



EPP
EUROPEAN PEOPLE'S PARTY
HEART OF EUROPE

GROUP OF THE EUROPEAN PEOPLE'S PARTY
(CHRISTIAN-DEMOCRATIC GROUP)

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES

July 1992 - July 1993

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P R E F A C E

Whilst the main concern in early 1992 involved the difficulties encountered in the ratification of the Maastricht Treaty, the end of 1992 and the beginning of 1993 saw a build-up of the destructive impact of the economic crisis in Europe.

The crisis currently affecting Europe has three aspects: monetary, cyclical and structural. Moreover, the crisis has been exacerbated by political uncertainty and, to an even greater extent, by military conflicts. The continuing civil war in the former Yugoslavia and the unrest afflicting the CIS countries are weighing heavily on economic conditions in Europe.

We must therefore find a rapid response to the dwindling competitiveness of the European economy and its inability to create sufficient jobs. Innovative measures must be taken in a large number of areas. In the current recession, Europe needs monetary stability more than ever.

The fight against the economic crisis and unemployment must therefore be the Community's main priority. If Europe fails to develop a large-scale plan to reduce unemployment, the European ideal will be the first to suffer.

The worldwide economic crisis has hit us at the very moment when we are seeking to create an internal market, but that is no reason for us to give in to a conspiracy of anti-European forces, which are often inspired by nationalist sentiments comparable to those which ravaged Europe in the 1930s and which, in the economic and monetary field, propose what amounts to a return to the disastrous policies of the pre-war period.

The crisis which the countries of the Community are currently undergoing is one of the most serious they have ever had to face. Partial or short-term solutions will not suffice to remedy the situation. Similarly, action at national or regional level only - which would merely be a return to 'everyone for himself' policies - would solve nothing. Finally, the global scale of the crisis calls for an international strategy. Only a global strategy taking into consideration all aspects of the crisis will enable us to meet this challenge.

The only way to give fresh impetus to Europe, then, is to give fresh impetus to the European ideal, since it is the only one which has proved equal to the task of ending the antagonisms which have raged throughout our continent. We must again show our determination to promote progress within Europe.

We must therefore stimulate, motivate and mobilize Europe and find the necessary courage and the right language to explain to the man in the street the innovatory nature of European integration.

There is no body which can acquit itself of this task better than the European Parliament.

Leo **TINDEMANS**
Chairman of the EPP Group
in the European Parliament

ACTIVITY REPORT

JUNE 1992 - JULY 1993

INTRODUCTION

I. 1993: the crisis

January 1st 1993, the date on which the single market entered into force, was expected to be a landmark in the history of European integration. This date, laid down in the Single Act, was to be the culmination of a long process aimed at dissolving all fiscal, technical and legislative barriers between the Twelve which inhibited the free movement of persons, goods, services and capital. Although the goal was achieved, the people of Europe were not in the mood to celebrate the event as planned. The severity of the economic crisis and the inexorable rise in unemployment tended to mask the progress made in the integration process: the outstanding features of 1993 were the recession (an average decline in GDP of 0.5%) and an increase in unemployment to an average of 12% of the working population.

Government concerns were dominated by the entry of the Community into the recessionary cycle. The beginnings of the crisis appeared in September 1992 when the pound and the lira, followed in November by the escudo and the peseta, were forced to leave the European monetary system. The escudo and the peseta were further devalued on 14 May 1993. Thus, the very unity of the European monetary system was threatened as some currencies abandoned high interest rates while others (the mark, the French franc, the Belgian franc and the guilder) succeeded in preserving their fluctuation margins. However, the rise in interest rates, which led to competitive disinflation, has been reversed in the second quarter of 1993.

A climate of Europessimism and Euroscepticism has dominated this period. Is the Community an effective means of reducing the impact of the crisis? The governments of the Twelve have continued to believe so, as have the members of the EPP Group, who have stated on several occasions that the crisis has been aggravated primarily by the lack of progress made towards monetary integration and the failure to close ranks over short-term economic policy. Thus, at the June 1993 part-session, the EPP Group supported the decision of the Copenhagen European Council (21-22 June) to call on the Commission to present, by the European Council meeting of December 1993 at the latest, a white paper based on the document 'Entering the 21st century'. The aim is for the Community institutions to adopt a package of measures to amplify the effects of the Community growth initiative, increase the competitiveness of production sectors in the Community, encourage job creation and allow a better allocation of resources to the advantage of the structurally weaker regions of the Community.

II. Ratification of the Maastricht Treaty

The EPP Group has consistently supported the process of ratifying the Treaty on European Union. The yes-vote in the referendum held in France on 20 September 1992 (51.4% in favour) was a major event in the history of the Community. It gave the green light to the other countries which have proceeded by the method of parliamentary ratification and was partly responsible for the yes-vote (56.8%) in the second referendum in Denmark on 18 May 1993. However, the target of implementing the Treaty on 1 January 1993 or even 1 July 1993 has not been met, as the ratification procedure in the UK House of Commons and House of Lords has not yet been completed and the constitutional question in Germany has not been resolved. These ups and downs have at least involved public opinion in the debate on European union. The desire for greater democracy in the functioning of the institutions, greater transparency and application of the subsidiarity principle seems to have been understood by most governments. The EPP Group argued in the interinstitutional Trialogue for the institution of the ombudsman to be established by the stated deadline and for interinstitutional agreements to be concluded on subsidiarity, transparency and democracy. On 16 October 1992 the Birmingham European Council adopted a document entitled 'A Community close to its citizens', which put forward a number of rules on application of the subsidiarity principle. The Edinburgh European Council, meeting on 11-12 December 1992, by agreeing on certain principles to which Denmark could refer in its interpretation of the Maastricht Treaty, greatly assisted the yes-vote given by the Danish people a few months later. The same European Council adopted a number of measures on the structural funds, which assured the 'cohesion' countries of the solidarity of the more developed countries.

Advocates of the free movement of persons were disappointed when it emerged that neither the signatories to the Schengen Agreements nor the Community institutions acting under Article 8a of the Single Act were able to meet their promise of abolishing identity checks at intra-Community borders on 1 January 1993. Certain conditions necessary for implementation of the Schengen Agreements had not been realized by that date, i.e. the planned agreements on controls at external frontiers, on harmonization of legislation concerning immigration and the right to asylum and on judicial and police cooperation had not been completed.

III. Enlargement

Although public sentiment in the Twelve has moved against the idea of European Union and been tempted to fall back on the principle of national interest, the Community clearly retains its attraction for its closest neighbours. The Lisbon and Edinburgh European Councils gave the green light for opening accession negotiations with the countries which have made their applications and on which the Commission has delivered a favourable opinion. Official discussions between the Community and Austria, Sweden and Finland began on 1 February 1993, to be followed shortly afterwards by those with Norway. On 22 June 1993 the Copenhagen European Council confirmed its intention of pursuing negotiations swiftly enough to enable the accession treaties to enter into force on 1 January 1995.

The EPP Group has on a number of occasions indicated that it is in favour of a process which will enlarge the democratic basis of the European Union, its weight in the world and its cultural diversity. It believes that the applicant countries have undertaken to accept the entire 'acquis communautaire', including the objectives of the Maastricht Treaty. Meeting in Vienna on 14-18 June 1993, the Group spelt out to the representatives of the ÖVP, which is in the governing coalition, its concern about the incompatibility of Austria's neutral status with the implementation of a common foreign and security policy. The European

Parliament, which must deliver an opinion under the assent procedure on the accession treaty for each applicant country, cannot overlook the various institutional problems that an enlarged union of sixteen members will face. Since the European Council has stated that the current enlargement process can be carried out on the basis of the existing balance between the institutions, we will probably have to wait until 1996, the date laid down in the Maastricht Treaty, to embark on any major reform to the balance of power and the machinery of the institutions.

The Group Bureau was invited to Malta on 7 and 8 December 1992, where it heard the Maltese Prime Minister make a forceful case on behalf of his country's application. The Commission is to deliver its opinion in the second half of 1993 at the latest.

The referendum in Switzerland on 6 December 1992 rejected the treaty on the European Economic Area and thereby put back implementation of the EEA Treaty, which was initially planned to enter into force on 1 January 1993. The institutions adapted the agreement to take account of Switzerland's withdrawal and the new treaty is currently being ratified by the national parliaments, having already been adopted by the European Parliament.

The countries of Central and Eastern Europe are gradually moving closer to the Community through the European Agreements, which give them the status of associate members. As the Copenhagen European Council confirmed, this status effectively gives these countries an entrance ticket to the Union, although the precise date is not stated. A waiting period is needed to strengthen political and institutional relations, to assist access to the Community market for exports of these young democracies and to speed up their economic integration in accordance with the rules of a market economy.

IV. The GATT negotiations

Will the election of Bill Clinton on 3 November 1992 as President of the United States modify the climate and substance of transatlantic relations? The new US administration has shown no sign that it intends to make major changes to the policies of President Bush. The multilateral trade negotiations conducted under the Uruguay Round are of major importance for a recovery in world growth. The extension to 15 December 1993 of the US fast-track arrangement prolongs the period for concluding an agreement. Considerable uncertainty persists, given the difficulties in bilateral relations between Europe and the United States, as France has not agreed to the Blair House compromise on agriculture of 19 November 1992. The Community does not appear to think as one on the crisis or on the policy line to be followed to deal with the growing phenomenon of transplanting industry to other parts of the world, in particular Asia. Some governments are in favour of the emergence of a Community trade identity which would give the Commission trade protection instruments equivalent to those used by the United States. Others are in favour of unbridled free trade as a means of enhancing competitiveness and guaranteeing sustained trade growth in a world market where the international division of labour will become increasingly important. Can the newly industrialized countries be accused of social or environmental dumping? Is there a need for a world trade organization to enforce fair rules in world trade? The Europeans have failed to come up with a unanimous response to these questions in 1993 and the potential for conflict between Europe and America remains.

V. The international situation

The tragic situation in Yugoslavia in this period has focused on the pressure that the Bosnian Serbs continue to exert on the Muslims. Following the failure of the Vance-Owen plan, the UN Security Council adopted a resolution establishing security zones in Bosnia which are to be protected by UN troops. The helplessness of the Bosnian population, subjected to daily violence by a war which seems like a throwback to the past, has made a deep impression on public opinion in the Community and created a sense of frustration at the inability of the EC governments to halt the massacres. France has proposed the negotiation of a pact for stability in Europe, designed to guarantee peace in regions prone to nationalism and ethnic rivalries and to enforce minority rights. This pact could be one of the first 'joint actions' envisaged under the CFSP provisions of the Maastricht Treaty.

It was with a sense of relief that the European public welcomed the start of operation Restore Hope in Somalia in December 1992 under the auspices of the UN, an operation designed to enable humanitarian aid to reach the population of the country, who had been terrorised by clan rivalries.

The EPP Group has supported all the efforts made by the G7 and the Community to assist the democratization and economic reform process undertaken in Russia under President Yeltsin. On 7 and 8 July 1993, the Group held a conference in Luxembourg entitled 'Russia: problems and prospects', in which a number of prominent Russian personalities took part.

VI. Activities of the EPP Group

In the first place, the EPP Group does practical work through its role in the European Parliament as the budgetary and legislative co-authority and as the body for supervising the Commission and Council. The work performed in committee, which is completed in plenary, is described in this activity report.

In addition, the Group helps draw up EPP policy: it took an active part in the drafting of the basic programme adopted on 13 November 1992 in Athens following the EPP Congress. It was the source of the Athens Declaration entitled 'The responsibility of christian democrats in a changing world'. The Group chairman, Mr Tindemans, took part in the summits of EPP heads of government and party leaders in Brussels on 25 September 1992, 4 December 1992 and 2 June 1993.

The Group accords growing importance to its relations with national parliaments. On 19-20 October 1992 and 17-18 May 1993 it held a meeting with the leaders of Christian-Democrat and Conservative parliamentary groups of EC national parliaments.

The Group held its study days in London from 7 to 11 September 1992 where, in the presence of the British Prime Minister and leading members of the government, the issues of subsidiarity, enlargement and democratization were discussed.

Study days were also held in Valencia from 10 to 14 May 1993, focusing mainly on the questions of reviving the economy and employment. At this meeting the Group gave its support to the Spanish People's Party on the eve of the parliamentary elections of 6 June in which the People's Party made large gains. This electoral success followed hard on the heels of the crushing victory of the centre and right in France in the elections of 21 and 28 March, which resulted in a considerable number of CDS and UDF Ministers entering the government, including two members of the Group, Mr Lamassoure and Mr Douste-Blazy.

Among the many contacts maintained by the Group chairmanship at interinstitutional level, the regular meetings between the Group and the seven Christian-Democrat Commissioners of the new Commission which took office on 1 January 1993 have provided further opportunities for an informal dialogue favourable to fruitful cooperation.

Lastly, a large number of missions, for which there is no room to give details here, were conducted by the chairman and members of the Group to third countries (ACP, Latin America, Asia, etc.), the purpose of such missions being to reinforce the presence of Christian-Democrats in the world and demonstrate their ideal of political solidarity.

Pascal **FONTAINE**

Brussels, 30 June 1993

THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEES

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B. SUBCOMMITTEE ON SECURITY AND DISARMAMENT

- 1. Arms exports and the arms industry
- 2. Disarmament, energy and development
- 3. East-West relations
- 4. Public hearing on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons
- 5. Public hearing on Community policy on arms exports
- 6. Current work

C. SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

- 1. Human rights in the world
- 2. Public hearing on human rights and foreign policy
- 3. Exchange of views with foreign human rights representatives

I. OFFICES HELD BY MEMBERS OF THE EPP GROUP

First Vice-Chairman: Maria Luisa CASSANMAGNAGO CERRETTI (I)

Second Vice-Chairman: Sir Fred CATHERWOOD (UK)

Coordinator: Otto von HABSBURG (D)

Deputy coordinators: Jean J.M. PENDERS (NL)

Edward McMILLAN-SCOTT (UK)

Members :

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Lord BETHELL (UK)

Andrea BONETTI (I)

Gerardo FERNANDEZ ALBOR (ES)

Mario FORTE (I)

Gerardo GAIBISSO (I)

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Carmen LLORCA VILAPLANA (ES)

Ioannis PESMAZOGLOU (GR)

Fritz PIRKL (D)

Hans-Gert POETTERING (D)

Jürgen SCHRÖDER (D)

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Derek PRAG (UK)

Patricia RAWLINGS (UK)

Viviane REDING (L)

Marc REYMANN (F)

Günter RINSCHKE (D)

Carlos ROBLES PIQUER (ES)

Bernhard SÄLZER (D)

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Leo TINDEMANS (B)

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Coordinator: Marlene LENZ (D)

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Subcommittee on Security and Disarmament

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Derek PRAG (UK)
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Marie JEPSEN (DK)
Efsthathios LAGAKOS (GR)
Fritz PIRKL (D)
Carlos ROBLES PIQUER (ES)

II. REVIEW OF THE COMMITTEE'S ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1992-JULY 1993

1. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND THIRD COUNTRIES

1.1 Central and Eastern European countries

1.1.1 The situation in the former Yugoslavia

The situation in the former Yugoslavia and particularly in Bosnia-Herzegovina has worsened dramatically during the period under consideration without - and this was noted with some bitterness - the intergovernmental decision-making structures within the Twelve, the CSCE, NATO or the United Nations being able to achieve a peaceful settlement¹, which means that 'the authority of the European Community and its Member States, of the CSCE process and of the UN are all undermined'².

Mr van den Broek, Vice-President of the Commission and responsible for external relations summed up the situation in which Europe finds itself as regards the tragedy in the former Yugoslavia in the following words: 'On est loin de capituler devant la loi du plus fort ... L'Europe ne s'est pas écartée de la Bosnie, même si elle n'a pas assez de force pour obliger à la négociation entre tous'³.

Without convergent foreign and defence policies the Community Member States have no basis on which to take common action.

The attempts at negotiation made by the EC representative, Lord Carrington, the failure on the part of all the parties involved to abide by the London agreement signed on 17 July 1992 on a ceasefire and arms control by the UN, the Vance-Owen plan⁴, the attempt made by some Community Member States on the UN Security Council, Russia and the USA to bring about peace by means of the joint Washington action programme of 22 May 1993 and the Geneva peace negotiations are ultimately the result of the failure of diplomatic means in this escalating civil war, since it has been impossible to find a political solution to the conflict acceptable to all sides.

¹ Joint resolution of the European Parliament of 24.6.1993 on the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, winding up the debate on the statement by the Council on the outcome of the European Council in Copenhagen, PE 173.751, p.25

² Joint resolution on the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina of 27 May 1993, paragraph 3, PE 171.254, p.25

³ Meeting of the Committee on Foreign Affairs held in Brussels on 26 April 1993

⁴ The Vance-Owen plan envisages turning Bosnia-Herzegovina into a decentralized state, in which 11 provinces would share power, without having internationally recognized status or having the right to conclude agreements with other states. On 10 January the Bosnian Serb leader Karadzic agreed to the plan, which meant that the peace talks in Geneva could be resumed, but the 'parliament' of the Serbian community in Bosnia rejected it. The Community and the UN Security Council retained the Vance-Owen plan until July but they now realise that its implementation requires cooperation between all three parties.

The European Community supported the UN Security Council's resolutions, which above all call for an arms embargo under UN supervision in the region, stricter sanctions for Serbia and Montenegro, a ban on military flights over Bosnia and Herzegovina, if necessary to be imposed by force, the establishment of safe havens for the Muslim population, the establishment of corridors for humanitarian aid and the setting up of an international court to try war criminals.

Consultations between the Community, the CSCE and the UN were launched⁵, committees of inquiry were sent to the combat areas⁶, it was decided that the WEU and NATO should monitor compliance with UN sanctions at sea and Community observers were sent to Kosovo.

Measures to assist refugees and provide humanitarian aid are carried out jointly in cooperation between the Community, the United Nations and the United States. UNPROFOR troops were stationed in the safety zones to protect the civilian population and to ensure the transport of humanitarian aid for the suffering, oppressed and displaced population⁷.

However the mandate of the UN troops has repeatedly been the subject of debate. It needs to be extended if not redefined, and above all more equipment and more personnel are needed⁸. After repeated attacks on UN peace-keeping troops, the UN Security Council finally decided in June that the troops had the right of self-defence when carrying out their duties⁹.

In view of the tragic supply problems in Sarajevo, the European Parliament in July 1993 once again urged the Community Member States to extend the joint humanitarian action programme and to meet their financial commitments¹⁰. The measures coordinated between the UNHCR, the ICRC, the WFP, the EP, the Commission of the European Communities and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees should however be made more comprehensive¹¹.

Many of the demands made by the European Parliament in the last year had already been formulated in the Oostlander report in June 1992¹². Since then the European Parliament has not lost any opportunity to make its voice heard. Sometimes the Community has made

⁵ EPC statement of 20.7.1993

⁶ *ibid.*

⁷ UN resolutions No. 743 of 21.2.1992, No. 815 of 30.3.1993 and No. 842 of 17.6.1993

⁸ *ibid.* and joint resolution of 24.6.1993

⁹ UN resolution No. 836

¹⁰ Joint resolution of 15.7.1993, PE 174.419, p.11

¹¹ *ibid.*

¹² A3-208/92, adopted by the EP on 11 June 1992, PE 161.274, p.87, including a total embargo on Serbia and Montenegro, refusal of any recognition of the *de facto* situation determined by aggression, in the 'ethnic redistribution' in the peace negotiations and the forcible moving of boundaries on the territory of the former Yugoslavia, and recommends that UN peace-keeping troops be stationed there and be provided with sufficient means to ensure their own safety.

courageous statements but sometimes it has also had to capitulate because of differences of opinion. This happened in April this year. On many occasions it was the EPP Group - in particular its rapporteur for Yugoslavia, Arie Oostlander (NL) and the vice-chairman of the delegation for relations with the Republics of former Yugoslavia, Doris Pack (D), who investigated the possibility of negotiation between the various positions and thus - often in agreement with other groups - managed to ensure a majority for the EPP position.

The European Parliament constantly repeated its condemnation of atrocities, especially the violation of human rights in the form of ethnic cleansing, the establishment of concentration camps¹³, torture and the systematic rape of women¹⁴.

On 10 May 1993 Parliament sent an ad hoc delegation to Bosnia-Herzegovina¹⁵, which held initial talks with the Bosnian Government and took part in a plenary sitting of the Parliament of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. The conclusions of this visit were expressed in the demands made in the resolution of 27 May 1993, which was adopted by the plenary of the European Parliament by a large majority. EPC was once again urged 'not to ratify the results of aggression by taking the status quo on the ground as the basis for peace agreements,' since the territorial integrity of the republics must be preserved¹⁶.

Further demands were:

- the restoration of a multi-ethnic society,
- support for the rightful, internationally recognized government of Bosnia¹⁷,
- that the safe havens should be considered as a provisional emergency measure, since they could not offer the Muslim population lasting protection or a normal life¹⁸,
- a draft UN peace plan with the necessary military support, to guarantee the withdrawal of Serbian and Croatian troops and the disarming of the paramilitary militias and the restoration of the rights of all citizens.

¹³ See also EPC statement of 6 August 1992 and UN resolution of 6 August 1992 and UN resolution of 4 August 1992.

¹⁴ Resolution of 17 December 1992, OJ No. C 21, 25.1.1993, p.158 and resolution of 11 March 1993, PE 170.288, p.1. The EP Committee on Women's Rights held a public hearing on this subject.

¹⁵ in which the EPP Group was represented by Mrs Doris Pack and Mr Pavlos Sarlis (GR). Parliament advocated sending a delegation to the region as a sign of Parliament's solidarity with the population of Bosnia-Herzegovina in its resolution of 10 February 1993.

¹⁶ PE 171.254, p.27; cf. the joint resolution of 24.6.1993.

¹⁷ The G7 Summit in Tokyo also declared that it was not in favour of accepting an agreement which did not meet with the approval of the Bosnian Government. cf. EP resolution of 15 July 1993.

¹⁸ Commissioner Van den Broek confirmed this view on 10 June 1993 during a committee meeting.

It was impossible to obtain a majority in favour of either lifting the arms embargo, in order to allow the Bosnian Muslims to defend themselves¹⁹ or of possible military intervention from the air²⁰. Even within the European Parliament there were opposing views which ultimately reflected the positions of the Foreign Ministers meeting in EPC and/or the Heads of State or Government in the European Council.

On 29 October 1992 the European Parliament called on EPC and the UN 'to insist that every agreement on a cease-fire or weapons ban will include a clause warning that, if necessary, it will be imposed by force²¹.

Finally, in June the European Parliament included in one of its resolutions the demand that Article 51 of the UN charter concerning the right to self-defence be observed²².

On 17 December 1992, following the Edinburgh Summit, the EPP Group had issued a declaration demanding that the use of force be envisaged if it was necessary in order to implement sanctions, ensure the safety of UN troops (military air defence), enforce the ban on flights over Bosnia-Herzegovina and protect the safe havens.

Repeated declarations should have made it clear to the Community and the United Nations that attacks on Kosovo or Macedonia would be unacceptable²³. The EP also let there be no doubt that an extension of the war should be prevented or punished and that appropriate reactions could be expected from all the Member States if other republics were attacked²⁴.

In order to obtain greater and more objective insight into the problems in the former Yugoslavia and in an attempt to help to find a solution to the present crisis, the committee organized a series of meetings with representatives of all the peoples in the region. A brief summary may help to set out the various points of view. The following meetings were held:

- on 5 November 1992 with the former Prime Minister of Serbia and Montenegro, Milan Panic, who first of all criticized the 'false' information issued by the Western media and advocated that, on humanitarian grounds, the sanctions should only be continued if it emerged that the elections scheduled for December 1992 had

¹⁹ When the President of the European Parliament met the Bosnian President Alija Izebegovic in Copenhagen in June, the latter repeated his urgent appeal to the Community that Bosnia should be allowed a limited number of weapons in order to defend itself.

²⁰ The Community is still divided on this issue. There are fears both about the difficulty of intervention as such and for the safety of the soldiers responsible for humanitarian aid, which means - according to the conclusions of the Copenhagen Summit of June 1993 - that intervention is ruled out as long as humanitarian aid can still be provided.

