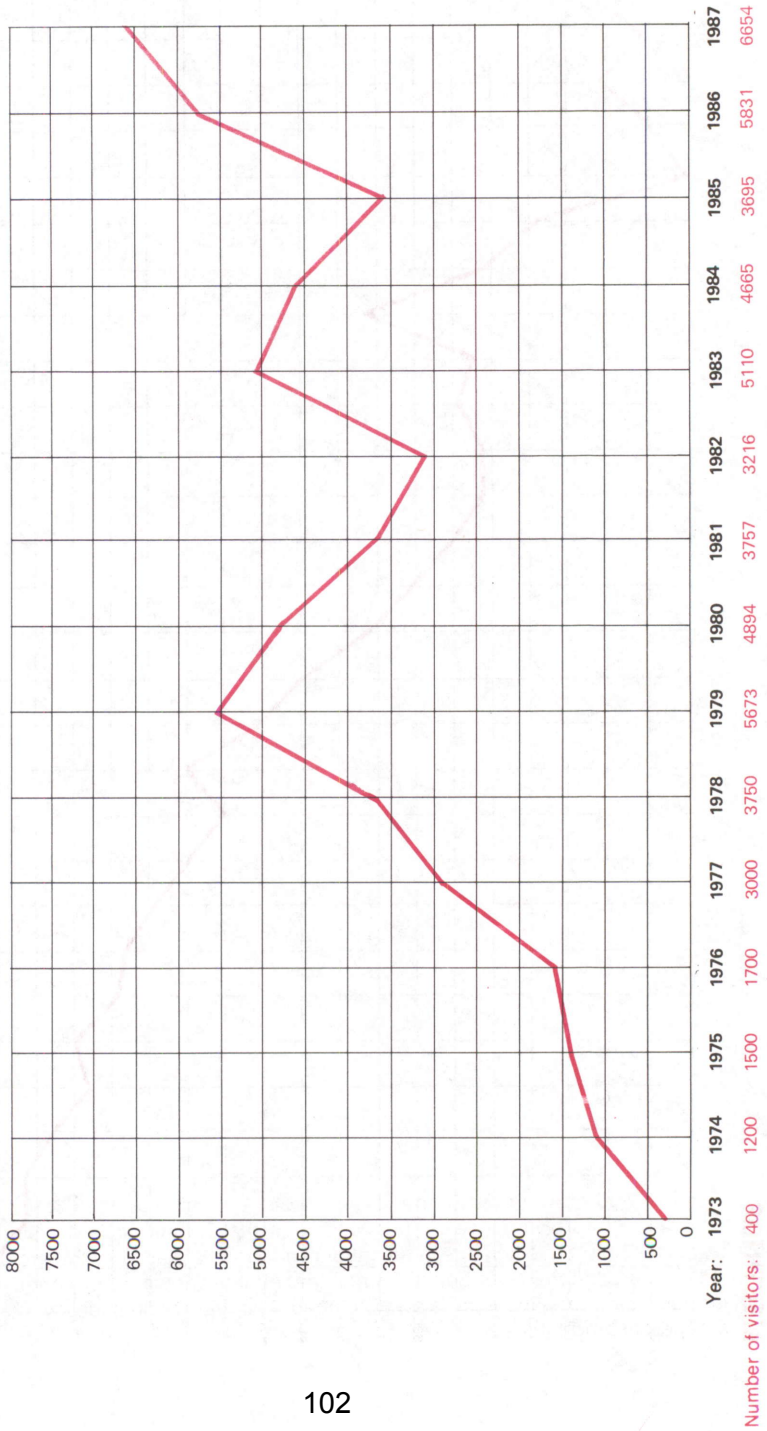
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