²¹ Joint resolution, PE 161.995, p.63.

²² Joint resolution of 24.6.1993, paragraph 3, PE 173.751, p.29.

²³ Washington action plan of 22.5.1993, statement by Mr van den Broek at a committee meeting on 10.6.1993.

²⁴ Joint resolution of 27.5.1993

not been held freely; a victory for the forces of democracy would be the best precondition for peace;

- on 23 November 1992 with the vice-President of Bosnia-Herzegovina, M.E. Ganic, who issued a serious appeal to the committee, emphasizing that Bosnia-Herzegovina would have disappeared from the map before the sanctions could have any effect on Serbia (an embargo which had, incidentally, been ignored by various sides); he called on the Community to put a stop to the destruction of ethnic minorities, to seek a peace settlement and, until it was found, at least to allow the Bosnian population the military means to defend itself;
- on 7 January 1993 with the Prime Minister of Kosovo, Bujar Bukoshi, who warned of the great danger of a repetition of Serbian aggression in Kosovo and therefore requested that UN peace-keeping troops be stationed there and that international observers be brought in. He felt that Kosovo was the next victim on Serbia's list and that 2 m people were threatened with genocide. The Kosovan people's desire for self-determination should be respected;
- on 27 January 1993 with the President of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kiro Gligorov, who urged that the Member States of the Community should recognize his country, since it fulfilled all the conditions for international recognition; failure to recognize it would mean isolation and the threat of the conflict spreading to this southern region of the Balkans; with regard to its name, he referred to the result of the referendum of September 1991 and his nation's right to decide on its own name;
- on 30 March 1993 with the President of the Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), Dobrica COSIC, who predictably stressed the Serbian's desire for peace and tried to clear up the 'complete misunderstanding' about the situation in the Balkans, which had resulted from one-sided information in the West. He said that the Serbian nation had been torn apart by the recognition and secession of Croatia, Slovenia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. Individual Serbian extremists were responsible for what was going on in Bosnia-Herzegovina and could not be controlled by Serbia; the Serbians were fighting for survival; the Vance-Owen Plan did not ensure a fair distribution of territory, since a 40% Serbian population could not live among Bosnian Muslims; a community consisting of three nations could be considered; the disputed area should be put under UN supervision; ultimatums, sanctions and threats were not bringing about peace, but were punishing the innocent; the situation in Kosovo was catastrophic, since the Albanians' separatist ambitions did not allow for any dialogue; civil rights would be guaranteed in accordance with CSCE standards and the committee could see this for itself if it sent a delegation of observers to the area (so far the Yugoslav authorities have refused to allow such a visit);
- on 30 June 1993 with the President of Montenegro, Momir BULATOVIC, who underlined that the initial and greatest mistake of the European Community was to abandon the defence of integrity and sovereignty of the former Yugoslavia within its undisputed external borders in favour of the defence of integrity and indivisibility of the new entities within the administrative borders, which were and have remained questionable (the recognition of Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina was premature: the one-sided acts of secession, supported from abroad, were the direct reason for the outbreak of the civil war); the political crisis was produced by conflicting nationalisms and turned into armed conflicts; the Serbian people in Croatia and Bosnia -

Herzegovina was by force deprived of Yugoslavia and reduced to national minorities; the request for self-determination and self-preservation were the result.

Montenegro strongly condemns all war crimes and ethnic cleansing; it is not a Serbian aggression, but a civil war between 3 nationalities; it is impossible to understand the double standards of the international community in punishing only one side by total international isolation and sanctions, which favour moreover the strengthening of extremist and radical political forces.

The best way to stop the war would be to establish Bosnia-Herzegovina as a confederation of three republics; the Serbo-Croatian agreement on the division of Bosnia and Herzegovina has become the will of the majority and thus a legitimate means for the solution to the conflict; the Muslim republic must be provided with a normal living space which meets demographic and economic standards.

As regards Montenegro, the overwhelming majority of the citizens has decided, in a referendum, to continue to live in the common state of Yugoslavia and the federation is managing to find a democratic way of life on equal terms; the international community and first of all the EC has been unable to realize for a long time that the authentic will of the people of the former Yugoslavia is far more important than somebody else's illusions!

1.1.2 The Baltic States

As regards the situation in the Baltic Republics we would refer to the 1992 annual report, stressing that the rapporteur, Mrs Concepció FERRER i CASALS (EPP/ES) produced the report following her visit to the Baltic countries and it was adopted in plenary on 23 April 1993²⁵.

The resolution expresses Parliament's unanimous support and its determination to encourage Community and international action to help Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to become part of the international economic system as soon as possible, in particular by promoting their relations with the Nordic Council and the European Community.

The report also urges that cooperation agreements should be converted as soon as possible into association agreements.

The resolution calls on Russia to do everything in its power to accelerate the withdrawal of all troops of the former Soviet Union from the Baltic states, thus respecting the sovereign will of the citizens of those countries.

The report stresses the importance of withdrawing Russian troops (their presence is one of the causes of instability in the region) and advocates offering Community aid to assist the Russian authorities to accommodate these troops in decent living conditions.

Whilst not forgetting the 'Russification' to which the Baltic republics were subjected, the motion for a resolution calls on the Baltic authorities to adopt whatever measures are necessary to prevent the Russian-speaking inhabitants from being the subject of any discriminatory practices contrary to the principles of international law to which the Baltic republics subscribe.

²⁵ A3-109/93, PE 170.815, p.6

In this context the resolution deplores the fact that the citizenship law adopted in Estonia has prevented Russian inhabitants from taking part in the national elections.

As regards foreign debt, the rapporteur considers that they cannot be expected to pay for this part of the legacy of the former USSR in view of the fact that they were forcibly annexed.

1.1.3 Commonwealth of Independent States

The report on relations between the European Community and the independent states of the former Soviet Union (excluding the Baltic States) by Mr Jean PENDERS (EPP/NL), adopted in plenary on 15 July 1993²⁶, stresses that because of its lack of cohesion resulting from the political, economic, territorial and ethnic conflicts within it and between it and other states, the Commonwealth of Independent States has become an area of instability which may constitute a danger for the whole of Europe. It is therefore in the Community's interests to exercise a stabilizing effect by means of political and economic measures, as well as arms control and measures to promote security. A leading role in the CIS is played by Russia, whose democratization process - as in the other states of the former Soviet Union - is endangered by the lack of democratic structures, its minorities' desires for autonomy and the social impact of the transition to a market economy.

In the committee's opinion the introduction of a Community cooperation policy in these sectors must be different for different states and should have the following aims:

- the consolidation of democracy and the rule of law,
- support during transition towards an ecologically sustainable social market economy,
- the promotion of stability and security.

Compliance with the guidelines for the recognition of the new states of Eastern Europe and of the former Soviet Union, their links with European culture and their willingness to contribute to Europe's democratic institutions and their respect for international law, including the UN's resolutions, are principles which must guide the Community in its cooperation policy with the CIS states. In general the view is that the Community's political and financial commitment towards the states of the former Soviet Union must be accompanied by progress in the democratic reform process and by appropriate means of control.

The report refers to the resolution adopted on 14 May 1992 on a European Democracy Initiative and calls on the Commission to take the steps required.

International financial aid from the G7 to restore macro-economic stability should be backed up by technical aid centring on the TACIS programme, for which the Commission is to allocate ECU 5 million and by the extension of the TEMPUS programme and the activities of the European Training Foundation to encompass the former Soviet Union.

The establishment of a free-trade area with Russia is conceivable if Russia complies with all its obligations under GATT.

²⁶ A3-201/93, PE 174.419, p. 59

Partnership and cooperation agreements should provide for political dialogue with the states concerned, closer regional groupings and cooperation between the CIS states and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

The report recommends that the CIS states also introduce convertible national currencies and set up a payments union in the context of their resumption of traditional trade relations.

In the field of security, the Community, in cooperation with the United States, should try to ensure that arms control and disarmament agreements and other agreements guaranteeing security are respected and reinforced. Particular attention must be paid to the danger of the transfer of equipment and know-how in the field of arms production and the emigration of scientists in the high-technology field. The report welcomes the setting-up of an International Centre for Research and Technology in Moscow and stresses the importance of such centres in Kiev and Kazakhstan.

With regard to the CSCE, the report welcomes the decision to set up the office of High Commissioner on National Minorities and is in favour of the introduction of crisis prevention machinery within the CSCE.

It also points out that the role of the North Atlantic Council as a forum for dialogue between the NATO countries and those of the former Warsaw Pact should not be under-estimated. If the CSCE proves incapable of resolving the conflicts, it recommends that the conflicts should be brought before the United Nations Security Council, given their threat to world peace.

Parliament supported the Declaration by EPC when the Russian referendum was held on 25 April 1993 in support of President Yeltsin's programme of economic reforms needed to continue the democratic process.²⁷ In the same context, the Committee on Foreign Affairs held a hearing, on the initiative of Sir Fred CATHERWOOD (EPP/UK) on 28 and 29 April 1993, which produced a set of conclusions on the reconversion of the arms industry²⁸.

Following the G7 summits in Tokyo in 1992 and 1993, the European Parliament, on the initiative of Sir Fred CATHERWOOD, adopted two resolutions²⁹ recommending that the Member States of the Community, in the context of European Political Cooperation, should implement the aid programmes devised at the two summits in order to stabilize democracy and tackle the necessary economic and social reforms.

1.1.4 Visegrad countries

Relations between the European Community and Romania were the subject of a report by Mr Richard BALFE (PES/UK), which was adopted unanimously on 23 April 1993³⁰. It underlines that the Romanian Government has made some efforts by means of legislation to introduce more democracy and establish a market economy but the effects of this in practice still leave something to be desired.

²⁷ Joint resolution of 27 May 1993, PE 171.254, p. 30

²⁸ *ibid.*, annex

²⁹ B3-1261/92 of 17.9.1992, PE 161.873, p.70
B3-1121/93 and B3-1122/93 of 15.7.1993, PE 174.419, p.49

³⁰ A3-128/93, PE 170.815, p. 23

Romania has various ethnic and religious minorities who still suffer discrimination and are in some cases threatened.

The draft resolution calls therefore

- for the withdrawal of the Religion Bill tabled in 1992 and for the rights of all minorities to be respected and safeguarded,
- for the strengthening of cooperation with the countries of the Visegrad Group and the countries bordering on the Black Sea, and
- for the maximum effort to be made between the Community and Romania to develop programmes in different fields.

Since the Association Agreement between the Community and Romania was signed on 1 February 1993, the draft resolution declares the EP's willingness to give favourable consideration to it, but makes its opinion subject to the replies received from the Romanian Government.

On 23 April 1993 the European Parliament adopted unanimously Miss Patricia RAWLINGS' (EPP/UK) report on relations between the European Community and Bulgaria³¹.

The report acknowledges the great efforts made by the government of Bulgaria since the elections on 13 October 1991 to democratize the political system, to restore minority rights and to introduce economic reforms with a view to establishing a market economy. This country needs substantial economic and technical aid from the G 24 countries, especially the European Community, to modernize its economic system and infrastructure.

The report takes note of the stabilizing role Bulgaria should continue to play in the region and in this sense the resolution calls for a strengthening of cooperation with the countries of the Visegrad Group and with the Community.

The Association Agreement between the Community and Bulgaria was signed on 8 March 1993 and, pending ratification, the resolution attributes the greatest importance to guarantees concerning the continuation of political and economic reforms and the protection of human and minority rights with a view to its opinion on the agreement.

The reports concerning the European Association Agreements with Poland (by M. GAWRONSKI (LDR/IT)³² and Hungary (by M. von HABSBURG (EPP/D)³³ were adopted by plenary on 16 September 1992. The report on the European Association Agreement between the EEC and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic was turned into two separate reports (rapporteur: M. SAKELLARIOU (PES/D), following the two Republics' declaration of independence and they are still in committee.

³¹ A3-125/93, PE 170.815, p.14

³² A3-258/92, PE 161.872, p. 31

³³ A3-257/92, PE 161.872, p. 30

1.2 Enlargement - EFTA countries - European Economic Area

1.2.1 Enlargement

The enlargement of the Community as such and the creation of the European Economic Area as a preliminary step towards further enlargement have been important topics for Parliament.

At the Edinburgh Summit the European Council decided that enlargement negotiations with Austria, Sweden and Finland would start at the beginning of 1993. The European Council also recommended that the Council of Ministers should take the relevant decisions about Norway as soon as the Commission's opinion on the subject was known.

The Edinburgh Council also stated that the negotiations and conditions for accession would involve the full and whole-hearted acceptance of the Treaty on European Union, which means that any enlargement is subject to prior ratification by the Member States of the Community of the Maastricht Treaty and its entry into force.

The same criterion was used in the negotiation of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Area. This Treaty was denounced by Switzerland following the referendum in December 1992, which meant that it had had to adapt to the new situation.

The EPP Group has expressed its views on an enlarged Europe on several occasions: in Strasbourg on 13 May 1992; in the Athens Declaration following the Ninth Congress of the EPP in November 1992; the Malta Declaration of 8 December 1992. On 20 January 1993 Parliament also adopted the HAENSCH resolution on the structure and strategy for the European Union with regard to its enlargement³⁴.

Following the adoption in July of an oral question with debate on the negotiations between the EEC and the countries applying for accession to the European Union, the European Parliament adopted a resolution³⁵ expressing its hope that the negotiations would be successfully completed in order to allow the countries to join on 1 January 1995. The resolution emphasizes once again that all applicant countries must accept the *acquis communautaire*, including the Treaty on European Union, as well as the objectives of European integration and insists that there should no longer be possibilities of opt-out clauses like those obtained by the United Kingdom and Denmark. The resolution also refers to the view expressed in the resolution of 7 April 1992³⁶ that the enlargement of the Community requires new institutional reforms and that the Treaty of Accession must include changes to the organization of the Commission and the rules governing the Council's work as regards the scope and procedure for majority voting, the public meetings of its presidency and the extension of the co-decision procedure and amendments to the procedure for revising the treaties.

³⁴ A3-189/92, OJ No. C42, 15.2.1993, p. 124

³⁵ B3-1017/1018 and 1043/93, PE 174.419, p. 86

³⁶ MARTIN report on behalf of the Committee on Institutional Affairs, OJ C 125, 18.5.1992, p. 87

1.2.2 EFTA countries - European Economic Area

The report on the conclusion of the Agreement on the European Economic Area between the EC and their Member States and the EFTA countries by Mrs Marie JEPSEN (EPP/DK) was adopted unanimously and without amendments on 28 October 1992³⁷.

This agreement is the most ambitious and far-reaching to which the Community has ever subscribed with a group of third countries.

Following the negative result of the referendum in Switzerland on accession to the European Economic Area the conclusion of a protocol adjusting the agreement on the European Economic Area between the European Communities, their Member States and the six EFTA countries became necessary. The rapporteur on this subject was also Mrs JEPSEN³⁸.

The amendments set out in the adjusting protocol are firstly changes of wording: all references to Switzerland's participation are deleted from the relevant articles but in such a way that Switzerland can still join the EEA at a later date; secondly, there are changes of substance: concerning the participation of the EFTA countries in the Community's accompanying and horizontal policies, the financing of Community programmes and the sharing of what would have been Switzerland's contribution to the EEA cohesion fund between Norway, Sweden, Finland, Austria and Iceland.

Apart from slight changes to the conditions governing the funding mechanism there are no fundamental changes. The institutional aspects of the agreement remain the same.

The negative consequences in the transport sector are partially mitigated by the bilateral transit agreement between the Community and Switzerland which came into force on 23 January 1993, since this in itself represents a major step forward in cooperation.

In a separate protocol, to be ratified by the EFTA countries only, on the adaptation of the agreement establishing an EFTA supervisory body and an EFTA court of justice account will also be taken of Switzerland's withdrawal. The outcome of the negotiations may be considered satisfactory, and thus the rapporteur recommends that the EP should approve the agreement by the largest possible majority (at least 260 votes) and expresses the hope that the national parliaments will abide by their timetable.

1.3 Turkey

With regard to relations between the EC and Turkey, the report by Mrs Raymonde DURY (PES/B), adopted in plenary on 19 November 1993³⁹, calls on the Community to improve its relations with Turkey, while still maintaining its requirements with regard to democracy and respect for human rights. With this in mind, the Community is urged to authorize further economic and financial aid, including the Fourth Financial Protocol, while calling on the Turkish Government to lift forthwith the state of emergency in the

³⁷ A3-316/92, OJ C 305, 23.11.1992, p.66

³⁸ COM(93) 98 final - A3-168/93, adopted on 23.6.1993, PE 173.750, p.8

³⁹ A3-193/92 and A3-193/92/Add., PE 162.995, p. 35

south-east of the country (Kurdish problem), and reaffirming that EC-Turkey relations remain affected by the Cyprus question and the implementation of a lasting solution in accordance with the UN resolutions.

The coalition government formed following the general elections of 20 October 1991 should be supported in its endeavours to introduce change and to integrate Turkey into the European democratic family, if we do not wish to see the country fall into the fundamentalist camp or be faced with the threat of destabilization.

The current fragile political climate in Eastern Europe should remind us that it is vital that, in this environment, Turkey should remain an element of stability of the first importance. To this end, the Community must relaunch and improve cooperation.

In accordance with Rule 71 of the Rules of Procedure, this report was referred back to committee in the month of June 1992. The committee examined and voted on the amendments, reaching a broad consensus in general terms. But some controversy still remained in connection with the paragraphs which refer to the Kurdish population in Turkey, the Cyprus issue and the relations between the Community and Turkey. On all these subjects the Greek MEPs voted together, regardless of their political colour and in most cases against the whip proposed by the different political groups. We are therefore faced by an issue of national importance.

2. EUROPEAN UNION - COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY AFTER MAASTRICHT

With the signing of the Maastricht Treaty it was decided to create the European Union. One of the main features of the Union is the definition and implementation of a common foreign and security policy, the subject of two reports by the Foreign Affairs Committee.

On 18 December 1992 the Parliament adopted the report on shaping the European Community's common foreign policy by Mr Josep VERDE I ALDEA (PES/ES)⁴⁰ which, in view of the definition and implementation of a common foreign and security policy, recommends placing greater emphasis on the European Union's international dimension and making its presence felt internationally in sectors beyond the commercial and economic spheres.

The corollary of Union citizenship as far as international relations are concerned is diplomatic protection by the whole Union, and the creation of common embassies representing either all the Member States of the Union or some of them is advisable in this context.

The resolution calls for a review of the question of the presence of the Community Member States in the United Nations and other international bodies in order to ensure that they are represented jointly in accordance with the spirit of the European Union. The resolution calls on the Council to associate the European Parliament with the UN, CSCE, WEU and other conferences and calls on the Commission to submit its foreign policy guidelines, with the financial implications of the proposals, to the Parliament before they are forwarded to the Council, and to take account of Parliament's opinion.

⁴⁰ A3-322/92, OJ No. C 21, 25.1.1993, p. 503

The same measures as those adopted for permanent dialogue with the Council and the Commission on foreign policy should be adopted in respect of security matters, since it is necessary to establish with the other institutions concerned, particularly the WEU Council, a system of rules compatible with the efficient performance of the role of the EP.

In accordance with Point 2.1.4 of the Stuttgart Declaration on European Union, the Council forwarded to Parliament its annual report on progress made in 1991 towards European Union. The Committee on Foreign Affairs and Security, as required, drafted a report on activities concerning external relations and European Political Cooperation, the rapporteur being Mrs MAGNANI NOYA (PES/I), adopted in plenary on 11 March 1993⁴¹.

The resolution, while deploring the inefficiency of Community action with reference to crises in geographical areas, especially in former Yugoslavia, notes the progress achieved through the signing of the Treaty on European Union and hopes that the effectiveness of Community foreign policy will thereby be strengthened.

The Community's foreign policy must be designed to promote security and disarmament and protect human and minority rights in accordance with international law and UN resolutions. The creation of a Conference on Peace and Security in the Mediterranean (CSCM) is envisaged.

The resolution calls on the Council to include the annual report as part of the application of Article J7 of the Treaty on European Union in future and points out that the annual report is the main instrument for providing Parliament with information on foreign policy, to enable the debate specified in the same article to take place.

Parliament expressed its opinion following the three European Council Summits in Birmingham, Edinburgh and Copenhagen⁴². It noted a progressive weakening of the Community's interest in the outside world and, instead, its growing interest in the urgent problems raised by ratification, enlargement and the necessary interinstitutional reforms.

The Community's external policy is without mechanisms, which cannot come into force before Maastricht is ratified, which would make the action of the Twelve more coordinated and efficient.

Community action during the conflict in the former Yugoslavia, although continuous, direct and determined has had to be confined to support for action decided by the United Nations and has always lacked the dominating role which the geo-political proximity of the problem requires.

A certain amount of progress nevertheless seems to have been made at the Copenhagen Summit thanks to the French proposal regarding a stability pact in Europe which is to be further developed at the next summit with the participation of the European Parliament⁴³.

⁴¹ A3-40/93, PE 170.288, p.39

⁴² Joint resolution of 28.10.1992, OJ C 305, 23.11.1992, p. 57,
Joint resolution of 16.12.1992, OJ C 21, 25.1.1993, p. 105,
Joint resolution of 24.6.1993, PE 173.751, p. 24

⁴³ Joint resolution of 24.6.1993, PE 173.751, p. 28, paragraph 31.

With regard to enlargement, Parliament accepted the calendar laid down for the negotiations with the applicant states (Austria, Sweden, Norway and Finland), recalling that the entry into force of the Treaty on Union is one of the prior conditions for the conclusion of negotiations and that any enlargement must necessarily be accompanied by deepening, without which it will not give its assent.

Likewise, the whole of the Treaty on Union must be accepted and so must the *acquis communautaire*, which rules out any derogation granted to Denmark and the United Kingdom being extended to other future members⁴⁴.

With regard to relations with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the European Parliament agrees with the decision of the Copenhagen European Council to offer the prospect of accession to the European Union to all those countries with which the Community has signed an association agreement, whilst stressing the absolute need to make institutional changes before any further enlargement⁴⁵.

A final point should be seen as a success for Parliament: it is pleased that the European Council approved its proposals about adapting the number of seats for MEPs in accordance with past and future changes in the composition of the Community⁴⁶. It would also be desirable for the Council to adopt a uniform electoral procedure in accordance with its proposal⁴⁷ in time for the 1994 elections.

3. Other activities

3.1 Current work

The most important reports being dealt with by the Committee on Foreign Affairs include, those concerning the accession of Austria (Mr PLANAS (PES/ES)), Finland (Mr TITLEY (PES/UK)), Norway (Mrs JEPSEN (EPP/DK)) and Sweden (Mr ROSSETTI (PES/IT)), as well as the European agreements with the Republic of Slovakia and the Czech Republic (Mr SAKELLARIOU (PES/D)), Bulgaria (Miss RAWLINGS (EPP/UK))⁴⁸, Romania (Mr BALFE (PES/UK))⁴⁹ and the Community of Independent States (Mr PENDERS (EPP/NL)). With regard to assessing of the political situation in third countries, the committee is drawing up reports on Mongolia (Mr GAIBISSO (EPP/IT)), the Kaliningrad region (Mrs HOFF (PES/D))⁵¹, Iran (Mrs ROTH (V/D)) and Sri Lanka (Mr GAWRONSKI (LDR/IT)). Because of the situation in the former Yugoslavia two measures will be the subject of reports: the repression of pluralism in Croatia (PSE) and the effects of 'ethnic cleansing' (rapporteur Mr OOSTLANDER (EPP/NL)).

⁴⁴ *ibid.*, paragraph 7

⁴⁵ Joint resolution of 24.6.1993, PE 173.751, p. 27, paragraphs 24 and 25

⁴⁶ Joint resolution of 16.12.1992, OJ No. C 21, 25.1.1993, p. 107, paragraph 22

⁴⁷ *ibid.* paragraph 23

⁴⁸ PE 204.581

⁴⁹ PE 205.580

⁵¹ PE 205.564

In the field of security policy we should mention the reports on the development of joint security (Mr POETTERING (EPP/D)), on accession and neutrality (Mr HOLZFUSS (LDR/D)), on the developments in East-West relations and their consequences for relations between Europe and the United States (Mr PRAG (EPP/UK))⁵², on the CSCE-Helsinki II (Mr ROMEOS (PES/GR)) and a further report on disarmament and the control of arms exports and non-proliferation (PES).

3.2 Taiwan, Cambodia and Tibet

The report on GATT membership for Taiwan (rapporteur Mrs Vivianne REDING (EPP/L)), adopted on 25 May 1993⁵³ is based on a motion for a resolution by Mr COONEY and backs Taiwan's application to become a member of GATT, on condition that it is ascertained whether the application may have adverse effects on China's sovereignty. China was a founding member of GATT but it withdrew in 1959.

Factors militating in favour of the Community's support for its application are Taiwan's geopolitical importance in the West Pacific and its role as a strong economic power in Asia. Trade between Taiwan and the Community has increased steadily and its contribution to the development of Central and Eastern European countries totals approximately US\$ 10 million.

The democratic reform process introduced in 1986 (the lifting of martial law, the founding of political parties and the granting of fundamental rights, including freedom of the press) and Taiwan's changing attitude to China are further reasons for the Commission and the Member States to back Taiwan's application for GATT membership.

The report suggests that in view of its prominent role in world economic relations, backing should be given to Taiwan's joining other economic international organizations. The Commission and the Council should exploit Taiwan's market through increased investment and trade and, on the basis of a pragmatic approach, they should help to create the necessary conditions for administrative, technical, commercial and cultural cooperation, for example by setting up a Commission office in Taipei. The European Parliament itself could establish contacts with Taiwan's Legislative Yuan in order to increase mutual understanding.

The report on the situation in Cambodia (rapporteur: Claude CHEYSSON (PES/F)), adopted on 12 March 1993⁵⁴, following an ad hoc fact-finding mission to Cambodia undertaken by the MEPs Mr CHEYSSON and Mr BOURLANGES (EPP/F), stresses the importance of the Paris Agreements of 23 October 1991 and the accompanying international guarantees as a basis for a political settlement in Cambodia.

The report condemns the attitude of the Khmer Rouge, who are refusing to implement the agreement, ie. to lay down their arms and demobilise their combat troops, are violating the ceasefire, are obstructing the work of NGOs, attacking UNTAC workers, thereby jeopardizing the holding of the general and presidential elections recommended by the UN Security Council scheduled for May 1993, and are thus possibly threatening the country with a new reign of terror.

⁵² PE 203.307

⁵³ A3-139/93, PE 171.255, p. 21

⁵⁴ A3-81/93, PE 170.289, p. 24

The report stresses that it is the responsibility of the international community, in particular the United Nations, not to leave Cambodia until a Cambodian security force under the responsibility of the UN representative has replaced the armed forces of the rival factions and to ensure their presence until after the elections, in order to support the new democracy until the threat from the Khmer Rouge has finally been eliminated.

The report expresses regret that neither the UNTAC nor the Cambodian Supreme National Council have made arrangements to enable Cambodians living abroad to register as voters.

The United Nations is urged to prepare its policy for economic development in Cambodia in accordance with the economic conference referred to in Resolution 792.

The European Community should set up a Commission office in Cambodia and the Community should be present at international meetings concerning Cambodia.

The report is also in favour of sending a delegation of European Parliament observers to the elections.

Negotiations between the Tibetan government in exile and the Chinese authorities should be resumed. This is the appeal made by the European Parliament following the adoption of the report by Mr SAKELLARIOU (PES/D) which, analysing the situation in Tibet⁵⁵, first of all denounces the human rights situation in that country. The negotiations should aim at genuine self-determination. The report recommends, as an initial step and a sign of good will, that all Tibetan territories be incorporated into a single administrative and political unit. The Chinese authorities are called upon to consider the five-point plan proposed by the Dalai Lama in 1987, which did not demand the complete independence of Tibet.

This subject was dealt with once again at the public hearing on human rights and foreign policy held in Brussels on 3 and 4 June 1993.

3.3 South Africa

Following an invitation from the African National Congress (ANC) to Mr TINDEMANS, chairman of the EPP Group, Mr ROBLES PIQUER (EPP/ES), rapporteur of the Committee on Foreign Affairs for the report on democratization in Africa, attended the international solidarity conference held by the ANC in Johannesburg from 19 to 21 February 1993 on the subject 'from apartheid to peace, democracy and development'.

The conclusions of this mission to South Africa, which included a visit to Cape Town, where Mr ROBLES PIQUER met Mr Sydney DUVAHL, assistant to the Archbishop of Cape Town, Mr Bhadra RANCHOD, the Minister for Tourism and former Ambassador to the Community, Mr LOUW, Parliament spokesman, and Mr STREICHER, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, were as follows:

1. The process of dismantling apartheid now seems irreversible. Most white people accept it, in many cases with resignation.
2. It also seems inevitable that a democratic system which the Western democracies will recognize as such will be established.

⁵⁵ A3-369/92, adopted on 15.12.1992, OJ No. C 21, 25.1.1993, p. 78

3. In both cases, it is only fair to recognize the enormous contribution made personally by President DE KLERK, whom the white population did not elect to achieve either of these objectives but who subsequently obtained their approval in the last all-white referendum held in South Africa.
4. The moderation of the ANC under the leadership of Nelson MANDELA has also had a positive effect. His age (74) and his state of health are cause for concern. It is not known who may succeed him and it seems likely that there will be a split in the organization, with the left wing element, which includes Winnie MANDELA and others, finding such moderation a reason for reproach.
5. Two principles are in conflict: that of one person, one vote, which would always give power to the blacks, and perhaps more particularly to the Xhosas, and the principle of 'checks and balances', favouring minorities of any colour.
6. Although the essential principles governing the provisional power-sharing system and the future constitution have been agreed on (this happened after our visit) there are still a number of important problems to be solved, such as the degree of power to be given to territorial bodies. Many people believe that only a very advanced form of federalism can satisfy the minorities.
7. The economic situation is very worrying. This is the reason for the call for the lifting of economic sanctions. Unemployment leads to criminality and there is a very high crime rate. One only has to see the townships to see the tremendous gulf between rich and poor, which would be inconceivable in Europe.
8. The country has a problem of moral and psychological unity, for example seventeen languages are referred to in the ANC document 'Ready to Govern', and there are contrasts in the standard of living and cultural life.
9. The country is still very rich in natural resources. When they are exploited they will be useful not only to South Africa but to the whole of Southern Africa, from which many skilled and non-skilled immigrants come. This is also a problem, because it increases the creation of shanty towns.

On 11 March 1993 Parliament adopted a resolution⁵⁶ which constituted a compromise between most of the political groups. It welcomed the outcome of the first international ANC conference and the holding of the first South African elections according to the one-person one-vote principle with a view to electing a constituent assembly, the main task of which would be to draw up and adopt the new democratic constitution for South Africa, which is being negotiated between the South African government and the ANC.

3.4 Iraq

During the Gulf crisis in 1990, under Security Council Resolution 661 the Community decided to impose a complete embargo on Iraq and Kuwait.

The end of the hostilities did not normalize relations between the international community and Iraq. Failure to apply the UN Security Council resolutions in full, the question of the Kurds, Saddam

⁵⁶ Joint resolution, PE 170.288, p. 13

Hussein's retention of power and the revelations concerning Iraq's nuclear capability all served to maintain the atmosphere of tension in the region.

The Commission therefore submitted a proposal for a regulation to the Council, prohibiting the honouring of Iraqi claims with regard to contracts and transactions affected by the United Nations Security Council Resolution 661 and related resolutions, on which Parliament, in the report by Mr Fernando PEREZ ROYO (GUE/ES), delivered a favourable opinion on 19 November 1992⁵⁷. The Commission's proposal for a regulation is based on Resolution 687 on the cease-fire, which was adopted by the UN Security Council on 8 April 1991 when the invasion of Kuwait was over and which ends the embargo on condition that Iraq meets certain conditions.

To avoid repercussions on common trade policy, it is necessary to incorporate into Community law the modifications which Resolution 687 brought to the embargo and to adopt an instrument at Community level as well as a mechanism for consultation between the Community and third countries, in particular those of the OECD. As the Community is still following the action taken by the United Nations, it appears also advisable to adopt such regulations, thus helping to maintain the united front against Saddam Hussein, to reinforce the effectiveness of the United Nations and to guarantee consistency and continuity of action by the European Community. Failure to take action on Resolution 687 would have been tantamount to declaring that the embargo imposed following the invasion of Kuwait was illegal, and in effect recognizing the right of the Iraqi regime to compensation.

In the same context, during the final part-session before the summer recess an urgent resolution was adopted on the need to respect the Security Council's Resolutions on Iraq⁵⁸. It stressed that Saddam Hussein's failure to abide by the UN Security Council's Resolutions constitutes sufficient reason for military intervention. Recent reasons for this were mentioned, including the Iraqi authorities' refusal to cooperate in monitoring the destruction of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, the continuing attacks on Iraqi Kurdistan and the anonymous murders of voluntary aid workers from western NGOs, UNICEF workers and allied soldiers.

3.5 Exchange of views with foreign visitors

The numerous guests whom the Committee on Foreign Affairs invited for exchanges of views during the period under consideration - apart from the representatives of the former Yugoslavia (see Chapter 1.1.1) - included:

- Nobel Prize winner Archbishop Desmond TUTU, who called on the Community to continue to exert pressure in favour of a democratic system in South Africa (joint meeting with the Committee on Development and the ACP-EEC Assembly on 2 December 1992);
- The Slovakian Prime Minister Vladimir MECIAR, who expressed Slovakia's desire for cooperation with the Community in all fields, including defence (joint meeting with the REX Committee and the relevant interparliamentary delegation on 24 February 1992);

⁵⁷ A3-354/92, PE 162.995, p. 68

⁵⁸ Doc. B3-1072/93, PE 174.419, p. 3

- Israel's Foreign Minister Shimon PERES, who spoke about the situation in the Middle East since the disintegration of the USSR and Bill Clinton's election as President of the United States, the Community's future role in the peace process, Hamas, relations with the Palestinians and Syria and economic development and political cooperation with Europe (joint meeting with the REX Committee and the relevant interparliamentary delegation on 9 March 1993) as well as his deputy BEILIN (on 2 December 1992);
- The Foreign Minister of Colombia, Mrs Noëmi SANIN, on the subject 'Colombia's fight against the drugs trade' and on the country's economic and political situation in general (26 April 1993).

3.6 The Sakharov Prize

The 1992 Sakharov Prize for freedom of thought was awarded by the Enlarged Bureau of the European Parliament to the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo. As symbols of resistance against the dictatorship of General VIDELA, the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo helped to bring down the Argentinian dictatorship.

They endeavoured to make people in their own country and abroad aware of the seriousness of the human rights violations committed by the military regime and the danger of leaving the repressive machinery intact after granting the criminals an amnesty.

As in the case of the previous winners of the prize (Nelson MANDELA and Anatoli MARCHENKO in 1988 - Alexander DUBCEK in 1989 - AUNG SAN QUU KYI in 1990 - Adem DEMACI in 1991) the prize (a symbolic amount of Ecu 15 000) rewards courage and resistance against repression, the affirmation of human rights and the setting of an example for future generations.

Guillermo **MARTINEZ CASAN**

Ursula **BAUSCH**

Subcommittee on Security and Disarmament

1. Arms exports and the arms industry

The report by Mr Glyn FORD (PES/GB) on the Community's role in the supervision of arms exports and the armaments industry¹ was adopted by a large majority on 17 September 1992, with the PPE Group voting in favour.

In the resolution Parliament calls for the production and sale of arms to be regulated at Community level and therefore calls for the deletion of Article 223 of the EEC Treaty which provides for a derogation 'for the protection of essential interests of [Member States'] security'.

The resolution confirms that it is in Member States' interests to adopt a common 'preventive security' policy to prevent the proliferation of arms and the risk of military conflict, and stresses the need for the Community to adopt a programme to convert plant and machinery from military to civilian use.

Parliament welcomes the principle of a Community code of conduct on arms exports and calls on the Commission to draw up proposals on:

- a list of dual-use products and technologies in which trade must be regulated;
- common criteria for the issue of Community export licences;
- a joint body responsible for exercising controls.

2. Disarmament, energy and development

The report by Mr Georgios ROMEOS (S, GR) on disarmament, energy and development² was adopted by a large majority on 9 February 1993, with the PPE Group voting in favour.

In the resolution Parliament calls on the Community to channel the resources released due to arms reductions towards economic and technical development activities in Third World and ACP countries.

It also calls for the Community to evaluate and regulate the conversion of the arms industry and calls for particular importance to be attached to environmental problems in the process of conversion (e.g. industrial waste and dumping of radioactive materials and chemicals).

Parliament considers that there are various means available to convert industrial plant producing components of chemical weapons to non-military applications (pharmaceutical, agri-chemical uses, etc.), but that nuclear weapons present the most serious problems in this connection.

Finally Parliament calls on the Commission to guarantee further funding for the PERIFRA II Programme for 1993 and for the new Community initiatives (CONVER Programme, etc.).

¹ A3-260/92

² A3-379/92

3. East-West relations

The report by Mr Alexander LANGER (V, I) on developments in East-West relations in Europe and their impact on European security³ was adopted by a large majority on 27 May 1993, with the PPE Group voting in favour.

First, Parliament calls for measures to tackle the great problem of insecurity in Europe, especially politically by speeding up the pan-European process of democratic, political, economic and institutional integration.

Furthermore, the following measures are considered to be a priority in order to maintain peace and stability in Europe:

- economic regeneration in central and eastern Europe,
- simultaneous and balanced disarmament and arms conversion throughout Europe,
- establishment, within the framework of the CSCE, of a common pan-European security system involving the existing security organizations (NATO, WEU, NACC, etc.),
- a similar peace and security policy in the Mediterranean area, founded on a CSCM,
- a policy of convergence and burden-sharing between the various European and Euro-Atlantic institutions.

Finally, Parliament criticizes the large-scale arms sales by Russia and other countries of the former Soviet Union, which encourages an arms build-up in other regions of the world (in particular the Near East and the Middle East).

4. Public hearing on nuclear non-proliferation, held in Brussels on 24 November 1992

Various experts were heard at this hearing.

Dr Harald Müller, Director of the Frankfurt Peace Research Institute, said that the end of the Cold War had not reduced the nuclear threat because Russia and the other republics of the former soviet Union were selling their fissionable material and their nuclear scientists to the highest bidder.

Mr David Fisher, Deputy Director-General of the Cambridge International Atomic Energy Commission, called for controls by the International Atomic Energy Agency to be stepped up and warned that Ukraine could become the next nuclear power.

Mrs Thérèse Delpech of the Paris Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique called on the Community to make a practical and direct contribution to the preparations for the Conference on extension of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty scheduled for 1995.

The conclusions drawn up by the chairman of the Subcommittee, Mr Hans-Gert POETTERING (PPE, D) are as follows:

- the European Community must take political action to prevent further nuclear proliferation,

³ A3-108/93

- the break-up of the Soviet Union has given rise to serious dangers, and its fissionable material and nuclear scientists are being sold to the highest bidder,
- the European Community needs a common policy for the export of nuclear technology and fissionable material. The Commission proposal on dual-use products should therefore be adopted as soon as possible,
- the European Community must help the republics of the former Soviet Union, in particular Ukraine, in the policy of converting the conventional and nuclear arms industry to prevent new nuclear powers from emerging.

5. Public hearing on the implementation and enforcement of an EC common policy on arms exports, held in Brussels on 18 February 1993

The following experts contributed to the hearing:

- Mr Struan Stevenson, communications director of Saferworld, said that it was now essential and urgent to regulate the transfer of arms, military material and dual-use technologies, in view of the new arms race in the Middle East and South-East Asia.

Mr Stevenson welcomed the fact that the European Parliament had accepted the principle of a Community code of conduct for arms exports in its resolution A3-260/92 adopted on 17 September 1992 (see FORD report above) and said that Saferworld had published a report in which it made a specific proposal for an international code of conduct for arms exports.

- Mr Owen Greene of the University of Bradford said that in order to be effective the code of conduct must reduce the scope for national interpretation to a minimum and establish clear directives which would be respected by every country. A system of controls and fines and sanctions for non-compliance would therefore have to be established.
- Mr Paul Eavis, research director of Saferworld, said it was vital to form a political will within the Community and that the European Parliament had a special role to play: obviously if Parliament was informed of arms exports it could monitor them and so halt the flow of illegal trading.

The chairman of the Subcommittee, Mr Hans-Gert POETTERING (EPP/D) wound up the hearing by drawing the following conclusions:

- since the end of the Gulf War sales contracts had been concluded with Middle Eastern countries to a value of US\$ 35-45 billion (in 1990 the figure was only 6.9 billion) and the EEC Member States accounted for 19% of world arms exports,
- a total ban on arms exports was not feasible as the European Community would then no longer be able to help its friends and allies,
- the EC had to take the initiative to establish a system for the supervision of arms exports,
- the next Intergovernmental Conference in 1996 should therefore delete Article 223 of the EEC Treaty,
- in the meantime the Danish Presidency should adopt a code of conduct for the export of arms and dual-use technologies.

6. Work in progress

The following reports are among the work in progress in the Subcommittee on Security and Disarmament:

- Report by Mr Derek PRAG (EPP/GB) on developments in East-West relations and their impact on relations between the US and Europe in the field of security⁴,
- Opinion by Mr Hans-Gert POETTERING (EPP/D) for the Committee on Institutional Affairs on the future relations between the European Community, the WEU and the North Atlantic Alliance⁵
- Report by Mr Georgios ROMEOS (PES/GR) on the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe ('Helsinki II'),
- Report by Mr Martin HOLZFUSS (LDR, D) on enlargement and neutrality,
- Report by Mr Glyn FORD (PES/GB) on disarmament, arms export controls and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction,
- Report by Mr Hans-Gert POETTERING (EPP/D) on the development of a common security and defence policy for the European Union - objectives, instruments and procedures.

Carlo PALASSOF

⁴ PE 203.307

⁵ PE 203.306

Subcommittee on Human Rights

1. Human rights in the world

The report by Marlene Lenz (PPE - D) on human rights in the world and Community human rights policy for the years 1991 - 1992¹ was adopted on 12 March 1993 by a large majority. The PPE Group voted in favour.

The main points made in the lengthy (160-paragraph) resolution are summarized below:

- the EP welcomes the UN resolution in which it is proposed to set up an international war crimes tribunal to deal with the atrocities being perpetrated on the territory of former Yugoslavia, for which punishment must be meted out without fail,
- although some progress has been made in the period under review, the report notes with regret that torture is still practised, and people are continuing to die in prison, in 56 countries and the death penalty remains in force in 132 countries,
- there have never been so many displaced persons in the world. Their number, some 25 million at present, adds to the problem posed by the 18- 20 million refugees. The scope of the Geneva Convention on refugees must accordingly be extended to include displaced persons,
- particular attention must likewise be given to the economic and social rights of the human person and the rights of minorities. Protection of minorities must be made one of the principal conditions to which recognition of new states and the establishment of cooperation should be subject,
- the EP is calling for standard clauses on human rights to be incorporated in all future aid and trade agreements negotiated by the Community with third countries,
- a further key area is 'positive measures and conditionality', which should be applied in favour of countries that are endeavouring to set up democratic institutions and ensure greater respect for human rights,
- the EP is calling on the Commission to include individual assessments for each country in its annual report on human rights, democracy, and development and to place one of its Members in overall charge of human rights issues.

2. Public hearing on human rights and foreign policy, held in Brussels on 2 and 3 June 1993.

A range of speakers addressed the hearing.

Commission Vice-President Manuel Marín hoped that once the Maastricht Treaty had entered into force, the Community would be able to observe the principle whereby respect for human rights would be made part and parcel of its cooperation strategy.

¹ A3-0056/93

Mr Marín acknowledged that punitive sanctions were an unavoidable evil. However, although it was sometimes necessary to suspend aid, ties should never be severed completely, since no one would stand to gain as a result.

Mr Neelan Tiruchelvam, Director of the International Centre for Ethnic Studies and of the Colombo Law Society Trust (Sri Lanka), requested that, when granting aid, donor countries should ascertain that the national policies and programmes of the recipient countries would enable minorities to derive full benefit from progress and development.

The celebrated Chinese dissident Fang Lizhi, one of the leaders of the Tiananmen Square revolt and now a professor at the University of Arizona, declared that, contrary to the received wisdom, China had for some years been starting to feel the pressure being exerted by the international community in support of democratization and respect for human rights.

Evidence could be seen in the fact that China released political prisoners every year on or around 1 June, the date on which the economic agreements with the United States became due for renewal. Professor Fang Lizhi agreed that the process was very slow and would take a long time to complete. However, he was optimistic and felt that the day would eventually come when China too would respect human rights.

Lastly, he called on the Community to include clauses on respect for human rights in all future trade and cooperation agreements with China.

3. Most significant firsthand accounts given before the Subcommittee on Human Rights

In the period under review, the subcommittee invited a number of persons to tell their stories. All were highly informative, and some, deeply distressing.

The most notable examples were:

- 22 September 1992: representatives of the Argentine Association of Forensic Scientists spoke on the investigation into the causes of death of the victims who had suffered at the hands of the military dictatorships in certain South American countries.
- 25 November 1992: representatives of 'Médecins sans frontières' spoke on human rights violations in former Yugoslavia.
- 3 December 1992: Mr Harry Wu spoke on forced labour camps (Laogai) in China.
- 3 December 1992: Mr Mehdi Zana spoke on human rights violations in the Kurdish provinces of south-eastern Turkey.

After he had appeared before the European Parliament, the Turkish authorities laid an indictment against Mr Zana, who could now face between five and ten years' imprisonment and may also be sentenced to a very heavy fine.

- 17 February 1993: Mr Marcello Lavenere Machado, President of the Brazilian Federal Bar Association, and Miss Lesley Roberts, Director of the Anti-Slavery Society, spoke on forced labour in Pará region, Brazil.
- 31 March 1993: Mrs Lucki, lawyer, chairman of the Belgian Committee for Raoul Wallenberg, and Secretary-General of the international

committee of inquiry into the case, spoke on the fate of Raoul Wallenberg and the correspondence between the President of the EP and Mr Khasbulatov, Chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet.

4. The resolutions on human rights adopted by Parliament under the 'Rule 64' debate procedure are discussed in the section of this report given over to resolutions on topical and urgent subjects of major importance.

Carlo PALASSOF

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(45 members, 15 of whom belong to the EPP Group)

I. Offices held by Members of the EPP Group

Chairman: Franco BORGIO (I)

Coordinator: Reinhold BOCKLET (D)/Reimer BOEGE (D)*

Deputy Coordinator: José Vincente CARVALHO CARDOSO (PT)
Michael WELSH (GB)

MEMBERS	SUBSTITUTES
Reinhold BOCKLET (D)	Miguel ARIAS CANETE (ES)
Franco BORGIO (I)	Reimer BOEGE (D)
José CARVALHO CARDOSO (PT)	Mauro CHIABRANDO (I)
Joachim DALSSASS (I)	John Walls CUSHNAHAN (IRL)
Honor FUNK (D)	Margaret E. DALY (UK)
Hedwig KEEPPHOFH-WIECHERT (D)	Michel DEBATISSE (F)
Pol MARCK (B)	Paul F. HOWELL (UK)
John McCARTIN (IRL)	Manuel GARCIA AMIGO (ES)
Giuseppe MOTTOLA (I)	Lutz GOEPEL (D) (Observer)
Antonio NAVARRO VELASCO (ES)	Agostino MANTOVANI (I)
Lord PLUMB (UK)	Brigitte LANGENHAGEN (D)
Georgios SARIDAKIS (GR)	Astrid LULLING (L)
Richard J. SIMMONDS (UK)	James NICHOLSON (UK)
Jan SONNEVELD (NL)	Ferruccio PISONI (I)
Michael WELSH (UK)	Nino PISONI (I)
	Sir James SCOTT-HOPKINS (UK)

* since 22 June 1993

SUB-COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

(20 members, 15 of whom belong to the EPP Group)

Vice-Chairman: Pol MARCK (B)
Coordinator: Miguel ARIAS CANETE (ES)
Deputy Coordinator: Brigitte LANGENHAGEN (D)

MEMBERS	SUBSTITUTES
Paul HOWELL (UK)	Jean-Louis BOURLANGES (F)
Brigitte LANGENHAGEN (D)	José CARVALHO CARDOSO (PT)
James NICHOLSON (IRL)	Fernandez ALBOR (ES)
Jan SONNEVELD (NL)	Francesco GUIDOLIN (I)
	Joe McCARTIN (IRL)
	Michael WELSH (UK)

WORKING PARTY FOR THE MONITORING OF MILK QUOTAS

Chairman: Pol MARCK (B)

The members are all EPP members of the Agricultural Committee who, because of their country of origin, are particularly interested in the dairy sector.

II. Review of the EPP Group's agricultural policy

The Members of the EPP Group on the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development can look back on the period July 1992 to July 1993 as a year in which the main issues were the introduction and implementation of the CAP reform and the GATT talks on agricultural questions.

Except for the office of coordinator of the Working Party on Agriculture, the offices held by EPP members have not changed. On 17 June 1993 the former coordinator Reinhold BOCKLET (EPP/D) was appointed Bavarian State Minister for Food, Agriculture and Forests. Reimer BOEGE (EPP/D) succeeded him as agricultural spokesman for the Group on 22 June 1993. The Group thanked both of them for the work they had done and wished them both success in their new jobs.

Implementation of the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), the 1993 agricultural budget and the 1993/94 agricultural prices

Despite being influenced by Parliament's opinion, the decisions of the Agriculture Council of 21 May and 30 June 1992 on the CAP reform were not identical with it on every point. However, the EPP Group supports these decisions since there is no alternative which could obtain a political majority. The EPP Group's aim is to simplify the reform, debureaucratize controls and make adjustments where deficiencies are already appearing, but without calling into question the principles underlying the reform.

In Autumn 1993 it will submit a document containing further practical proposals for adapting the reform.

In the report by Michel DEBATISSE (EPP/F) on the identification and registration of animals (1)*, in the opinion for the Committee on Budgetary Control on establishing an integrated administration and control system for certain Community aid systems (2) and in the report of the Committee on Agriculture on amending the Regulation on establishing a support system for producers of certain arable crops (3) the EPP Group included simplifications and amendments proposed by the EPP Group.

In the resolution on the inauguration of the Commission (4) and on the Commission's programme (5) the EPP Group urged that the proposals still pending should be submitted as soon as possible. Those in the agricultural sector concerned the second part of the agricultural reform (the sugar, wine and fruit and vegetables sector), the adaptation of the reform in the beef sector and the guaranteed availability of resources for the implementation of the CAP.

The rapporteur Joseph McCartin (EPP/IRL) also dealt with the question of protecting aid against fluctuations in exchange rates in his report on the proposals for a regulation on the unit of account and its use in the common agricultural policy (6).

Income support payments must be guaranteed in the long term. This is one of the EPP's main demands. In the opinion of the Agricultural Committee on the 1993 budget (7) and in the opinion by the group spokesman Reimer Boege (EPP/D), on behalf of the Committee on Budgets, on the agricultural price proposals for 1993/94 (10) this was made clear. He referred to the EP's opinion of July 1993 on the Delors II package, which requested that payments of the accompanying measures should be financed in category II, ie. outside the agricultural guideline. The report of the Agriculture Committee on amending Regulation (EEC) No. 2328/91 as regards part-financing of set-aside (8) expresses the same view.

The debate on the Commission proposals on the prices for agricultural products and on related measures (1993/94) (10) was a significant event in the first year of the implementation of the agricultural reform. The group spokesman on agriculture Jan SONNEVELD (EPP/NL) stressed that the price levels were to a great extent determined by the reform and that therefore the proposals only needed to be amended in certain subsectors. The EPP Group successfully demanded that the monthly supplements should either not be reduced or reduced by only half, that the maximum moisture content of wheat should be maintained at 15% and that the basic price for pigmeat should not be reduced.

The EPP Group also successfully amended the amended Commission proposals on the milk sector (11). It prevented the proposed price of butter from being reduced by 5%. In accordance with the vote in Parliament the Council reduced the price by only 2.5%. The EPP Group was also successful against the PES Group, which called for a co-responsibility levy for dairy farms above a quota of 200 000 kg and a levy for intensive farms.

Support was also given to a temporary raising of the milk quota for various Member States, but on the condition that the quota regulations in each Member State are correctly applied and controlled.

Further sectors are dealt with in Part III of this report on agriculture in the Mediterranean region.

GATT and the Community's agricultural trade relations

Throughout the year attention was focused on the GATT agricultural negotiations, the 'Uruguay Round'.

* See Part IV of this report on the agricultural sector.

In Parliament's resolutions of September, November and December 1992 (12) and in the Commission's statement of May 1993 (13) the EPP members adopted an unequivocal position. The spokesmen Reinhold BOCKLET (EPP/D), Jan SONNEVELD (EPP/NL) and Pol MARCK (EPP/B) stressed that the agreement on agriculture between the USA and the EC, the Blair House Agreement, was acceptable only if it could be implemented in the context of the CAP reform.

The motion of censure against the Commission (14) regarding the USA/EC agriculture negotiations tabled by the Green Group was rejected by the EPP and a majority of Parliament. The proposal to dismiss the Commission two weeks before the end of its term of office was incompatible with a serious policy. The EPP Group therefore set out its demands regarding the USA/EC Agreement in the resolution on the presentation of the new Commission(4). It will ascertain whether these demands have been met by the Commission when the latter has been in office for a year.

In addition to the GATT negotiations, the committee dealt with the agricultural trade agreements between the EC and various EEA states (18). The EPP spokesman Jan SONNEVELD (EPP/NL) referred to the need for practical agreements of this kind because of the volume of trade involved, the need to prevent price dumping and plant health and veterinary aspects.

This is also the purpose of an Oral Question with debate on the effects of the trade agreements on European agriculture and the success of the CAP reform (19) which was drawn up by Pol MARCK (EPP/B) and submitted for the September 1993 part-session.

Reports and opinions on crop sectors

The common organization of the market in bananas (20) was debated thoroughly in both the committee and the Group and there were sometimes contradictions. The EPP Group spokesman Antonio NAVARRO (EPP/ES) justified the Group's support for this Commission proposal by saying that the Community preference should also be valid for European banana producers. The Group mainly criticized the license system, which obliges importers of bananas from the dollar area to market a specific percentage of ECU bananas too. In the opinion for the Committee on Development the EPP Group supported a Commission proposal establishing a special system of assistance to traditional ACP suppliers of bananas (21) and a programme for diversifying production in certain banana-producing countries, in order to minimize any negative effects of the COM in bananas on developing countries in Latin America, as the Group spokeswoman Margaret DALY (EPP/UK) and Pol MARCK (EPP/B) emphasized.

The EP approved the unaltered extension of the COM in the sugar sector (22/23) for the 1993/94 marketing year. Jan SONNEVELD (EPP/NL) emphasized the EPP's opinion that this extension should not influence any future decision on the future reform of this COM. The Group was very critical of a price reduction linked with income support payments as for other crops, because of the heavy burden it would place on the budget. The Group spokesman also requested that the Court of Auditors' criticisms of the proposals to reform this COM should be taken into account in the Agriculture Committee's opinion on the Court of Auditors' special report on the sugar and isoglucose sector (24).

The Commission proposal introducing a COM in potatoes (25) was supported by the EP. The abolition of internal frontiers made a uniform organization of the market necessary - as in the banana sector. To a great extent the demands of the EPP spokesman Michael WELSH (EPP/UK) that only trade and quality should be regulated in this COM, in order to guarantee a free market, were to a great extent taken into account. The EPP was in favour of maintaining national production rules, provided that they did not inhibit free trade or lead to distortions of competition because of aid financed or co-financed by the state.

The purpose of the regulation laying down general rules on the definition, description and presentation of aromatized drinks and wine-product cocktails (26) is to ensure free trade and proper consumer information. The Group spokesman Joachim DALSSASS (EPP/I) justified the need to protect certain specific products by name.

Other reports by the Agriculture Committee on the fruit and vegetable sector are dealt with in greater detail in Part III of this report, since they mainly concern the Mediterranean area.

The committee also approved a whole series of other Commission proposals without report or in the form of reports without debate and drew up opinions for other committees, which are listed in Part IV of this report, since there is not sufficient space to mention each of the committee's opinions individually.

Reports and opinions on livestock sectors

The Commission submitted its proposal for a regulation laying down marketing standards for certain milk and non-milk fats and fats composed of plant and animal products (36) because of the growing consumer demand for combined spreads of animal and plant origin. The rapporteur for the Agricultural Committee Pol MARCK (EPP/B) supported the proposal to ensure comprehensive consumer information. A majority of the Group was in favour of maintaining the concept of 'butter' only for butter produced in a traditional way. Butter products which are produced by recombining ingredients derived from milk can also be marketed as butter if the label indicates how they were produced. In the report by Astrid LULLING (EPP/L) on extending the regulation authorizing the Member States to grant a consumption aid for butter (37) the committee and the EP agreed with the rapporteur's proposal not to reduce the maximum rate of refund.

The fact that the EP agreed with raising the milk quota in certain member countries was dealt with in this report in the context of the farm price debate (11). Apart from this the committee dealt with the allocation of specific reference quantities to certain producers of milk (38/39) in the report by Franco BORGIO (EPP/I) and other reports. These Commission proposals became necessary because of the judgment of the European Court of Justice according to which farmers who had taken part earlier in a non-marketing campaign should also be entitled to quotas.

The rapporteur on milk quota policy, Pol MARCK (EPP/B), will submit his final report on the application of milk quota rules in the autumn.

The committee dealt with the Commission proposal to amend Regulation 805/68 on the COM in beef (40) which provides for the granting of suckler cow premiums to mixed farms with milk quotas of up to 120 000 kg/year. The Group spokesman Honor FUNK (EPP/D) supported this proposal and called for the premium for male cattle to be granted in the form of a single premium in the context of the amendment of the COM in beef, since the payment in two tranches made hitherto entailed higher administrative and monitoring costs.

In the report by Joseph McCARTIN (EPP/IRL) on introducing specific aid for sheep and goat farming in certain less-favoured areas of the Community (41) the committee discussed the extension of the period of special aid for Ireland and Northern Ireland, since the exchange rate fluctuations had caused considerable reductions in the market price in this sector. The European Parliament agreed with the rapporteur's proposal and called for the aid to be extended for the marketing years 1992 and 1993.

Richard SIMMONDS (EPP/UK) was the rapporteur for the directive concerning the protection of animals kept for farming purposes and the decision on the conclusion of the Protocol of Amendment to the European Convention for the Protection of Animals kept for farming purposes (42). This

sensitive subject of public debate requires an objective discussion if a fair reconciliation of interests is to be achieved between farmers who keep animals and consumers who expect cheap and high quality meat but justifiably have an adverse instinctive reaction when animals are kept in cruel conditions or are not transported properly. The EPP supported the Commission proposals and called for controls to be stepped up, since cases of abuse on the part of a few livestock farmers reflect badly on all livestock farmers and consumers react by buying less, which is to the detriment of farming as a whole.

For the same reason Richard SIMMONDS (EPP/UK) tabled an oral question to the Commission on behalf of the EPP about the protection of animals during transport, (43). Parliament took up the EPP Group's main demands, which were for animals to be kept in a suitable way, for the transport of live animals to be reduced to a minimum and, where transport cannot be avoided, for the duration to be limited to a maximum of 8 hours and for monitoring to be regulated uniformly throughout the Community. As a consequence of Parliament's sitting of 13 July 1993 the Commission proposed further measures.

Another subject of great public interest was discussed by the committee in its own-initiative report on Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) (44) and the use of hormones in livestock farming (45).

The EPP spokeswoman Hedwig KEEPLHOFF-WIECHERT (EPP/D) stressed that further research must be carried out into the infectiousness of BSE and that in the production of meat and bone meal strict technical measures must be controlled Community-wide, in order to prevent the spread of the disease through the feeding of livestock with meat and bone meal. Joachim DALSSASS (EPP/I), Group spokesman on the subject of banning the use of hormones, demanded that the ban should be monitored in all Member States and that imported meat should be subject to the same quality criteria. On 13 July 1993 the Commission proposed extending the ban on the use of hormones for a further 7 years.

All other subjects dealt with by the committee in the animal production sector are listed in Part IV of this report.

Community agricultural structural policy and the reform of the Structural Funds

As a result of Regulation (EEC) No. 2052/88 on the tasks of the Structural Funds and their effectiveness adopted in 1988 the three funds - regional, social and agricultural structural funds were coordinated for the first time. Five years later the Commission submitted proposals to reform the Structural Funds. The Agriculture Committee concerned itself primarily with the amendments to the agricultural Structural Funds (49), which provide for a diversification of the primary sector, the promotion of non-agricultural activities, greater protection for the rural environment and the inclusion of forestry and the sector of renewable raw materials. The EPP welcomed these proposals because, as the Group spokesmen M. BORGIO (EPP/I) and Joseph McCARTIN (EPP/IRL) said, the development of the rural world must go far beyond mere support for farms. They also warned against overloading the Structural Funds with tasks concerning infrastructure which are only distantly connected with agriculture.

The committee dealt with the development of agriculture in the new Bundesländer in Germany in the opinion by Joachim DALSSASS (EPP/I) on agricultural questions in the new Länder of the Federal Republic of Germany (50). The EPP welcomes the reprivatization of agriculture and is in favour of agriculture being practised by a wide variety of types of farm. During the Group's study days held at the end of August 1993 in Schwerin a number of successful examples of reprivatization were visited.

The adaptation of areas in the Netherlands, Germany and Greece recognized as less favoured (51) and other subjects connected with agricultural structures dealt with by the committee are listed in Part IV of the report.

Subjects concerning more than one sector

This year once again the Group had to deal with the problem of drought and forest fires in the southern regions of the Community (52/53). The urgent resolutions are dealt with in greater detail in Part III of this report.

The European Parliament's monitoring of the Commission was highlighted in the debate on the autonomous amendment of the regulation on ecological farming (54). The Group spokesman H. FUNK (EPP/D) stressed that amendments to regulations which entail substantial amendments to the content require renewed consultation of Parliament. In this case the Commission included genetically engineered organisms as additives in the annex to the implementing provisions of the aforementioned regulation.

In the report by José V. CARVALHO CARDOSO (EPP/P) on measures adjusting certain sectors of the Portuguese food industry (55) and other reports on the subject of transitional periods in connection with the accession of Spain and Portugal in 1986 (56) Parliament dealt with the full application of a series of Community regulations in the countries of the Iberian peninsular. The EPP Group felt that the most important thing was to improve competitive opportunities for agriculture, as the EPP spokesman stressed.

A subject important for the successful expansion of the market in agricultural raw materials was dealt with in the opinion by Michel DEBATISSE (EPP/F) on tax relief for motor fuels from agricultural sources (57).

This reduction of at least 90% of the rate for motor fuels made from mineral oils will increase the competitiveness of biodiesel. Its use in environmentally sensitive areas such as forestry, motor-boats on inland waterways and for ski-lifts will therefore be made easier. Other subjects, such as the report by Franco Borgo (EPP/I) on the granting of compensation for farmers in Germany (58), cannot be dealt with individually here. They are listed in Part IV of the report.

The enlargement of the Community

The agricultural implications of the enlargement of the Community to include Austria, Norway, Sweden and Finland (63) is the title of the own-initiative report of the Agriculture Committee being drawn up by Reimer Boege (EPP/D). In addition, the committee will draw up specific opinions for the Political Affairs Committee on each individual applicant country. Joachim Dalsass (EPP/I) and Reimer Boege (EPP/D) are responsible for drawing up the opinions on Austria and Sweden respectively. Michel Debatisse (EPP/F) and Michael Welsh (EPP/UK) were appointed shadow draftsmen for the opinions on Finland and Norway respectively.

The enlargement of the Community is of great importance for the EPP Group, which therefore held its group meeting in June 1993 in Vienna in order to develop existing contacts (64). Agricultural questions were dealt with in a separate debate, since a whole series of problems connected with accession have not yet been solved. However, there was agreement with our opposite numbers from the Austrian Parliament and representatives of the sector that these outstanding questions must be settled, since both sides would like Austria to join the Community in the near future.

Future prospects

The work of the Agriculture Committee and of the EPP Members on the committee in the remaining nine part-sessions in Strasbourg before the end of the third electoral period will be dominated by three important issues, namely the second stage of the CAP Reform in conjunction with the simplification and financing of the existing reform regulations, the abovementioned work on the enlargement of the Community and the drawing up of an agriculture policy paper by the EPP Group.

Parliament's work on the second stage of the reform package will begin as soon as the Commission has submitted its proposals on the sugar, wine and fruit and vegetable sectors. Regulations which have already entered into force in the crop sectors (wheat, protein plants and oleaginous fruit), tobacco, milk, beef and sheepmeat and accompanying measures need to be adjusted in cases where deficiencies have already emerged. In autumn the EPP Group will therefore take the initiative and draw up proposals for reducing the excessively high costs of administration and control, establishing rules on premiums on the basis of land area, especially in the beef sector, and ensuring that accompanying measures (early retirement, environmentally friendly farming and afforestation measures) are also applied and that funding for them is guaranteed. When the GATT negotiations are successfully completed at the end of 1993 the EPP Group will, as stated in Parliament's resolution of 10 February 1993 (5), insist that agricultural trade rules are compatible with the CAP Reform.

A EPP Group policy paper on agriculture is intended both to be the basis for the 1994 election campaign in this sector and present the EPP position, with particular reference to the economic conditions affecting European farmers as a result of the CAP Reform. The EPP Group has appointed its own rapporteurs on the following sectors: arable crops (Michel Debatisse (F)), livestock production (Michael Welsh (UK)), the dairy sector (Pol Marck (B)), fruit, vegetables and wine (Giuseppe Mottola (I)), olive oil, dried fruits (José V. Carvalho Cardoso (P)), agriculture and the environment and forestry (Jan Sonneveld (NL)), financial aspects (Reimer Boege (D)) and renewable raw materials (Honor Funk (D)). They will deal with the individual subjects, which will be put together in a paper under the guidance of coordinator Reimer Boege (D). The Group's aim will be to give European farmers the prospect of a secure position in a modern industrial society as producers of healthy food and as those who bear the main responsibility for preserving and fostering an intact rural environment up to the year 2000 and beyond.

III. Agriculture in the Mediterranean area

Introduction

The EPP Group has closely monitored the problems of Mediterranean agriculture through meetings with both the Working Party on Agriculture, skilfully chaired by the coordinator Reinhold Bocklet (EPP/D), and Working Party C.

The Agriculture Committee has always been receptive to proposals by the EPP Group because of the expert and wise leadership of the chairman Franco Borgo (EPP/I).

Important work has been done by the deputy-coordinator José V. Carvalho Cardoso (EPP/P) who has often explained and upheld the group position both in committee and in plenary.

The coordinator Reinhold Bocklet (EPP/D) left the European Parliament in June 1993 because he had been appointed Bavarian Minister for Agriculture. The group appointed Reimer Boege (EPP/D) as his successor. He is young but is already well-versed in agricultural problems because he

has been a leader of the CEJA as well as an active and competent member of the Committee on Agriculture and deputy-coordinator of the EPP Group in the Committee on Budgets.

1. Reform (3)

During the period under consideration Parliament has devoted itself above all to the completion of the CAP reform. Regulations concerning the creation of common organizations of the market in important products such as bananas and potatoes have been proposed by the Commission and considered by Parliament.

The Group has also devoted itself to analysing and considering the reform and how it is to be applied in the Member States and has reached the conclusion that administrative costs must be reduced to the minimum so as not to place an even heavier burden on farmers whose incomes have already been reduced for other reasons.

2. The GATT Agreement (12/13/14)

The EPP Group has paid particular attention to the controversial question of the GATT discussions on trade in agricultural products. The problem of the compatibility of the Blair House preliminary agreement, concluded between the Bush administration and the Commission, with the Community's agricultural policy has been the subject of careful consideration, one of the reasons being the often angry reactions of farmers. There have been many requests that no agreement should be concluded before it has been carefully ascertained that it will not require even more restrictive changes to current Community legislation. The EPP Group has decisively taken this line and supported, at the December 1992 part-session, a resolution expressing the concerns of European farmers and putting forward their demands.

Mediterranean products would be most vulnerable to the negative consequences of an agreement with penalizing effects. The vast majority of them are not included in the CAP Reform and therefore require separate treatment.

On 27 May 1993 the Council of Ministers expressed its intention to approve the Blair House compromise and made the Commission undertake to propose to the Council a mechanism guaranteeing fair management of basic areas for the cultivation of oil seeds. This undertaking does not stand in the way of further assessments of the agricultural aspects of the European Round.

The agreement will be formally approved at the next meeting of the Council of Ministers of General Affairs.

3. The situation in Mediterranean farming

Mediterranean farming is still in a particularly difficult situation.

In a number of sectors the Mediterranean countries are not self-sufficient and the trade balance for their products is negative.

A reshaping of the policy on citrus fruit has been going on for about ten years. The main reason for this is the preferential trade agreements drawn up with third countries in the Mediterranean basin, the United States and Brazil, where production costs are much lower and the use of chemical substances banned in the Community is allowed.

Another serious handicap is the weakness of marketing structures since, except for the sectors which are already the subject of a common organi-

zation of the market, they are extremely fragmentary and lack consolidation and coordination.

The recent Commission proposals encouraging the creation of inter-professional organizations with the direct participation of producers in marketing largely meet with the approval of the EPP Group, which considers them a way of involving all the elements concerned in improved operation of this sector.

Spanish and Portuguese tomato producers have similar problems, since they are subjected to competition from Moroccan imports. Commercial agreements allow Morocco to export to the Community with minimal customs duties during the period between December and April, which means that Spanish and Portuguese tomatoes are up against cheap and good quality competing products.

At a committee meeting devoted to this subject, Inigo Mendes de Vigo (EPP/ES) energetically called for respect for the Community preference and urged that Morocco should be forced to abide by the production rules laid down for European tomatoes as regards its exports to the Community.

Proposals for regulations on the common organization of the market in essential sectors of Mediterranean agriculture, such as wine and fruit and vegetables, were urged by EPP Members such as Ferruccio Pisoni (EPP/I), have now been announced by the Commissioner responsible for agriculture, René Steichen, and are awaited with particular interest. According to Mr Pisoni the proposals should make it possible to cut the existing surpluses in these sectors, improve production planning and identify new instruments for marketing, without, however, excessively penalizing a sector of agriculture which we have already seen is structurally weak because it is based mainly on small family-run holdings. When this report was drawn up these proposals had not yet been submitted despite the Commissioner's promises.

EAGGF expenditure continues to favour Northern products. Eurostat data confirm that Mediterranean products account for approximately 38% of gross production and only 20.8% of EAGGF expenditure.

4. The dairy market (11/36/38)

Another important issue was the examination of the Community system in the dairy sector, which was dealt with in an own-initiative report by Pol Marck (EPP/B) on the Community's dairy policy.

Italy, Spain and Greece have repeatedly called for an increase in their national quotas, which they consider too restrictive in view of internal consumption and national production potential. Many Members, especially Italians, have made urgent demands on this subject. Franco Borgo, Nino Pisoni and Agostino Mantovani (EPP/I) tabled a written question to the Commission asking for balance to be restored in the system and Ferruccio Pisoni and Agostino Mantovani (EPP/I) spoke in committee on behalf of Italy and recommended the tabling of amendments to the proposals for regulations providing for an increase in the Italian quota.

The European Council in Edinburgh in December 1992 decided to allow the adjustments requested, and asked the Commission and the Council of Ministers to verify the conditions for the adoption of the relevant legislative provisions.

After lengthy and thorough checks on the application of Community rules by the three countries concerned, the Commission gave its approval, confirmed by the Council of Ministers at the end of May, for further increases for other countries totalling 0.6% and a price reduction. The new national quantities will take effect on 1 April 1993.

5. Agricultural prices (10/11)

The 'price package' for the 1993/1994 farm year was much less important than in previous years because the variations in price of basic products had already been established when the CAP was reformed. The introduction of stabilizers, income support and agrimonetary measures also helped to mitigate the overall effects.

The main characteristic is stability, a general price freeze which will certainly have negative effects on farmers' incomes. The worst hit will be products outside the reform, which are mainly Mediterranean and not protected by direct aid.

Support was given by a number of EPP Members to the amendments to the report by Giulio Fantuzzi adopted at the April part-session, the aim of which was to support Mediterranean products such as rice, olive oil and cotton.

In the Chamber Ferruccio Pisoni (EPP/I), Guisepe Mottola (EPP/I), José V. Carvalho Cardoso (EPP/P), Antonio Navarro (EPP/ES), Georgios Saridakis (EPP/GR) and Franco Borgo (EPP/I) energetically defended the interests of Mediterranean agriculture.

After intensive discussions lasting several days, the meeting of the Council of Ministers held in Brussels from 24 to 27 May 1993 adopted the price package and complied with many of Parliament's requests, especially in the olive oil and rice sectors.

6. Foot and mouth disease in Italy

In March outbreaks of foot and mouth disease were discovered in several Italian regions and the competent authorities were obliged to intervene, ordering the slaughter of animals belonging to infected herds and suspending exports of meat and certain dairy products.

The virus was introduced into Italy by livestock from Croatia. For this reason the Community is suspending imports from that country and stepping up veterinary controls.

Italian Members of Parliament belonging to the Agriculture Committee, Franco Borgo, Ferruccio Pisoni, Nino Pisoni, Agostino Mantovani, Giuseppe Mottola and Mauro Chiabrando (EPP/I) are tabling a written question to the Commission in which, inter alia, they ask whether it might not be advisable to reintroduce compulsory vaccination as a preventive measure.

7. Reform of the structural funds (49)

The reform of the structural funds occupied the Agriculture Committee and plenary during the months of May, June and July.

The Agriculture Committee was the committee responsible for the amendment of Regulation 4256/88 laying down provisions for implementing Regulation (EEC) 2052/88 as regards the EAGGF-Guidance section and was asked for an opinion on the proposals to amend Regulations 2052/88, the 'framework regulation' and 4253/88 the 'coordinating regulation'. José H G Hapart (PES/B) was appointed rapporteur for the whole package.

The EPP Members of the Agriculture Committee to a great extent accepted the Commission's proposals, did not table amendments of their own regarding the EAGGF - Guidance and tabled only two amendments to the framework regulation, aimed at introducing preference for young farmers in the financing of agricultural structures.

The EPP Group also decided to support amendments which improved the original text rather than excessively changing it, in order to highlight

measures for the diversification of farmers' activities, quality of products and their lack of environmental impact, and the transparency and simplification of administrative procedures.

Significant contributions were made by Mr Borgo and Mr Mottola as regards Mediterranean agriculture.

Franco Borgo (EPP/I) stressed the work carried out by the Agriculture Committee and called on the committee to adopt the amendments which he had tabled regarding preference to be given to young farmers in the allocation of funding for agricultural structures.

Giuseppe Mottola (EPP/I) stressed the inadequacy of financial resources made available in the period 1988-93 and called for them to be used more rationally in the future and for the budgetary difficulties of southern regions to be taken into account. He also said that investments in poor regions contribute to the production of wealth, even in economically stronger regions, and finally stressed the essential need for simplification and greater transparency in the bureaucratic procedures laid down for the completion of intervention programmes.

The Parliament then adopted the Agriculture Committee's amendments as recommended by the EPP.

OTHER REPORTS ADOPTED IN COMMITTEE AND IN PLENARY

OCTOBER 1992 PART-SESSION

Report by Mr Borgo (EPP/I) on special measures for farmers affected by the 1991/1992 drought in Portugal (53).

The rapporteur welcomed the Commission's proposal for special measures for Portuguese farmers whose incomes were substantially reduced following a serious drought which started in Autumn 1991 and seriously damaged the winter cereal harvest and the production of feed.

NOVEMBER 1992 PART-SESSION

Borgo report on special measures for the transport of certain fruit and vegetable products from Greece.

The rapporteur was in favour of maintaining aid to Greece for the transport of fresh fruit and vegetables produced by it to other European countries (except Italy, Spain and Portugal). The aid is the result of the current conflict in the ex-Yugoslavia, which prevents the normal transport of the products; the report was adopted by Parliament by a large majority.

DECEMBER 1992 PART-SESSION

Borgo report on feedingstuffs intended for particular nutritional purposes.

The report acknowledges the validity of the Commission's proposal to regulate the production and marketing of feedingstuffs for sick animals which have particular problems, but at the same time proposes that 'experts in animal nutrition' should be replaced by veterinarians, who have more precise qualifications and are more competent. The report was adopted by Parliament by a very large majority.

Colino Salamanca report on the common organization of the market in bananas (20/21).

The **shadow rapporteur Mr Navarro**, assisted by Mr Mendes de Vigo, successfully defended the interests of Community producers against pressure from American multinationals and advocates of a free market. Banana production is centred in ultraperipheral areas of the Community such as the Canary Islands, Madeira and Crete, whose agricultural economy, consisting mainly of small farmers, would be in danger of disappearing if it was required to compete with major producers in central America. The consensus was therefore in favour of insisting on the principle of Community preference as well as ensuring a sufficient and secure share of the market for ACP countries which are linked to the Community by international conventions and are extremely weak economically. This was an important victory for the EPP Group, which has always upheld the rights of small farmers.

The **Sierra Bardaji report** on regulations repealing or adapting transitional measures applicable to agricultural products pursuant to the Act of Accession of Spain and Portugal with a view to the Single Market (56). The EPP members, especially those from Spain and Portugal, worked together with the rapporteur and colleagues from other groups to improve the text of the Commission's twelve proposed regulations. Mr Carvalho Cardoso pointed out that the regulation on milk quotas was intended to amend another regulation which had in fact never been adopted and he managed to convince first the Agricultural Committee and then the Assembly to reject it and obtain a new proposal from the Commission. Mr Ortiz Climent spoke, on behalf of the EPP Group, in plenary criticising

the behaviour of the Council of Ministers which had virtually already taken a decision without awaiting Parliament's opinion and he particularly disapproved of the proposed measures because they were ambiguous and offered few guarantees for Spanish farmers at a time when the transitional measures for Spain and Portugal were being discontinued.

FEBRUARY 1993 PART-SESSION

Colino Salamanca report on a support system for producers of certain cereals.

Certain EPP members backed the successful attempt in Parliament to extend the effects of the provision to other regions of Italy, Spain, Portugal and Germany, as well as to certain traditional areas of France. This success was not reflected in the Commission and the Council, which did not hesitate to reject the amendments adopted by Parliament.

Sierra Bardaji report on compensation for the definitive discontinuation of milk production (56). The shadow rapporteur Mr Carvalho Cardoso tabled amendments to improve both the wording and the substance of the Commission proposal. These amendments were adopted by Parliament and accepted by the Commission and the Council. In Spain and Portugal producers who discontinue milk production by 1 September 1993 will therefore receive compensation of ECU 17 per 100 kg per year for three years, which will allow for the necessary restructuring of the sector.

MARCH 1993 PART-SESSION

Cunha Oliveira report on amending the regulation on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables (27). The EPP Group's agreement with the Commission proposal was expressed in the Agricultural Committee by the **shadow rapporteur Mr Dalsass** and in plenary by Mr Carvalho Cardoso. The aim of the proposal was to include in the COM for fruit and vegetables certain types of tropical fruit, the production of which has been increasing in the Community following the accession of Spain and Portugal.

Mattina report on the introduction of a limit to the granting of production aid for processed tomato products (28). A decisive contribution regarding this report was made by Mr Mottola who, though he agreed with the Commission proposal on reintroducing into the sector the system of national quotas, proposed certain amendments which provided for a degree of flexibility in the fixing of the said quotas, the reduction in the possibilities of transferring the production of peeled tomatoes in order to prevent fraud and abuse and the allocation of the national quotas to a joint trade organization made up of producers, canning firms and public bodies. Mr Carvalho Cardoso expressed his agreement with this position in a much appreciated contribution in plenary. Parliament adopted the report, but the Commission and the Council did not accept the amendments.

MAY 1993 PART-SESSION

Cardoso report on measures adjusting certain sectors of the Portuguese food industry (55). The rapporteur stressed that since the transitional arrangements laid down in the Act of Accession had been abolished, it was necessary to introduce aid for the Portuguese agri-food industry, which initially had been excluded from safeguard measures. He therefore agreed in principle with the measures to support restructuring and modernization, since they would allow the food sector in his country to tackle in a short space of time the challenge of increased competition from the other Member States and from third countries.

JUNE 1993 PART-SESSION

Saridakis report on specific measures for the smaller Aegean islands concerning certain agricultural products (60).

The EPP Group backed many of the rapporteur's proposals, in particular those aimed at expanding the list of products to be supported, but it did not agree with the proposals to increase premiums, advocated by the rapporteur, who called for greater attention to be paid to the problems of these small islands on the outer edge of the Community, many of them far from the mainland.

The Committee on Agriculture was in favour of the vast majority of the rapporteur's amendments.

Plenary also accepted almost all the rapporteur's requests and approved the amendments which had already been adopted by the Agriculture Committee.

Borgo report on standard qualities for common wheat, rye, barley, maize, sorghum and durum wheat. The report, tabled in accordance with Rule 116(2) of the Rules of Procedure, welcomed the Commission's proposal but stressed that there was no definition of the quality of products bought into intervention and that a more rigorous attitude was needed on the part of the Council in order to reduce the quantities under the Community's responsibility. This would prevent the risk of a serious deterioration in products and eliminate pointless expenditure for the Community budget.

JULY 1993 PART-SESSION

Pisoni report on the granting of permanent abandonment premiums in respect of wine-growing areas (33).

The rapporteur, who is an expert on the wine sector, first of all analysed the situation in the sector, which is becoming increasingly critical because of the fall in consumption, whilst production remains stable.

He then pointed out the limitations of the measures taken so far to eliminate the surpluses, such as compulsory and optional distillation, which are attempts to cure the symptoms but not the causes of the illness.

According to the rapporteur the abandonment premiums should achieve a more marked result. In actual fact experience shows that grubbing-up has only partly made up for the fall in consumption. However, he felt that the measure should be continued since, together with the new rules governing the wine-producing sector, which are supposed to be officially proposed by the Commission in the near future, it could help to restore balance on the market.

The rapporteur said that he agreed substantially with the Commission proposal and proposed only two amendments, extending the date of application of the regulation to 1998 and limiting reinvestment in holdings in homogeneous areas.

Both the Agriculture Committee and plenary backed Mr Pisoni's recommendations.

Mantovani report on the difficult situation facing farms and military service obligations (58). In his own-initiative report, Mr Mantovani called for Community legislative intervention to ensure that the Member States allow young farmers to be able to discharge their military service obligations by working on farms as an alternative form of civilian

service, if the farms concerned are undergoing problems because of the farmers being conscripted.

In accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 37, the report was adopted by the Agriculture Committee using the power of decision.

IV. List of the most important reports, opinions and resolutions in the agricultural sector adopted between September 1992 and July 1993.

Implementation of the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), the 1993 agricultural budget and 1993/94 agricultural prices.

1. Report by M. DEBATISSE (EPP/F) Doc. A3-0342/92
proposal for a regulation concerning the identification and registration of animals
COM (92) 0148; C3-0231/92
Vote in plenary: 16.11.92; OJ No. C 337, 21.12.1992
Council decision : Official Journal, No. L 355, 05.12.92
2. Opinion by G. FANTUZZI (PES/I) on the report by M. WYNN (PES/UK)
Doc. A3-0357/92
Regulation establishing an integrated administration and control system for certain Community aid schemes
COM (92) 0533; C3-00336/92
Vote in plenary: 16.11.92; OJ No. C 337, 21.12.92
Council decision: OJ No. L 355, 05.12.92
Group spokesman: H. Funk
3. Report by J. VAZQUEZ FOUZ (PES/ES) Doc. A3-0019/92
on a regulation establishing a support system for producers of certain arable crops (Regulation 1765/92, durum wheat)
COM (93) 0004; C3-0017/93
Vote in plenary: 09.02.93; OJ No. C 72, 15.03.92
Group spokesman: M. Debatisse
4. Resolution pursuant to Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure, B3-238/93/PES, B3-172/93/EPP, B3-170/93/LDR on the new Commission's work guidelines.
Vote in plenary : 10.02.93 (joint text); OJ No. C 72, 15.03.93
5. Resolution pursuant to Rule 56(3) of the Rules of Procedure, B3-0361/93 on the Commission's legislative programme for 1993.
Vote in plenary: 10.03.93; OJ No. C 115, 26.04.93.
6. Report by J. McCARTIN (EPP/IRL) Doc. A3-338/92
Proposal for a regulation on the unit of account and the conversion rates to be applied for the purposes of the common agricultural policy.
COM(92) 0275; C3-0324/92
Vote in plenary: 16.11.92; OJ No. C 337, 21.12.92
Council decision: OJ No. L. 387, 31.12.92
7. Opinion by W. GÖRLACH (PES/D) on the report by D. SAMLAND (PES/D) A3-419/92 on
the draft general budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1993 - Section III - the Commission
Vote in plenary : 15.12.92; OJ No. C 21, 25.01.93
Group spokesman : R. Boege

8. Report by A.J. WILSON (PES/UK) Doc. A3-0207/93.
COM(93) 0176/93; C3-0207/93
Regulation (EEC) No. 2328/91 on the part-financing of the set-aside system.
Vote in plenary : 16.07.93, minutes PE 174.420
Group spokesman : R. Boege
9. Opinion by M. VOHRER (LDR/D) on the report by C. DIEZ DE RIVERA ICAZA (PES) Doc. A3-0317/92
on a Community Programme of Policy and Action in relation to the Environment and Sustainable Development COM(92) 0023; C3-0240/92
Vote in plenary: 16.11.92; OJ No. C 337, 21.12.92
Group spokesman : B. Langenhagen
10. Report by G. FANTUZZI (PES/I) Doc. A3-0116/93
COM(93) 0036 I, II, III
on the Commission proposals for 33 Council regulations on the prices for agricultural products and on related measures (1993/94) COM (93) 0036; C3-0059/93 - C3-0091/93
Vote in plenary: 24.4.93, minutes PE 170.814
Council decision: OJ No. L 154, 25.06.93
Group spokesman: J. Sonneveld
11. Report by G. FANTUZZI (PES/I) Doc. A3-0138/93 I, II, III
on the amended Commission proposal for a Council regulation establishing an additional levy in the milk and milk products sector, fixing the target price for milk and the intervention prices for butter, skimmed milk powder and Grana Padano and Parmigiano Reggiano cheeses for two annual periods from 1 July 1993 to 30 June 1995 and fixing the threshold prices for certain milk products for the 1993/94 milk year
COM(93) 0109; C3-0136 - C3-0138/93
Vote in plenary: 22.4.92, minutes PE 170.814
Council decision: OJ No. L 154, 25.6.93
Group spokesman: J. Sonneveld

GATT and the Community's agricultural trade relations

12. Opinions on the GATT negotiations
Report by K. PEIJS Doc. A3-259/92
on the EC/US economic and trade relations
Vote in plenary: 17.9.92; OJ No. C 284, 2.11.92
- Council Declaration of 30.10.92 on the GATT negotiations
Vote in plenary: 19.11.92; OJ No. C 337, 21.12.92
- Oral question with debate on the continuation of the Uruguay Round negotiations following the agreement on agricultural trade between the EC and the USA
Vote in plenary: 17.12.92; OJ No. C 21, 25.1.93
13. Commission statement on a draft agreement between the Community and the USA on oilseeds
Vote in plenary: 25.5.93, minutes PE 171.252, rejection of the request for an early vote;
Group spokesman: J. Sonneveld
14. Motion of censure against the Commission
Vote in plenary: rejected on 17.12.92; OJ No. C 21, 25.1.93
15. Opinion by J.L. COLINO SALAMANCA on the report by A. MIRANDA LAGE (PES/ES) Doc. A3-0418/92 **E**
Imports of maize and sorghum into Spain
Vote in plenary: 18.12.92; OJ No. C 21, 25.1.92
Council decision: OJ No. L 391, 31.12.92
Group spokesman: P. Marck

16. Opinion by P.F. HOWELL (EPP/UK) on the report by R. DURY (PES/B)
Doc. A3-0193/92 on EC-Turkey relations
Vote in plenary: 17.11.92; OJ No. C 337, 21.12.92
17. Joint resolution B3-0779, 697, 779, Rule 64 of the Rules of
Procedure on dumping of EC beef in the Sahel region
Vote in plenary: 27.5.93, minutes PE 171.254
18. Report by N. BLANEY (ARC/IRL) Doc. A3-0294/92
on certain arrangements in agriculture between the European
Economic Community and Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden
and the Swiss Confederation
SEC(92) 0814; C3-0242/92
Vote in plenary: 28.10.92; OJ No. C 305, 23.11.92
Group spokesman: J. Sonneveld
19. Oral question by P. MARCK (EPP/B), on behalf of the Agriculture
Committee,
on the effects of trade agreements with third countries on European
agriculture and the success of the CAP reform
Vote in plenary: probably September 1993

Reports and opinions on crop sectors

20. Report by J.L. COLINO SALAMANCA (PES/ES) Doc. A3-410/92
on the common organization of the market in bananas
COM(92) 0359; C3-0339/92
Vote in plenary: 15.12.92; OJ No. C 21, 25.1.93
Council decision: OJ No. L 47, 25.2.93
Group spokesman: A. Navarro
21. Opinion by J.L. COLINO SALAMANCA (PES/ES) on the report by M. DALY
(EPP/GB) Doc. A3-0049/93
on establishing a special system of assistance to traditional ACP
suppliers of bananas
COM(92) 0465; C3-0020/93
Vote in plenary: 12.3.93; C 115, 26.4.93
Group spokesmen: A. Navarro/P. Marck
22. Report by J. HAPPART (PES/B) Doc. A3-0137/93
on the common organization of the market in the sugar sector
COM(93) 0573; C3-0111/93
Vote in plenary: 22.4.93, minutes PE 170.814
Group spokesman: J. Sonneveld
23. Regulation on the common organization of the market in sugar
COM(92) 0403; C3-0407/92
Vote in plenary: 20.11.92; OJ No. C 337, 21.12.92
Council decision: L 353, 3.12.92
24. Opinion by E.P. WOLTJER (PES/NL) on the report by J.C.M. PASTY
(RDE/F) Doc. A3-0187/92
on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation amending
Regulation No. 1785/81 on the common organization of the market
in the sugar and isoglucose sector
COM(92) 0187; C3-0387/92
Vote in plenary: 21.1.93; OJ No. C 42, 15.2.93
Group spokesman: J. Sonneveld
25. Report by W. GÖRLACH (PES/D) Doc. A3-0102/93
on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation on the common
organization of the market in potatoes
COM(93) 0185; C3-0476/93
Vote in plenary: 22.4.93, minutes PE 170.814
Group spokesman: M. Welsh

26. Third report by M. ROTHE (PES/D) Doc. A3-0296/92
 I. A regulation laying down general rules on the definition, description and presentation of aromatized wines, aromatized wine-based drinks and aromatized wine-product cocktails
 II. A regulation laying down general rules on the definition, description and presentation of spirit drinks
 C3-0357-0358/92, SYN 396, 397
 Vote in plenary: 28.10.92, OJ No. C 305, 23.11.92
 Council decision: L 327, 13.11.92
 Group spokesman: J. Dalsass
27. Report by A. da CUNHA OLIVEIRA (PES/P) Doc. A3-0052/93
 on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables
 COM(92) 0442; C3-0445/92
 Vote in plenary: 12.3.93; OJ No. C 115, 26.4.93
 Council decision: OJ No. L 69, 20.3.93
 Group spokesman: J. Dalsass
28. Report by V. MATTINA (PES/I) Doc. A3-0054/93
 on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation on the introduction of a limit to the granting of production aid for processed tomato products
 COM(93) 0004; C3-0017/93 and COM(92) 0474; C3-0478/92
 Vote in plenary: 12.2.93; OJ No. C 72, 15.3.92 and
 12.3.93; OJ No. C 115, 26.4.93
 Council decision: L 72, 25.3.93
 Group spokesman: G. Mottola
29. Report by F. BORGIO (EPP/I) on a regulation laying down special measures for the transport of certain fresh fruit and vegetables from Greece
 COM(92) 323; C3-0330/92
 Vote in plenary: 20.11.92; OJ No. C 337, 21.12.92
 Council decision: L 350, 1.12.92 and L 96, 22.4.92
30. Report by F. BORGIO (EPP/I) A3-0212/93, COM(93) 0223; C3-0219/93
 Regulation laying down, in respect of hops, the amount of aid to producers for the 1992 harvest
 Vote in plenary: 16.7.93, minutes PE 174.420
31. Report by J.M. BANDRES MOLET (V/ES) Doc. A3-0027/92
 Regulation on Community plant variety rights
 COM(90) 0347; C3-0303/92;
 Vote in plenary: 28.10.92; OJ No. C 305, 23.11.92
 (the opinion of the Agriculture Committee was delivered in report year 1990/91)
32. Report by W. ROTHLEY (PES/D) Doc. A3-0286/92
 on the legal protection of biotechnological inventions
 COM(88) 0496; C3-0036/89, SYN 159
 Vote in plenary: 26.10.92; OJ No. C 305, 23.11.92
 (The opinion of the Agriculture Committee was delivered in report year 1990/91)
33. Report by F. PISONI (EPP/I) A3-0206/93, COM(93) 0085; C3-0172/93
 Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1422/88 on the granting for the 1988/89 to 1995/96 wine years of permanent abandonment premiums in respect of wine-growing areas
 Vote in plenary: 16.7.93, minutes PE 174.420
34. Report by J. VAZQUEZ FOUZ (PES/ES) A3-0208/93, COM(93) 0099; C3-0177/93
 Directive 77/93/EEC on protective measures against the introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants or plant products and against their spread within the Community
 Vote in plenary: 16.7.93, minutes PE 174.420

Group spokesman: R. Boege

35. Approval of Commission proposals without report:
- Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 234/68 on the common organization of the market in live trees and other products of floriculture
COM(92) 0249; C3-0302/92
Vote in plenary: 30.10.92; OJ No. C 305, 23.11.92
 - Regulation laying down, in respect of hops, the amount of aid to producers for the 1986 harvest and providing special measures for certain regions of production
COM(92) 0291; C3-0326/92 and COM(92) 0310; C3-0377/92
Vote in plenary: 30.10.92; OJ No. C 305, 23.11.92
Council decision: OJ No. L 313, 30.10.92 and L 336, 20.11.92
 - Regulation containing statistical information to be supplied by Member States on crop products other than cereals
COM(92) 0430; C3-0473/92
Vote in plenary: 12.2.93; OJ No. C 72, 15.3.93
 - Regulation on the control of potato ring rot
COM(93) 0058; C3-0155/93
Vote in plenary: 28.5.93, minutes PE 171.255

Reports and opinions on livestock sectors

36. Report by P. MARCK (EPP/B) Doc. A3-290/92
on the Commission proposal to the Council for a regulation laying down marketing standards for certain milk and non-milk fats and fats composed of plant and animal products
COM(91) 0462; C3-0062/92
Vote in plenary: 16.11.92; OJ No. C 337, 21.12.92
37. Report by A. LULLING (EPP/L) Doc. A3-341/92
Regulation amending Regulation No. 1307/85 authorizing the Member States to grant a consumption aid for butter
COM(92) 347; C3-0332/92
Vote in plenary: 19.11.92; OJ No. C 337, 21.12.92
Council decision: L 353, 3.12.92
38. Report by F. BORGIO (EPP/I) Doc. A3-0164/93
on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation allocating a special reference quantity to certain producers of milk and milk products
COM(93) 0089; C3-0157/93
Vote in plenary: 28.5.93, minutes PE 171.255
39. Report by S. MARTIN (LDR/F) Doc. A3-0235/93
SLOM III, regulation providing for an offer of compensation to certain producers of milk or milk products temporarily prevented from carrying on their trade
Vote in plenary: 16.7.93, minutes PE 174.420
Group spokesman: J. Sonneveld
40. Report by J.-F. HORY (PES/F) on amending Regulation No. 805/68 on the common organization of the market in beef and veal
COM(92) 0408; C3-401/92
Vote in plenary: 20.11.92; OJ No. C 337, 21.12.92
Council decision: OJ No. L 18, 27.1.93 and L 57, 10.3.93
Group spokesman: H. Funk

41. Report by J. McCARTIN (EPP/IRL) Doc. A3-0018/93
Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1323/90 instituting specific aid for sheep and goat farming in certain less-favoured areas of the Community
COM(93) 0008; C3-0018/93
Vote in plenary: 9.2.93; OJ No. C 72, 15.3.93
Council decision: L 42, 19.2.93
42. Report by R. SIMMONDS (EPP/UK) Doc. A3-339/92
I. a Council directive concerning the protection of animals kept for farming purposes
II. a Council decision on the conclusion of the protocol of amendment to the European Convention for the protection of animals kept for farming purposes
COM(92) 0192; C3-0254/92 and COM(92) 0243; C3-0295
Vote in plenary: 19.11.92, OJ No. C 337, 21.12.92
Council decision: L 395, 31.12.92
43. Resolution on oral question by R. SIMMONDS (EPP/UK) B3-0149/93 on failure to implement Community legislation on the protection of animals in transport
Vote in plenary: 26.5.93, minutes PE 171.253
Group spokesman: R. Simmonds
44. Report by V. GARCIA (LDR/ES), Doc. A3-0368/92 on Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)
Vote in plenary: 22.1.93; OJ No. C 42, 15.2.93
Group spokesman: H. Keppelhoff-Wiechert
45. Resolution on the Commission's statement B3-163, 168, 286/93 on uses of hormones in meat production
Vote in plenary: 11.2.93; OJ No. C 72, 15.3.93
- Resolution on oral question B3-0159/93 on hormones in meat
Vote in plenary: 28.5.93, minutes PE 171.253
Group spokesman: J. Dalsass
46. Report by F. BORGIO (EPP/I) Doc. A3-408/92
Regulation on feedingstuffs intended for particular nutritional purposes
COM(92) 0324; C3-0368/92
Vote in plenary: 15.12.92, OJ No. C 21, 25.1.93
47. Report by M. ROTHE (PES/D)
COM(93) 0110; C3-0161/93; COM(93) 0119; C3-0171/93
I. Directive amending Directive 70/524/EEC concerning additives in feedingstuffs
II. Proposal for a decision concerning the use and marketing of enzymes, microorganisms and their preparations in animal nutrition
Vote in plenary: was referred back to committee on 16.7.93
Group spokesman: R. Boege
48. Approval of Commission proposals without report
- amending Directive 89/556/EEC on animal health conditions governing intra-Community trade in and importation from third countries of embryos of domestic animals of the bovine species
COM(93) 0573; C3-0111/93
Vote in plenary: 23.4.93, minutes PE 170.815
- Regulation amending Regulation 2771/75 on the common organization of the market in eggs and poultrymeat, the common organization of the market in certain products listed in Annex II to the Treaty and No. 2658/87 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and the Common Customs Tariff
COM(92) 0428; C3-0480/92
Vote in plenary: 12.3.93; OJ No. C 115, 26.4.93

- Amending directive 77/93/EEC on protective measures against the introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants or plant products and against their spread within the Community, and Directive 91/683/EEC amending Directive 77/93/EEC.
COM(92) 0559; C3-0024/93
Vote in plenary: 12.3.93; OJ No. C 115, 26.4.93
- Directive on the statistical surveys to be carried out on pig production
COM(92) 0577; C3-0049/93
Vote in plenary: 12.3.93; OJ No. C 115, 26.4.93
- Directive on the statistical surveys to be carried out on bovine animal production
COM(92) 0579; C3-0055/92
Vote in plenary: 12.3.93; OJ No. C 115, 26.4.93
- Directive on intra-Community trade in and imports of deep-frozen semen of domestic animals of the bovine species and extending it to cover fresh bovine semen
COM(92) 0462; C3-0465/92
Vote in plenary: 12.2.93; OJ No. C 72, 15.3.92
- Amending Directive 80/217/EEC introducing Community measures for the control of classical swine fever;
COM(92) 0437; C3-0444/92
Vote in plenary: 18.12.92; OJ No. C 21, 25.1.93
- Directive on animal health conditions governing intra-Community trade in and imports from third countries of fresh poultrymeat
COM(93) 0096; C3-0153, 0154/93

Community agricultural structural policy and the reform of the structural funds

49. Report by J. Happart (PES/B) Doc. A3-0184/93, COM(93) 0124, COM(93) 0303, C3 - 0180/93
amending Regulation (EEC) No. 2052/88 as regards the EAGGF Guidance section
Vote in plenary: 15.7.93, Minutes PE 174.419
Group spokesmen: M Debatisse, F Borgo, and J McCartin
Council decision: on 20.7.93
50. Opinion by J. Dalsass on the report by A. Donnelly (PES/UK)/E. Brok (EPP/D) Doc. A3-0230/93 on the Community response to the problem of restructuring in East Germany and the economic and social crisis
Vote in plenary: 15.7.93, Minutes PE 174.419
Group spokesman: J Dalsass
51. Regulation on less-favoured farming areas in Italy, the new German Bundesländer and the Netherlands COM(92) 0281, C3-0326/92; COM(92) 0351, C3-0375/92; COM 0384, C3-0395/92
Vote in plenary: 30.10.92; OJ No. C 305, 23.11.92
Council decision: OJ No. L 338, 23.11.92
- Regulation on the restructuring of the system of agricultural surveys in Greece
COM(92) 0415; C3-0429/92
Vote in plenary: 20.11.92; OJ No. C 337, 21.12.92
Council decision: OJ, 21.12.92

Subjects covering more than one sector

52. - Urgent resolution B3-1157, 1166, 1202/92 on the destruction of forest by fires in Greece
Vote in plenary: 17.9.92; OJ No. 284, 2.11.92
 - Urgent resolution B3-203, 272/93 on emergency aid to farmers affected by the drought in the Portuguese region of Alentejo
Vote in plenary: 11.2.92; OJ No. C 72, 15.3.93
 - Urgent resolution B3-217/93 on combatting the prolonged drought affecting central Greece
Vote in plenary: 11.2.93; OJ No. C 72, 15.3.93
53. Report by F. Borgo (EPP/I) pursuant to Rule 116(1) of the Rules of Procedure, Doc. A3-0319/92 on special measures for farmers affected by the 1991/1992 drought in Portugal
COM(92) 0348; C3-0352/92
Vote in plenary: 30.10.92; OJ No. C 305, 23.11.92
Cancel decision: OJ No. L 332, 18.11.92
54. Resolution pursuant to Rule 41(1) of the Rules of Procedure, B3-0349/91 on the organic production of agricultural foodstuffs
Vote in plenary: 12.3.93; minutes PE 170.289
Group spokesman: H Funk
55. Report by J. Carvalho Cardoso (EPP/P), Doc. A3-0166/93 on measures adjusting certain sectors of the Portuguese food industry
COM(93) 0079; C3-0144/93
Vote in plenary: 28.5.93; minutes PE 171.255
56. Report by M. Sierra Bardaji (PES/ES) Doc. A3-0422/92 (second report A3-0046/93) adapting transitional measures applicable to agricultural products pursuant to the Act of Accession of Spain and Portugal with a view to the Single Market
COM(92) 0253; C3-0449/92
Vote in plenary: 18.12.92, OJ No. C 21, 25.1.93
Cancel decision: L 77, 31.3.93
Group spokesman: J Carvalho Cardoso
57. Opinion by M. Debatisse (EPP/F) (PE 201.339) proposal for a Directive on excise duties on motor fuels from agricultural sources
COM(92) 0036; C3-0111/92
Vote in Agriculture Committee on 2.10.92. The vote in the Committee on Economic Affairs, the committee responsible, has not yet been held.
58. Report by F. Borgo (EPP/I) Doc. A3-0136/93 on temporary national compensation for farmers in Germany
COM(93) 0094; C3-0152/93
Vote in plenary: 23.4.1993, minutes PE 170.815
59. Report by A. Mantovani (EPP/I) pursuant to Rule 37 of the Rules of Procedure on the difficult situation of farms and military service obligations
Part-session: 16.7.93, minutes PE 174.420
60. Opinion by R. Boege on the report by G B Patterson (EPP/UK) Doc. A3-417/92 on the implementation of the White Paper on the completion of the Internal Market
COM(92) 0383; C3-0403, 0404/92; SEC(91) 2419;
Vote in plenary: 18.12.92, OJ No. C 21, 25.1.93
61. Report by G Saridakis (EPP/GR) Doc. A3-0186/93
Regulation introducing specific measures for the smaller Aegean Islands concerning agricultural products
COM(92) 0569; C3-0096/93

Vote in plenary: 25.6.93, minutes PE 173.752

62. Approval of Commission proposals without report
- Regulation laying down general rules for the financing of interventions by the EAGGF, Guarantee section
COM(93) 0019; C3-0125/93
 - Decision fixing the maximum amount eligible for expenditure on the employment of trained agricultural advisers pursuant to Regulation (EEC) 270/79, COM(93) 0074; C3-0140/93

Enlargement of the Community

63. Report by R Boege (EPP/D) on the agricultural aspects of the enlargement of the Community to include Austria, Norway, Sweden and Finland
Debate in plenary scheduled for November 1993.
64. Report on the activities of the Working Party on Agriculture during the group meeting of 14-18 June 1993 in Vienna.

W.W. KRÖGEL A. PRETO

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

I. Offices held by EPP Group members:

(The Subcommittee consists of 20 members including 6 from the EPP Group).

Vice-chairman: Pol MARCK (B)
Coordinator: Miguel ARIAS CAÑETE (ES)
Deputy Coordinator: Brigitte LANGENHAGEN (D).

Members

Miguel ARIAS CAÑETE (ES)
Paul HOWELL (GB)
Brigitte LANGENHAGEN (D)
Pol MARCK (B)
James NICHOLSON (GB)
Jan SONNEVELD (NL)

Substitutes

Jean-Louis BOURLANGES (F)
José V. CARVALHO CARDOSO (PT)
Gerardo FERNANDEZ ALBOR (ES)
Francesco GUIDOLIN (I)
John J. McCARTIN (IRL)
Michael WELSH (UK)

II. REPORTS, OPINIONS AND MOTIONS ADOPTED:

1. H. McCUBBIN (S/UK)
Doc. A3-318/92
Adopted: 17 December 1992

Opinion on the draft general budget
of the European Communities for the
financial year 1992.¹

The main objective of the opinion by the Subcommittee on Fisheries was the reinstatement of PDB (preliminary draft budget) funding. At the same time, it was possible to give greater priority to structural policy, slightly increasing the level of appropriations with regard to the PDB as a result of the new Multiannual Guidance Programme proposals whose aim is to drastically reduce fishing capacity, for which reason greater financial assistance is absolutely vital.

It was the EPP Group which, in its amendments both in the Subcommittee on Fisheries and in the Committee on Budgets, stressed the need for greater attention to be paid to structural policy.

2. Motion for a resolution
Doc. B3-1332
Adopted: 20 October 1992
Rule 56(3)

Motion for a resolution on the
Multiannual Guidance Programmes 1993-
1996.

As a result of the debate on the guidelines of the new MGPs submitted to the Member States by the Commission, the EPP Group, the Liberal Group and the Socialist Group submitted their respective motions for resolutions to wind up the debate, which were eventually combined to form a single compromise resolution calling for Parliament to be consulted on an amended proposal which in addition to the reduction in capacity and activity in the fisheries sector would also provide economic and social assistance.

¹ OJ No. L 31, 8.2.1993

3. P. LATAILLADE (RDE/F)
Doc. A3-0289/92
Adopted: 28 October 1992

Report on the Commission proposals for Council decisions on the conclusion of agreements in the form of exchanges of letters on fisheries between the EEC and Iceland, Norway and Sweden respectively (COM(92) 0814 final).

The Porto Agreement provided for the gradual liberalization of the trade in fishery products within the EEA. On entry into force of the agreement, the EFTA states will suspend practically all customs duties on Community exports. The Community will reciprocate by immediately withdrawing or progressively reducing its customs duties (except on certain sensitive species). As regards access to resources (an area covered by bilateral agreements), Norway and Sweden have granted the Community additional fishing opportunities or the opportunity to consolidate existing ones. The agreement with Iceland includes an agreement on quotas (see point 17).

When the report was put to the vote, all the political Groups were in favour.

4. N. BLANEY (ARC/IRL)
Doc. A3-287/92
Adopted: 30 October 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation on the conclusion of the Protocol establishing, for the period 1 January 1992 to 31 December 1993, the fishing rights and financial compensation provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the Republic of Guinea on fishing off the coast of Guinea (COM(92) 0038 final - C3-0087/92).²

Renewal of the fishery Protocol offers the following fishing opportunities (the figures in brackets refer to the previous protocol):

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| - trawlers | 12 000 GRT (no change) |
| - tuna purse seiners | 24 vessels (45 vessels) |
| - pole and line tuna vessels and long liners | 13 vessels (35 vessels) |

The cost to the Community budget is as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| - financial compensation | ECU 3 350 000 p.a. |
| - scientific programmes | ECU 200 000 p.a. |
| - grants | ECU 200 000 p.a. |
| Total | ECU 3 750 000 p.a. |

The report was adopted with the support of all the political Groups.

² OJ No. L 379, 23.12.1992, Council Regulation 3680/92 of 7 December 1992

5. N. BLANEY (ARC/IRL)
Doc. A3-370/92
Adopted: 20 November 1992

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation establishing a common organization of the market in fishery products (COM(92) 0079 final - C3-0197/92).³

The Commission proposal put forward a reform of the CMO with the following objectives:

- to increase the co-responsibility of the producers' organizations;
- to adjust the aid for private storage;
- to modify the tuna arrangements, particularly as regards compensatory aid;
- to abolish compensatory aid for salmon and lobster.

The EPP Group tabled a series of amendments whose principal aim was to reduce the increase in the co-responsibility of the producers' organizations, since these would not be able to cope financially and, secondly, to propose a complete modification of the external trade system due to its inefficiency and extremely poor functioning (no other political Group supported this proposal). If this modification proposed by the EPP had been taken into account in the report, it might have been possible to avoid the subsequent serious crisis in the market which began in early February of this year with a sharp drop in prices (cf. point 19).

6. N. PERY (S/F)
Doc. A3-404/92
Adopted: 15 December 1992

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation establishing a Community system for fisheries and aquaculture (COM(92) 0387 - C3-0422/92).⁴

This proposal replaces Council Regulation No 170/83 which forms the basis of the common fisheries policy. The new Regulation retains the basic pillars of the earlier regulation, i.e. the principle of restricted access to the 12 mile zone, the 'Shetland Box' principle and the principle of relative stability. However, it also contains a series of new elements such as the establishment of a licence system to complement the current TAC and quota system and the introduction of monitoring arrangements to cover all aspects of the implementation of the CFP.

The EPP succeeded in preventing the adoption of the draft report's motion which proposed a system of administrative licences; our Group felt that it was not the right time to decide which system of licences would be the most appropriate and that when the time came to put forward the appropriate proposal there should be a serious and in-depth investigation.

³ OJ No. L 388, 31.12.1992, Council Regulation 3759/92 of 17 December 1992

⁴ OJ No. L 389, 31 December 1992, Council Regulation 3760/92 of 20 December 1992

7. J.J. McCARTIN (EPP/IRI)
Doc. A3-403/92
Adopted: 15 December 1992

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation establishing a control system applicable to the common fisheries policy (COM(92)0392 final C3-0423/92).

This proposal aims to strengthen the Community's control policy. The proposal's principal elements are:

- the extension of control to cover structural and market policies;
- control of ships via a satellite system;
- establishment of the principle of a single net;
- incorporation of a system of sanctions in the national legislations.

In general, the report gave a positive assessment of the Commission proposal, although it had some reservations about certain aspects such as the system of sanctions, calling for the Member States to impose similar sanctions for comparable infringements, and the involvement of the industry in the control system.

Following numerous debates in COREPER, the proposal was submitted to the Council of Fisheries Ministers of 24 and 25 June where a political agreement was finally concluded by a qualified majority, opposed by the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. The Council reduced the scope of the Commission proposal. The regulation in question will be formally adopted in the coming months once COREPER has decided on the final text.

8. P. MARCK (EPP/B)
Doc. A3-0394/92
Adopted: 15 December 1992

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation on the conclusion of the Agreement on relations in the sea fisheries sector between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Morocco and laying down provisions for its application (COM(92) 0296 final - C3-0328/92).⁵

The new fisheries Agreement is set to run for a term of four years; the fishing opportunities are similar to those provided for in the previous agreement, although it provides for a slight increase in the longliner and tuna vessel categories. The average annual cost to the Community budget is ECU 102.1 m (previous protocol: ECU 70.375 m). The conservation measures were increased with the biological recovery periods being extended from one month to two whilst also making it applicable for practically all categories.

⁵ OJ No. L 407, 31.12.1992, Council Regulation 3954/92 of 19 December 1992

9. G. LÜTTGE (S/D)
Doc. A3-0327/92
Adopted: 15 December 1992

Interim report on the negotiations leading to a fisheries agreement between the EEC and the Republic of Namibia.

The aim of an own-initiative report was to set out the basic aspects which the EP felt should be considered at the negotiating table when drafting the final proposal for the agreement.

The EPP Group tabled a significant number of amendments in committee, most of which were adopted, with the aim of achieving a greater balance between fishery and development policy aspects. The draft report clearly omitted the commercial aspects of such a fisheries Agreement.

10. J. VAZQUEZ FOUZ (S/ES)
Doc. A3-423/92
Adopted: 18. December 1992

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation amending for the third time Regulation (EEC) No. 4028/86 on Community measures to improve and adapt structures in the fisheries and aquaculture sector (COM(92) 0425 final C3-0433/92).⁶

The proposal aims to introduce the concept of 'fishing effort' into the basic regulations on structural policy in an attempt to achieve an equilibrium between the capacity of the fishing fleet and the available resources, thus enabling the Member States to take measures to limit the fishing effort of each fleet in accordance with resources and establish objectives for the growth of fishing activities in a balanced and coordinated manner under the multiannual guidance programme.

11. N.A. KOFOED (LDR/DK)
Doc. A3-0012/93
Adopted: 12 February 1993

Report on three Commission proposals for Council regulations on I: the conclusion of the agreement on fisheries between the EEC and the Republic of Estonia, II: the conclusion of the agreement on fisheries between the EEC and the Republic of Latvia and III: the conclusion of the agreement on fisheries between the EEC and the Republic of Lithuania (COM(92) 0431 final - C3-0469 to 0471/92).⁷

⁶ OJ No. L 401, 31.12.1992, Council Regulation 3946/92 of 19 December 1992

⁷ OJ No. L 56, 9.3.1993, Council Regulations 519/93 (Estonia), 520/93 (Latvia) and 521/93 (Lithuania) of 2 March 1993

The republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have shown a keen interest in cooperation with their Nordic and Community neighbours, and joined the Baltic Sea Convention. The three agreements, which are the subject of the three proposals and which are drafted in identical terms, establish the following areas of cooperation:

- the total allowable catch is to be fixed according to the principle of an exchange of quotas or of reciprocal access to common resources with a licence system where necessary;
- common standards for the management of national and trans-border stocks and, possibly, common management of these international stocks;
- financial and technical assistance from the Community for training;
- promotion of joint ventures (except in the case of Estonia).

Unlike most fishing agreements, no actual figures are included in the agreement, leaving the Community and the other parties the option to define them in due course and according to biological prospects.

All the groups supported these agreements.

12. H. A. VERBEEK (V/NL)
Doc. A3-0011/93
Adopted: 12 December 1993

Report on the Commission proposal to the Council concerning the conclusion of the protocol establishing, for the period 1 January 1992 to 30 September 1993, the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Agreement between the EEC and the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique on fisheries relations (COM(92) 0012 final - C3-0085/92).⁸

The proposal concerns renewal of the Protocol which regulates fishing in Mozambican waters. The new protocol provides for the following fishing opportunities: 42 tuna purse seiners (previous protocol: 44) and a catch of 6000 tonnes. The fishing opportunities for shrimp have been abolished. Financial compensation has decreased from ECU 2 150 000 p.a. to ECU 150 000 p.a. (a reduction of 86%). The total annual cost has dropped from ECU 2 925 000 p.a. to ECU 240 000 p.a.

All the political groups supported adoption of this report.

⁸ OJ No. L 64, 16.3.1993, Council Regulation 593/93, of 8 March 1993

13. A. da CUNHA OLIVEIRA (S/PT)
Doc. A3-0013/93
Adopted: 12 February 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation on the conclusion of the Protocol defining, for the period from 3 May 1992 to 2 May 1994, the fishing opportunities and financial compensation provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the People's Republic of Angola on fishing off Angola (COM(92) 0289 final - C3-0325/92).⁹

The new protocol offers the following fishing opportunities:

- shrimp vessels 7 350 GRT/22 vessels/up to 5000 tonnes
- tuna purse seiners 27 vessels
- longliners 5 vessels
- trawlers 5 vessels (demersal fishing).

With regard to the previous protocol, there has been an increase in the tuna vessels and demersal trawlers and a decrease of 500 tonnes in the permitted shrimp catch. The cost to the Community budget is ECU 9 250 000 p.a. with the following breakdown:

- financial compensation ECU 6 950 000 p.a.
- scientific programmes ECU 1 400 000 p.a.
- grants ECU 900 000 p.a.

The fact that there was a 250% increase in the section for scientific and technical programmes deserves mention.

14. J VAZQUEZ FOUZ (S/ES)
Doc. A3-0009/93
Adopted: 12 February 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) No. 3687/91 on the common organization of the market in fishery products and amending Regulation (EEC) No. 2658/87 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff (COM(92)0213 - C3-0292/92).¹⁰

Surimi is a high protein content fish paste which is used as a fish substitute. Demand for surimi and surimi-based products has increased steadily in the past few years so that the Community has become an important net importer of these products. The proposal in question aimed to include surimi and surimi products separately in the CFP establishing specific categories for these products in the appropriate section of the combined nomenclature annexed to Regulation No. 3687/91.

⁹ OJ No. L 64, 16.3.1993, Council Regulation 594/93, of 8 March 1993

¹⁰ OJ No. L 172, 15.7.1993, Council Regulation 1891/93 of 12 July 1993

15. T. J. MAHER (LDR/IRL)
Doc. A3-50/93
Adopted: 12 March 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation on the conclusion of the Protocol defining, for the period 21 May 1992 to 20 May 1995, the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Agreement between the European Community and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar on fishing off Madagascar (COM(92) 0308 final - C3-0335/92).¹¹

The proposal envisages renewal of the protocol for a further three years, fishing opportunities being provided for tuna only, with a decrease in the allowable catch from 12 000 tonnes to 9 000 tonnes as a result of the average actual catch in the last three years of the previous protocol. The number of vessels allowed to operate is 42 freezer tuna vessels and 8 surface longliners (as opposed to 45 tuna vessels in the previous protocol). Financial compensation is reduced proportionately as are Community contributions to scientific programmes and study grants, the average annual cost to the Community budget is ECU 725 000 (as opposed to ECU 1 267 000 in the previous protocol).

All the political groups supported the adoption of this proposal.

16. J. VAZQUEZ FOUZ (S/ES)
Doc. A3-0103/93
Adopted: 21 April 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation setting up specific measures in favour of cephalopod producers permanently based in the Canary Islands (COM(92) 0567 final - C3-0052/93).¹²

Full application of the common fisheries policy has had wide-scale implications for producers in the Canary Islands. The cephalopod sector has been seriously affected with price drops of around 40%. For this reason and as a result of the Council adopting the POSEICAN programme and establishing specific measures for the fisheries sector, aid is granted to maintain competitiveness and improve the cephalopod sector in the Canaries. This aid cannot exceed 2.5% of the value of the corresponding annual production; the annual maximum quantity will be 60 000 tonnes and the total annual expenditure is expected to be ECU 3.87 m, to come from the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF.

The Regulation was adopted at the Council of Ministers meeting of 24 and 25 June.

¹¹ OJ No. L 106, 30.4.1993, Council Regulation 983/93 of 6 April 1993

¹² OJ No. L 185, 28.7.1993, Commission Regulation 2038/93 of 27 July 1993

17. B. LANGENHAGEN (EPP/D)
Doc. A3-0106/93
Adopted: 21 April 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation on the conclusion of the Agreement on Fisheries and the Marine Environment between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Iceland (COM(92) 0531 final - C3-0479/92).¹³

Under the framework of the European Economic Area, a fisheries agreement in the form of an exchange of letters was signed between the EEC and Iceland in Porto on 2 May 1992. According to the provisions of this agreement, an Agreement on Fisheries must be concluded before 31 December 1992. The Agreement was negotiated by the Commission and establishes the principle of systematic compensation, not only with multilateral organizations but also on a bilateral basis; the areas of cooperation include scientific research and the principle of systematic annual consultations for the exchange of quotas. The exchange of quotas has been fixed at 3000 tonnes of redfish for the Community and 30 000 tonnes of capelin for Iceland.

There was general agreement amongst the various political groups.

18. H. McCUBBIN (S/UK)
Doc. A3-0105/93
Adopted: 21 April 1993

Report on two Commission proposals for Council directives: I. the directive introducing Community measures for the control of certain fish diseases (COM(92) 0204 final - C3-0300/92) and II. the directive amending Directive 91/67/EEC concerning the animal health conditions governing the placing on the market of aquaculture animals and products (COM(92) 0458 final - C3-0472/92).¹⁴

The first proposal establishes the minimum controls which the Member States have to impose in the event of an outbreak of one of the diseases listed in the Annex. The second Commission proposal concerns the reclassification of certain fish diseases.

¹³ OJ No. L 161, 2.2.1993, Council Regulation 1737/93 of 24 June 1993

¹⁴ OJ No. L 175, 19.7.1993, Council Directive 93/53 of 24 June 1993 (disease control) and Council Directive 93/54 of 24 June 1993 (health conditions)

19. Oral Question with debate
(Rule 58)
Doc. B3-0155/93
Adopted: 22 April 1993

On the crisis affecting the market in
fishery products.

The EPP Group expressed concern about this matter from the very first moment that the symptoms of this problem became apparent. At the April part-session an oral question with debate was tabled on behalf of the Subcommittee on Fisheries. Following the debate, two motions for resolutions were tabled, one on behalf of the EPP and one on behalf of the Greens. The EPP's motion was adopted in plenary. The motion called on the Commission to reconsider the arrangements governing the functioning of the CMO in the fisheries sector, the extension beyond 30 June of the minimum prices for six species, freezing the opening of new quotas for imports from third countries, the adoption of a definitive regulation on the arrangements for direct landing by third country vessels and economic assistance for those affected by the crisis.

20. M. ARIAS CAÑETE (EPP/ES)
Doc. A3-182/93
Adopted: 22 June 1993

Initial report on a Commission
proposal for a Council regulation
laying down provisions for
implementing Council Regulation (EEC)
No. 2052/88 as regards the Financial
Instrument for Fisheries Guidance
(COM(93) 0124 final - C3-0181/93).

The Council in Edinburgh (11-12 December 1992) agreed to the incorporation of resources for fisheries structural policy into the Structural Funds for the period 1994-1999, with the direct result that an independent financial instrument is needed to enable appropriations allocated to fisheries to be distinguished from those allocated to the Structural Funds. The Commission therefore submitted a proposal in which the two financial instruments for existing fishery structural measures (Fisheries Guidance Fund with 83% of the appropriations outside the Structural Funds and the amount incorporated in the Structural Funds which represented only 17% of the appropriations) were combined in a single fund for the purpose, the 'Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance' (FIFG).

This is a rationalization measure presented in a new budgetary form. The creation of the FIFG is financially neutral with regard to the three Structural Funds; the link with the Funds is achieved through the inclusion of structural measures in the fisheries sector in Objective 5(a), which is of a horizontal nature, together with the agricultural measures, taking Article 43 of the Treaty as the legal basis. Similarly, with the aim of achieving greater economic and social cohesion of the regions which are heavily dependent on fisheries, Objectives 1, 2 and 5 (b) of the Funds will also apply.

21. H. McCUBBIN (S/UK)
Doc. A3-178/93
Adopted: 25 June 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation setting up licensing arrangements for fishing within the regulatory area defined by the NAFO Convention by vessels flying the flag of a Member State or registered at a Community port (COM(92) 0394 final - C3-0386/92).

The main purpose of this proposal is to set up a compulsory system of licensing in this area, the aim being to control fishing activities by restricting the fishing effort. Under the system proposed, the Council would issue licences, and checks would be carried out to ensure that vessels operate only in zones and catch only species for which a licence has been issued. These checks would be carried out in the conventional ways, but also by satellite. The Commission freely admits that the introduction of such a system will lead to a further reduction in legal fishing activities, with all the social and economic consequences that that implies.

The EPP Group tabled a series of amendments, almost all of which were adopted, with the aim of introducing greater flexibility into some of the rigid aspects of the Regulation particularly as regards the system of penalties.

22. P. MARCK (EPP/B)
Doc. A3-181/93
Adopted: 23.06.93

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation on the conclusion of the Agreement on relations in the sea fisheries sector between the European Economic Community and the Argentine Republic (COM(93) 0012 final - C3-0175/93).

The EC-Argentina fisheries agreement is the first to be concluded between the EEC and a Latin American country and the first of the second-generation agreements which provide for the establishment of joint ventures between shipowners from the Community and Argentina. The agreement includes very significant fishing opportunities: 250 000 tonnes with a high commercial value (including 120 000 tonnes of merluccius hubbsi); secondly, the agreement also provides for the transfer of a considerable number of Community vessels through the establishment of joint venture (which will have access to two-thirds of all fishing opportunities); thirdly, the Community, for its part, will grant trade concessions which will benefit supplies to the Community market. The Agreement will run for a five-year term. Finally, the cost is of ECU 162.5 m for the planned term of the agreement (1993-1997) with the following breakdown: Joint ventures and establishment of undertakings ECU 95.4 m, temporary associations ECU 39.1 m and scientific programmes ECU 28.0 m.

The political groups were in favour of conclusion of the agreement although there was some criticism of the high cost to the Community budget.

The Council of Ministers of 24 and 25 June discussed this matter, and charged COREPER with solving the remaining problems concerning the budgetary and financial aspects and the body which would assist the Commission in the implementation of the agreement, with a view to adopting the regulation formally next September.

23. H. VERBEEK (V/NL)
Doc. A3-179/93
Adopted: 12 July 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation (EEC) on the conclusion of the Protocol defining, for the period from 2 October 1992 to 1 October 1994, the fishing rights and financial compensation provided for in the Agreement between the European Community and the Government of the Republic of Senegal on fishing off the coast of Senegal (COM(92) 0449 final - C3-0462/92).

The new protocol provides for the following categories of fishing (the figures in brackets refer to the previous protocol):

- trawlers (inshore demersal fishing): 11 000 GRT (7000)
- trawlers (deep-water demersal species): 18 100 GRT (23600)
- tuna canners : 11 vessels (20)
- tuna seiners : 57 vessels (35)
- surface longliners : 11 vessels (35)
- bottom longliners : 1500 GRT (0).

The cost to the Community budget is ECU 16 000 000 p.a. (15 000 000) with the following breakdown:

- financial compensation: ECU 16 000 000 p.a.
(14 375 000)
- scientific programmes: ECU 300 000 p.a.
(400 000)
- grants ECU 100 000 p.a.
(225 000).

There is thus an annual increase of 6.6%. Special mention must be made of the provision for landings with the aim of promoting the development of local industry, which in the case of tuna were set at 16 000 tonnes with the possibility of raising this figure to 24 000 tonnes.

The report was twice referred back to committee due to the opposition of a number of Members who considered that the Agreement went against Senegalese interests, particularly those of the non-industrial fishing fleet. The EPP group supported the agreement throughout.

24. P. LATAILLADE (RDE/F)
Doc. A3-0180/93
Adopted: 25 June 1993

Report on the Commission proposal to the Council for a regulation on the conclusion of the Protocol defining, for the period from 18 January 1993 to 17 January 1996, the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Seychelles on fishing off Seychelles (COM(93) 0090 final- C3-0156/93).

This is a renewal of the agreement which expired in 1993. The new protocol provides for the following fishing opportunities: 40 tuna seiners (as in the previous protocol) and an unspecified number of tuna trollers and surface tuna longliners not exceeding 18 metres length overall. The cost to the Community budget is ECU 3 300 000 p.a. with the following breakdown:

- financial compensation ECU 2 300 000 p.a.
- scientific programmes 900 000 p.a.
- grants 100 000 p.a.

25. V. GARCIA (LDR/PT)
Doc. A3-0214/93
Adopted: 16 July 1993

Report on the application of the Act of Accession of Spain and Portugal in the fisheries sector (1992 Commission report to the Council and Parliament - (SEC(92) 2340 final - C3-0029/93)).

This is an own-initiative report on the 1992 Report which allows the Council of Ministers to decide on amendments to be introduced to the specific fisheries arrangements for Spain and Portugal in force since the accession of these two Member States to the Community. Any adjustments deemed necessary will have to be adopted by 31 December 1993 but will enter into force on 1 January 1996. The report is in two parts; the first analyses the present situation whilst the second provides guidelines for a possible adjustment of the arrangements of the Act of Accession. The EP report generally supports the guidelines proposed by the Commission as regards the principle of relative stability, the non-discrimination in terms of ships' flags and respect for biological stability and the *acquis communautaire*, taking account of the future enlargement of the Community. In this connection, an amendment by the EPP was adopted establishing the general principle that the fisheries provisions of any future accession arrangements may not be more advantageous than those in force for Spain and Portugal at that time.

The Council of Ministers of June considered that the guidelines for the formal Commission proposals for regulations to be adopted by the Council by the end of 1993 should promote the integration of both Member States into the general regulations of the CFP. The Council felt that the appropriate Commission proposals should reflect the spirit of the new CFP framework, established in Regulation 3760/92, complementing the new Community control arrangements. Finally, it stressed that no adjustment should result in an increase in the current level of fishing activities.

26. M ARIAS CAÑETE (EPP/ES)
Doc. A3-0233/93
Adopted: 14 July 1993

Final report on the Council guideline on the proposal for a Council regulation amending Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2052/88 as regards the Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (7613/1/93 - C3-0256/93)¹⁵

¹⁵ OJ No. L 193, 31.7.1993, Council Regulation 2080/93 of 20 July 1993

This is the second report to be adopted by the EP concerning the FIGG. It was drawn up as a result of the Commission's amendments to its own proposal in view of the vote in the EP at the June part-session. At its meeting of 2 and 3 July, the Council adopted a common position which was followed by a conciliation meeting between the EP, the Commission and the Council on 12 July 1993. The EP report submitted at that time contained two important proposals, one concerning the functions of the FIGG, calling for the inclusion of a new objective aimed at minimizing the social impact of the restructuring measures in the fisheries sector, and the other calling for all future regulations developing the FIGG not to be any more restrictive in terms of basic objectives than the regulations they were replacing, Regulations 4028/86 and 4042/89. The EP unanimously adopted all the amendments tabled by the rapporteur, whilst the Commission only accepted the first two concerning the consultation procedure with the EP.

27. J. VAZQUEZ FOUZ (S/ES)
Doc. A3-204/93
Adopted: 16 July 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for
a Council regulation on harmonizing
various technical measures in
Mediterranean fisheries (COM(92) 0533
final - C3-0027/93).

Following its meeting of 20 November 1990, the Council recognized the need for common arrangements for the preservation and management of fish stocks in the Mediterranean specially adapted to the region. The Commission drew up the basic documents which were then considered by the Council on Fisheries of June 1992, which decided that it would be beneficial to establish a policy of conservation and management for the Mediterranean and, as a first step to harmonize the legislation of the riparian Member States to facilitate the conservation and management of fish stocks, taking due account of the principles and aims of the CFP. For this reason, a compilation and synthesis of over 185 legislative texts and 400 technical standards was drawn up, with the fundamental aspects being grouped in five categories:

- prohibition of certain methods and equipment;
- definition of fishing grounds;
- description of the technical features of equipment;
- setting of minimum mesh size;
- setting of minimum size of catches.

The Council on Fisheries of June 1993 again discussed the issue and called on COREPER to continue to look into certain questions remaining unsettled, such as the granting of transitional periods for certain specific fishing methods and minimum sizes for fish to be marketable, taking due account of the socio-economic consequences which such measures could have for coastal communities and relations with third countries with Mediterranean coastlines or which operate in the Mediterranean.

Carmen FRAGA

COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS

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Coordinator: Calogero LO GIUDICE (I)

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John Joseph McCARTIN (IRL)
Doris Gisela PACK (D)
Peter PRICE (UK)

The 1993 budgetary procedure

On 15 September 1992, the Council presented the 1993 draft budget in the European Parliament.

Horst LANGES (EPP/D)¹ said:

"I have the same views on the Council's draft as our rapporteur and I thank the Commissioner for what he said, which largely coincides with my view: I was going to say this draft budget - but we are already at the Council's first reading - neither takes the necessary political approach nor does it have a sensible overall structure.

Yet it is still early days. That is why I shall not get too heated about it. As with Christopher Marlowe, I am unsure whether I am watching a comedy or a tragedy. I have already said to Sir John today: since I have been a Member of this Parliament for 25 years now I have decided tonight to look at everything more from a comic point of view.

The Council has simply - and it really is awfully easy, Mr Commissioner - deleted ECU 300 m from the structural funds because, it says, Parliament has to add it, since we must after all do what the heads of state said, namely double the structural funds. That is how easy it is! That is how this clear and - we heard today - inspired Council draft is being presented to us here.

¹Debates of the European Parliament, 15.9.1992, p. 100

Well, we shall see. I can only say the following to the Council on behalf of my group: We - I think I may say Parliament - but certainly we Christian Democrats will be very careful during the deliberations, and we will certainly conclude the first reading. We will endeavour to adopt the budget this year."

On 27 October 1992, the European Parliament held its first reading on the 1993 budget at the same time as the '**Notenboom procedure**', i.e. the scrutinizing of spending in the current financial year.

PAM CORNELISSEN (EPP/NL)², rapporteur for the Notenboom procedure, noted the following with regard to implementation of the budget:

"... I think it opportune to consider the implementation of the budget, not primarily the decisions on the budget but on the policy as implemented. Of particular interest is the implementation of the budget items which have been increased by Parliament or introduced as new items. For these items reflect the priorities of this House. In 1991 there were 266 such items. On the spending side the spending on 155 of these items was below 90%. Much was left to be desired particularly in the implementation in policy areas such as energy, the environment and research. ...

On the implementation of the 1992 budget my impression is that the situation is not basically different from that of 1991. ...

First of all, we have an early warning system on agricultural expenditure which works satisfactorily. This early warning system is to be extended to cover the whole budget. ...

Secondly, what we want is the budget to be implemented evenly during the financial year. At the moment it is concentrated on the last few months.

Thirdly, I think it advisable for the parliamentary committees to consider how maximum use can be made of the information produced by the early warning system. It is not enough to discuss the budget once a year in the parliamentary committees.

Fourthly, it is already the end of October, which leaves very little leeway for the implementation of the 1992 budget. ...

On fraud, we are constantly reading reports on frauds involving EEC money. The amounts involved are far from clear but undoubtedly they are considerable. That being the case top priority must be given to combating fraud. Unfortunately the Commission, Council and the Member States are failing to act on this point. I regret their halfhearted attitude to combating fraud. ..."

Pol MARCK (EPP/B)³ reported on food and humanitarian aid to the CIS. He said that special mention should be made of the Commission team which had organized food aid in St. Petersburg and that the approach used there could serve as a model for future operations. The triangular approach of the Commission team at the various stages of transport, supply and distribution of products for specialized firms had produced reliable results.

Edward McMILLAN-SCOTT (EPP/UK)⁴ spoke as draftsman for the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Security, which considered the overall shape of the budget insofar as it affected foreign relations. He said that there was

²Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 57

³Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 54

⁴Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 60

one priority to which the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Security attached great importance, namely democratization and human rights, primarily on our continent but also elsewhere in the world. He hoped that the Council and Commission would pay full respect to Parliament's wishes in this regard. We believed that in the budgetary process it should be made quite clear that the European Parliament stood for democracy and stood for human rights and wished to see human rights policies pursued not just on their continent but elsewhere in the world.

Karla PEIJS (EPP/NL)⁵, rapporteur for the Committee on External Economic Relations, illustrated the situation. The Community was slowly falling into a recession. The United Kingdom knew what that meant because the recession there started some time ago. The Community had a negative trade balance with the whole world except the EFTA countries and a strip of the Mediterranean. The situation with regard to Japan and the United States was frankly alarming. We in the Community were heading towards a textiles disaster in view of the world situation, which she reckoned would produce more than one million unemployed. The electronics industry was in crisis. The automobile sector was in dire straits. The footwear trade was suffering from unbridled imports. The chemicals industry was managing, but for how much longer? Steel was frankly a catastrophe. The coal sector was far from happy and agriculture was uncertain. Small and medium-sized firms were lagging far behind expectations when it came to delivering the goods. The Brussels and particularly national bureaucracies were quite frankly counterproductive with their directives and regulations.

When were the Council and this House going to behave realistically? When were we going to act in accordance with our position as the biggest import and export trade bloc in the world? When were we going to make it possible for ourselves actually to use the instruments available to us on the international scene?

Bartho PRONK (EPP/NL)⁶, rapporteur for the Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and the Working Environment, said that his committee had a number of priorities. The problem of refugees was not merely an external one but also had to be tackled internally in the Community. In addition, emphasis had to be put on a number of sectors of industry which had got into difficulties.

He stressed the importance of 1993 as the Year of the Elderly; it was important 20% of the electorate had sufficient means in their hands to mark the year in an appropriate manner.

Maxime VERHAGEN (EPP/NL)⁷, rapporteur for the Committee on Development and Cooperation, said that it was unthinkable, at a time of appalling hunger in Somalia, the Horn of Africa and Southern Africa, to adopt positions which would mean a cut in the budget available for development cooperation. It was also unimaginable that the Council should enter into commitments, on the one hand, but refuse, on the other, to back up the consequences by making funding available.

With its proposals the Committee on Development Cooperation wished to make good the failures of the Council. That was why it was tabling a number of amendments: saving the tropical forests, a minimum of 10% of the available money for Asia and Latin America set aside for Agenda 21 and a general increase in the budget for environmental programmes in developing countries. Experience in hunger in Africa, among other things, had led them to urge approval of the Commission's proposals for including

⁵Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 61

⁶Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 63

⁷Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 65

a separate chapter for the European Bureau for Humanitarian Emergency Aid.

Calogero LO GIUDICE (EPP/I)⁸, spokesman for the EPP Group, protested against the Council's irrational attitude. He pointed in this connection to the fact that decisions with financial implications taken by the European Council and other Council formations were not implemented because the Budget Council refused to include the necessary monies in the budget. He then said: "We therefore endorse the choices made by Parliament and we hope that the Council will show a capacity for openness and sensitivity towards the new proposals which we are making to ensure a future for the European Community. We are doing so in the conviction that what the European Community spends does not harm taxpayers, but benefits them instead, in so far as this will guarantee the presence of citizens in the great European framework in which national governments, moreover, will make considerable savings - provided, that is, that the Community makes provisions through wide-ranging and very effective policies."

Bryan CASSIDY (EPP/UK)⁹ viewed the Community's financing slightly differently from most Members of the European Parliament. He believed in a measure of self-restraint and thought it Parliament's duty to give some thought to the fact that the money that was spent was not Parliament's but had been provided by the citizens of the Community.

James ELLES (EPP/UK)¹⁰ said that account had to be taken during the budgetary procedure that a settlement was being sought at the end of that procedure which would provide us with a budget for a 12-month period; but in the current context, that meant that we had to establish the priorities we needed for budgetary purposes.

Secondly, we had to look at external priorities to see whether we were capable of financing what was needed in Central and Eastern Europe. If the Community proposed to act in concert, we had to obtain the funding to be able to respond to the demands of those countries outside the Community.

Alain LAMASSOURE (EPP/F)¹¹ noted with regard to aid to Central and Eastern Europe and to the former Soviet Union that Western policy on those countries exhibited a clear lack of coordination. For Central Europe, coordination was managed fairly satisfactorily in the framework of the PHARE programme by the Commission. With regard to the former Soviet Union, the aid process was very different. A ridiculous form of diplomatic rivalry had divided partners into four camps: the United States and the organizations in which the US ran the show, the Community institutions, the EBRD and, lastly, the Member States of the European Community, which seemed to make it a point of honour not to inform the Commission of the bilateral aid they provided to those countries.

Reinhold BOCKLET (EPP/D)¹² examined the cuts which the Council had made in the are of agricultural expenditure and the control thereof. He said: "We have reinstated the funds the Commission proposed and the Council cut in the fields of sugar, olive oil, milk and measures to combat fraud, where the Council most surprisingly reduced the appropriations at a time when there is a long report before the Court of Auditors describing a

⁸Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 69

⁹Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 76

¹⁰Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 77

¹¹Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 79

¹²Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 80

whole range of fraud cases. We cannot understand why, if so much money is being spent on agriculture anyway, the appropriations for combating fraud are being cut."

Giuseppe MOTTOLA (EPP/I)¹³ said that the failure to adjust Structural Fund appropriations in line with inflation from 1987 to 1992, resulting in a loss of no less than 31% for Community support structures, and the absence of two mechanisms for improving and making it easier to control the effectiveness of Community investment with regard to the aim of social and economic cohesion was again jeopardizing the effectiveness of a policy of synergy between the Funds and direct action by the Member States.

Joe McCARTIN (EPP/IRL)¹⁴ said that the size of the budget was about 1% of GNP. When we heard all the talk about transfers, about economic and social cohesion, about rich countries' contributions, about who was paying for the Community, he thought that in the mind of the ordinary citizen it was grossly exaggerated, given the resources available: just 1% of GNP. That year alone, Germany was spending much more money on the six new Länder than the entire Community was on financing all its policies.

Leopoldo ORTIZ CLIMENT (EPP/ES)¹⁵ said that at a time when GATT negotiations were trying to exert as much pressure as possible on the Commission for electoral reasons, which was completely unacceptable vis-à-vis farmers in Europe, there was still more reason to be consistent in drawing up the budget which Parliament would ultimately approve in order to protect the countryside, agriculture and agricultural products, as well as fisheries.

Georgios ZAVVOS (EPP/GR)¹⁶ said that that year's budget aimed to promote economic growth. For that reason, we placed the emphasis on the resources for the trans-European networks, in particular on investment in transport and the environment. For that there was the LIFE programme and a series of other programmes, such as PETRA, THERMIE and FORCE.

He was particularly pleased at the decision of the Committee on Budgets to restore monies concerning architectural heritage. Money would therefore become available for the conservation of the Acropolis and the historic monasteries on the Holy Mountain of Athos.

Carlos ROBLES PIQUER (EPP/ES)¹⁷ said that, in view of the crisis we were in, the margin at Parliament's disposal was simply ridiculous, forcing Parliament to make use of budget headings with token entries, and we found that entirely unsatisfactory. That was indeed so unsatisfactory that, if the Council failed to allocate to the Cohesion Fund the funding requested by the Commission, it was very likely that the Spanish People's Party delegation in that Parliament would feel obliged, at second reading, to propose that the budget be rejected and to ask their colleagues to do likewise.

¹³Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 80

¹⁴Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 81

¹⁵Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 81

¹⁶Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 81

¹⁷Debates of the European Parliament, 27.10.1992, p. 82

Diemut THEATO (EPP/D)¹⁸ said that the European Parliament had not been prepared to adopt a rump budget. The Council of Ministers for Budgetary and Financial Affairs had left the final decision to the Edinburgh Summit. The proposals made just before that summit had originally not sounded exactly encouraging. But Edinburgh had pulled off something which hardly anyone had expected. By going beyond the resources approved by the Ministers for Finance and Budgetary Affairs, the European Council had opened up new prospects in significant areas. It had raised the maximum rate of increase and had accepted the amount called for by Parliament for the Cohesion Fund.

The decisions at first and second reading by the EP

On 29 October 1992, the European Parliament voted on the budget and adopted the following decisions, which were only partially accepted by the Council at its second reading.

The EP increased compulsory agricultural expenditure by ECU 385 000 000. The Council refused to accept that increase and, since it has the final word in this regard, the European Parliament was unable to adopt the proposed increase at its second reading.

In the area of non-compulsory expenditure, the EP took two separate decisions:

1. An increase within the margin, as provided for in Article 203 of the EEC Treaty, of ECU 1 089 873 000. That margin was not contested by the Council;
2. An increase of ECU 3 029 000 000 for expenditure which, according to the Commission's proposals, was necessary under the Delors II package. For that expenditure, however, it was necessary to reach agreement with the Council in order to raise the maximum rate of increase.

The increase of ECU 1 098 873 000 in non-compulsory expenditure within the margin

That increase broke down as follows:

1. Structural policy expenditure: ECU 485 500 000
The agreement on the internal market required the Structural Funds to be doubled in 1993. That was the condition laid down by Spain, Portugal, Greece and Ireland for their consent to the internal market treaty (the Single Act).

According to Commission and EP calculations, an increase of ECU 430 000 000 was therefore necessary.

- (a) ECU 300 000 000, which had been cut by the Council;
- (b) ECU 130 000 000, which, in 1990, had been borrowed from the Structural Funds for agricultural guarantee purposes in connection with the grubbing up of vines;
- (c) Expenditure for fisheries structures ECU 40 000 000
Expenditure for programmes for peripheral regions ECU 10 500 000
Community programmes ECU 5 000 000

¹⁸ Debates of the European Parliament, 15.12.1992, p. 84

The explanatory memorandum in connection with the Structural Funds contains a comment that ECU 130 000 000 is intended for KONVER, a programme for regions in which, as a result of what fortunately is strongly declining demand because of developments in the East, the arms industry has to be converted to civil applications.

2. Increase of ECU 408 024 000 in other structural expenditure in the field of transport, social spending, research and the environment, etc.

The most important items are:

- Retraining of customs officials	ECU 30 000 000
- Education and youth	ECU 58 083 000
- Other social measures	ECU 92 710 000
- Energy	ECU 33 882 000
- Research	ECU 135 000 000
- Environment	ECU 9 200 000
- Consumer protection	ECU 8 200 000

3. Development aid

This concerns an increase of: ECU 171 000 000

- Cooperation with Latin America and Asia:	ECU 64 000 000
- Other development aid:	ECU 161 000 000

This was to be partly financed from an ECU 80 000 000 cut in aid to the CIS states and Eastern and Central Europe. However, this ECU 80 000 000 was reinstated in the amendments concerning the Delors II package.

4. Various agricultural expenditure ECU 10 000 000
for the marketing of high-quality products

5. Miscellaneous ECU 24 873 000

At its second reading, the Council rejected nearly all of these amendments. At its second reading, consequently, the European Parliament reinstated the amendments en bloc in the budget.

An increase of ECU 3 029 000 000 in expenditure outside the margin

This concerned expenditure proposed in the Delors II package arising from:

- the Treaty of Maastricht
- commitments in the research field
- international obligations previously entered into

1. Cohesion Fund ECU 1 565 000 000

Spain, Portugal, Greece and Ireland had made this the key condition for signing the Treaty of Maastricht.

This expenditure was required in order to attain the necessary convergence between economies on the road to Monetary Union. According to those Member States, this transfer in a spirit of solidarity should total ECU 10 000 000 000 for the period 1993-1997.

2. Internal policies ECU 935 500 000

To secure an improved competitive position on the world market for the European Community, it was necessary to add the following expenditure to the budget:

- Industrial policy	ECU	200 000 000
- European networks	ECU	130 000 000
- Framework research programme	ECU	400 000 000
- High-Definition Television (HDTV)	ECU	170 000 000

3. External policy ECU 509 000 000

With an eye to international political developments, the European Community had to add the following expenditure to the budget:

- Reserve for humanitarian aid	ECU	209 000 000
- Eastern and Central Europe and	ECU	135 000 000
- Development aid	ECU	65 000 000
- Other development aid	ECU	100 000 000

4. Administration

At its second reading, the Council had rejected these amendments en bloc. Following the Edinburgh European Council, however, the Council was prepared to negotiate with the European Parliament on incorporating part of this "expenditure outside the margin" into the budget. An agreement was reached on adding the following expenditure "outside the margin":

1. Cohesion Fund	ECU	1 565 000 000
2. Internal policy	ECU	325 000 000
3. External policy	ECU	130 000 000
4. Emergency aid	ECU	209 000 000
5. Peripheral regions	ECU	8 000 000
6. Administrative expenditure	ECU	8 400 000

On 17 December 1992, following this agreement, the European Parliament adopted the 1993 budget, involving ECU 69 056 000 000 in commitment appropriations and ECU 65 503 000 000 in payment appropriations.

Jan WESTENBROEK

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY AFFAIRS AND INDUSTRIAL POLICY

I. Members

of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy

II. Introduction

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1. The general economic situation
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3. Economic and Monetary Union
4. Industrial policy
5. Completion of the internal market
 - (a) general
 - (b) administrative
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I. Members of the EPP Group on the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy

Chairman
Vice-Chairman
Coordinator
Deputy Coordinator

Bouke BEUMER (NL)
Ben PATTERSON (UK)
Fernand HERMAN (B)
Gabriele SBOARINA (I)

Members

Peter BEAZLEY (UK)
Georges DE BREMOND D'ARS (F)
(since June 93)
Ingo FRIEDRICH (D)
(Valéry GISCARD D'ESTAING (F)
until June 93)
André FOURCANS (F)
Karsten HOPPENSTEDT (D)
Christopher JACKSON (UK)
Astrid LULLING (L)
Friedrich MERZ (D)
Filippos PIERROS (GR)
Joaquin SISO CRUELLAS (E)
Marianne THYSSEN (B)
Karl VON WOGAU (D)

Substitutes

Pierre BERNARD-REYMOND (F)
Ursula BRAUN-MOSER (D)
Bryan CASSIDY (UK)
Sir Fred CATHERWOOD (UK)
Patrick COONEY (IRL)
Joachim DALSSASS (I)
Giulio Cesare GALLENZI (I)
Erhard JAKOBSEN (DK)
Gerd Ludwig LEMMER (D)
Calogero Lo Giudice (I)
Giuseppe MOTTOLA (I)
Leopoldo ORTIZ CLIMENT (E)
Karla PEIJS (NL)
G. QUISTHOUDT-ROWOHL (D)
Georgios SARIDAKIS (GR)
John STEVENS (UK)

Observer: Stanislaw TILLICH

II. Introduction

Since the single European market came into effect on 1 January 1993, completion of the internal market has no longer been the key issue for the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy, even though the committee has been involved with a large number of individual regulations of a technical nature on harmonization and the removal of physical, fiscal and administrative barriers.

The main areas of political controversy in economic policy during the period under review were the traditional regulatory areas concerning competition policy and the competitive ability of Europe's industry. This in turn indicates the other area of concern: the difficult economic situation in the Community, the fundamental structural crisis of industry (productivity crisis) and relations between industry and the new trading partners in Central and Eastern Europe since the political upheavals have not only been visible but have caused individual sectors considerable problems.

The reconversion of major sectors of crucial importance in macro-economic terms and, since the end of the 'Cold War', the lack of defence contracts in the mechanical engineering, aerospace and motor manufacturing sectors etc. has forced firms in those sectors to cease production or to change to alternative forms of production, and sectoral industrial policy has become an area of greater importance in debates within the committee. Examples of this are the discussions on the particular problems in ship-building, the steel industry, motor manufacturing and the aerospace industry.

The subcommittee on monetary affairs concentrated on the formal and constitutional conditions for transition in 1994 to Phase II of European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) and on matters which had arisen during Phase I of EMU.

One of the main items of debate in this context has been the convergence programmes of the Member States and the annual report of the President of the Committee of Governors of Central Banks.

In macro-economic terms, the serious problems of the competitive ability of our industry are likely to be one of the key issues for the committee in the coming year.

The lack of investments, zero growth, job losses and the recession affecting almost all Member States in equal measure are forcing the Member States to adopt a joint approach to the problems. What has become evident from the European internal market is that attempts to go it alone economically have very limited prospects of success. Competition to devalue can affect the relative foreign trade position of individual Member States only in the very short term, and improvements in terms of trade do not strengthen economic productivity.

Hence, in the coming year the report on the economic situation in the Community, the monitoring of national convergence programmes and the increase in 'multilateral surveillance' will be of particular importance for the committee.

An expert approach to these problems within the European Parliament will be of fundamental importance for the Member States, too.

III. List of texts adopted in plenary

1. The general economic situation

Bouke BEUMER (EPP/NL)

A3-0006/93
adopted on 22.1.93

Minutes, PE 163.896

Review of the facility providing
medium-term financial assistance for
Member States' balances of payments
SEC(92) 2175

Alman METTEN (PES/NL)

A3-0078/93
adopted on 12.3.93

Minutes, PE 170.289

Report on the Annual Report of the
Commission for 1993
COM(93) 0044 final - C3-0102/93

Barry DESMOND (PSE/IRL)

A3-0079/93/rev.
adopted on 12.3.93

Minutes, PE 170. 289

Membership of the European Investment
Fund
COM(93) 0003 - C3-0037/93

Joint motion for a resolution by the
PES and EPP Groups

B3-0668 and B3-0774/93
adopted on 26.5.93

Minutes, PE 171.253

Preparations for the Copenhagen
European Council on 21 and 22 June

Joint motion for a resolution by the
following Members: FORD (PES),
HERMANN (EPP), DE CLERCQ (LDR)
(B3-0947, 0949, 0951/93)
adopted on 24.6.93

The Copenhagen European Council on 21
and 22 June

Joint motion for a resolution by the
following Members: RAGGIO (PES),
PIERROS (EPP), AMARAL (LDR), NIANIAS
(LDR)
adopted on 24.6.93

Economic and social cohesion

Minutes, PE 173.751

DRESDEN II - Conference

7 and 8 June 93, organized jointly by
the Economic Affairs and Social
Affairs committees

Elmar BROK (EPP/D) / Alan John
DONNELLY (PES/UK)

A3-0230/93
adopted on 15.7.93

Minutes, PE 174.419

Report on the Community response to
the economic and social crisis in the
new German Länder

2. Competitiveness

Brigitte ERNST DE LA GRAETE
(V/B), Rule 63
A3-0343/92
adopted on 17.11.92

Minutes, PE 162.993

Report on the environment and competitiveness

Carles-Alfred GASOLIBA I BÖHM
(LDR/ES)
A3-0353/92
adopted on 18.11.92

Minutes, PE 162.994

Report on the statistical units for the observation and analysis of the production system in the European Community
COM(92) 0353 final - C3-0397/92

Second reading on 10.2.93
A3-0035/93 - C3-0008/93

Minutes, PE 170.124

Carles-Alfred GASOLIBA I BÖHM
(LDR/ES)
A3-0346/92
adopted on 18.12.92

Minutes, PE 163.455

Report on the Commission's XXIst Report on Competition Policy
SEC(92) 0756 - C3-0201/92

Lyndon HARRISON (PES/UK)
A3-0347/92
adopted on 18.12.92

Minutes, PE 163.455

Report on application of Community competition policy in the insurance sector
COM(92) 0383 - C3-0403/92

Joint motion for a resolution by Mr MERZ and Mrs OOMEN-RUIJTEN (EPP) and the PES Group
B3-0183/93 and B3-0216/93
adopted on 12.2.93

Minutes, PE 170.126

The service sector in the single market

Carles-Alfred GASOLIBA I BÖHM
(LDR/ES)
A3-0114/93
adopted on 20.4.93

Minutes, PE 170.811

Report on the Commission's proposals for multiannual programmes (1993 - 1996 and 1994 - 1997) for SMEs (COM(92) 0470 - C3-0097/93 and C3-0098/93) and the role of mutual guarantee systems in the financing of SMEs in the European Community
SEC(91) 1550 final

Public hearing on 27.4.93

'Public enterprises'

3. Economic and Monetary Union

Joint motion for a resolution by the following Members: COT (PES), COLAJANNI (GUE), BOURLANGES and others (EPP), GALLAND (LDR), OREJA AGUIRRE (Institutional Affairs Committee)
B3-1320, 1323, 1325, 1326/RC1
adopted on 14.10.92

Minutes, PE 161.946

Motion for a resolution by the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy
B3-1491/92
adopted on 30.10.92

Minutes, PE 161.996

Pedro BOFILL ABEILHE (PES/ES)
A3-0029/93
adopted on 12.2.93

Minutes, PE 170.126

Public hearing on 7.10.92

4. Industrial policy

Joint motion for a resolution by the following Members: COT (PES), TINDEMANS (EPP), DE LA MALENE (RDE)
B3-1445, 1455, 1483/92 RC
Adopted on 29.10.92

Minutes, PE 161.995

Gérard CAUDRON (PES/F)
A3-0350/92
adopted on 19.11.92

Minutes, PE 162.995

Joaquin SISO CRUELLAS (EPP/ES)
A3-0321/92
adopted on 20.11.92

Minutes, PE 162.996

Joint motion for a resolution by the following Members: METTEN, DURY, ROUMELIOTIS (PES), VON WOGAU, PEIJS (EPP), SPECIALE, PORRAZZINI (GUE), GUILLAUME (RDE)

Resolution on the state of European Union and ratification of the Maastricht Treaty

Resolution on the prospects for EMS and EMU

Cross-border payments in the context of Economic and Monetary Union

'Payment systems'

Resolution on the European steel industry

Report on the Action Plan for the introduction of advanced television services in Europe
COM(92) 0154 final - C3-230/92

Report on trans-European networks in the telecommunications domain
COM(92) 0015 final - C3-0098/92

Resolution on aspects of the Community's industrial policy

B3-1719, 1786, 1753, 1779/92 RC
adopted on 17.12.92

Minutes, PE 163.454

Gérard FUCHS (PES/F)
A3-0398/92
adopted on 17.12.92

Minutes, PE 163.454

Report on exports of certain dual-use goods and technologies and of certain nuclear products and technologies
COM(92) 0317 final - C3-0381/92

Karsten Friedrich HOPPENSTEDT (EPP/D)
A3-0344/92
adopted on 19.1.93

Minutes, PE 163.898

Report on satellite communications
COM(90) 0490 final

Mel READ (PES/UK)
A3-0064/93
adopted on 10.3.93

Minutes, PE 170.287

Report on the application of open network provision (ONP) to voice telephony
COM(92) 247 final - C3-0376/92

Joint motion for a resolution by the following Members: SPECIALE, METTEN (PES), VON WOGAU (EPP), VON WECHMAR (LDR)
B3-389, 406, 415/93 /RC1
adopted on 12.3.93
Minutes, PE 170.289

Resolution on the European iron and steel industry

Karsten Friedrich HOPPENSTEDT (EPP/D)
A3-0154/93
adopted on 26.5.93

Minutes, PE 171.253

Report on satellite station equipment
COM(92) 0451 - C3-0031/93

Fernand HERMAN (EPP/B)
A3-0144/93
adopted on 25.5.93

Minutes, PE 171.252

Report on common information technology security evaluation criteria
COM(92) 0298 final - C3-0383/92

Roberto SPECIALE (PES/I)
A3-0123/93
adopted on 21.4.93

Minutes, PE 170.813

Report on the Commission communications on 'Towards a European market in subcontracting' and 'SME participation in public procurement in the Community'
SEC(91) 1286 and SEC(92) 0722

Alan John DONNELLY (PES/UK)
A3-0111/93
adopted on 21.4.93

Minutes, PE 170.813

Report on new challenges for maritime industries

Alman METTEN (PES/NL)
Motion for a resolution B3-0604/93

Motion for a resolution on the HDTV strategy of the European Community

adopted on 21.4.93

Minutes, PE 170.813

Enzo MATTINA (PES/I)

A3-0117/93

adopted on 20.4.93

Minutes, PE 170.811

Report on the Commission communication on 'Towards cost orientation and the adjustment of pricing structures - telecommunications tariffs in the Community'
SEC(92) 1050 final - C3-0356/92

Joaquin SISO CRUELLAS (EPP/ES)

A3-0113/93

adopted on 20.4.93

Minutes, PE 170.811

Report on the Commission communication concerning the 1992 review of the situation in the telecommunications services sector
SEC(92) 1048

5. Completion of the internal market

5(a) general

Pierre LATAILLADE (RDE/F)

A3-0291/92

adopted on 29.10.92

Minutes, PE 161.995

Report on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to lifts
COM(92) 0035 final - C3-0086/92

Peter BEAZLEY (EPP/UK)

A3-0313/92

adopted on 29.10.92

Minutes, PE 161.995

Report on the braking of 2 and 3-wheel motor vehicles
COM(91) 0496 final - C3-0095/92

Second reading on 10.2.93

A3-0032/93 - C3-0013/93

Minutes, PE 170.124

Peter BEAZLEY (EPP/UK)

A3-0314/92

adopted on 29.10.92

Minutes, PE 161.995

Report on lighting and light-signalling devices on 2 or 3-wheel motor vehicles
COM(91) 0498 final - C3-0093/92

Peter BEAZLEY (EPP/UK)

A3-0315/92

adopted on 29.10.92

Minutes, PE 161.995

Report on the mechanical coupling devices of motor vehicles
COM(92) 0108 final - C3-0196/92

Filippos PIERROS (EPP/GR)

A3-0292/92

adopted on 29.10.93

Minutes, PE 161.995

Report on the supervision and placing on the market of explosives for civil uses and the mutual recognition of authorizations and approvals relating to such explosives
COM(92) 0123 final - C3-0211

Second reading on 10.3.93
A3-0061/93 - C3-0006/93

Minutes, PE 170.287

Ursula BRAUN-MOSER (EPP/D)
A3-0282/92
adopted on 28.10.92

Minutes, PE 161.994

Recommendation on adoption of a directive on the external projections forward of the cab's rear panel of motor vehicles of category N
C3-0286/92

Pierre LATAILLADE (RDE/F)
A3-0334/92
adopted on 18.11.92

Minutes, PE 162.994

Report on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to recreational craft
COM(92) 0141 final - C3-0217/92

Bouke BEUMER (EPP/NL)
A3-0150/93 - C3-0166/93
adopted on 26.5.93

Minutes, PE 171.253

Recommendation concerning protective devices intended to prevent the unauthorized use of 2 or 3-wheel motor vehicles
COM(92) 0334 - C3-0406/92

Bouke BEUMER (EPP/NL)
A3-0151/93
adopted on 26.5.93

Minutes, PE 171.253

Recommendation concerning statutory markings for 2 or 3-wheel motor vehicles
COM(92) 0336 - C3-0411/92

Bouke BEUMER (EPP/NL)
A3-0098/93 - C3-108/93
adopted on 21.4.93

Minutes, PE 170.813

Recommendation on stands for 2-wheel motor vehicles
COM(92) 0333 - C3-0412/92 (first reading on 18.11.92)

Bouke BEUMER (EPP/NL)
A3-0099/93 - C3-108/93
adopted on 21.4.93

Minutes, PE 170.813

Recommendation on passenger hand-holds on 2-wheel vehicles
COM(92) 0337 - C3-0413/92 (first reading on 18.11.92)

Bouke BEUMER (EPP/NL)
A3-0097/93 - C3-107/93
adopted on 21.4.93

Minutes, PE 170.813

Recommendation on audible warning devices for 2 or 3-wheel motor vehicles
COM(92) 03332 - C3-0424 (first reading on 18.11.92)

Two procedures without report
adopted on 18.11.92

Minutes, PE 162.994

- Masses and dimensions of 2 and 3-wheel motor vehicles
COM(92) 0330 - C3-0425/92

- The mounting of the rear registration plate of 2 or 3-wheel motor vehicles
COM(92) 0335 - C3-0427/92

Bouke BEUMER (EPP/NL)
A3-0096/93 - C3-0106/93

Recommendation on the identification

adopted on 21.4.93
Minutes, PE 170.813

of controls, telltales and indicators
for 2 or 3-wheel motor vehicles
COM(92) 0331 - C3-0443/92 (first
reading on 18.11.92)

Ejner Hovgård CHRISTIANSEN (NI/DK)
A3-0033/93
adopted on 10.2.93

Recommendation on the approximation
of laws relating to machinery
C3-0012/93

Minutes, PE 170.124

Peter BEAZLEY (EPP/UK)
A3-0031/93
adopted on 11.2.93

Second report (first report was
referred back to the committee on
29.10.92) on the maximum design
speed, maximum torque and maximum net
engine power of 2 or 3-wheel motor
vehicles
COM(91) 0497 final - C3-0094/92

Minutes, PE 170.125

Ejner Hovgård CHRISTIANSEN (NI/DK)
A3-0189/93
adopted on 23.6.93

Report on personal protective
equipment
COM(92) 0421 final - C3-0053/93

Minutes, PE 173.750

5(b) administrative

Bouke BEUMER (EPP/NL)
A3-0281/92
adopted on 28.10.92

Recommendation on the adoption of a
directive concerning the award of
public works contracts (Codification)
C3-0285/92

Minutes, PE 161.994

Second reading on 20.1.93
A3-0002/93

Minutes, PE 163.894

Procedure without report
adopted on 29.10.92

Public works contracts - proposal for
a Council directive amending
Directive 71/305/EEC concerning the
coordination of procedures for the
award of public works contracts
COM(92) 0345 - C3-0350/92

Minutes, PE 161.995

Alan John DONNELLY (PES/UK)
A3-0335/92
adopted on 19.11.92

Report on transit statistics and
storage statistics relating to the
trading of goods between Member
States
COM(92) 0097 - C3-0209

Minutes, PE 162.993

Second reading on 10.2.93
A3-0034/93 - C3-0007/93

Minutes, PE 170.124

Christopher JACKSON (EPP/UK)
A3-0333/92
adopted on 20.11.92
Minutes, PE 162.996

Report on measures to adapt the profession of customs agents to the internal market
COM(92) 0328 final - C3-0345/92

Gérard FUCHS (PES/F)
A3-0373/92
adopted on 20.11.92
Minutes, PE 162.996

Report on introducing simplification measures
COM(92) 0448 final - C3-438/92

Bouke BEUMER (EPP/NL)
Motion for a resolution B3-1675/92 on behalf of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy
adopted on 18.12.92
Minutes, PE 163.455

Motion for a resolution on telecommunications frequency bands
(Rule 41(4), Rules of Procedure)

Bouke BEUMER (EPP/NL)
A3-0039/93
adopted on 10.2.93
Minutes, PE 170.124

Report (Rule 116(2)) on coordinating procedures for the award of public supply contracts
COM(92) 0346 final - C3-348/92

Second reading on 26.5.93
A3-0143/93 - C3-0168/93
Minutes, PE 171.253

Gérard CAUDRON (PES/F)
A3-0084/93
adopted on 10.3.93
Minutes, PE 170.287

Report on the conformity assessment procedures and on arrangements for affixing and using the EC conformity marking
COM(92) 0499 final - C3-0038/93, C3-0039/93

Second reading on 14.7.93
A3-0218/93

Enzo MATTINA (PES/I)
A3-0110/93
adopted on 21.4.93
Minutes, PE 170.813

Recommendation on coordinating procurement procedures of entities operating in the water, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors
COM(92) 0292 - C3-0011/93

Bryan CASSIDY (EPP/UK)
A3-0087/93
adopted on 21.4.93
Minutes, PE 170.813

Report on the statistical classification of products by activity in the Community
COM(92) 0325 - C3-0344/92

Filippos PIERROS (EPP/GR)
A3-0153/93
adopted on 26.5.93
Minutes, PE 171.253

Report on the procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical standards and regulations
COM(92) 0491 final - C3-0481/93

Dieter ROGALLA (PES/D)
A3-0160/93
adopted on 26.5.93
Minutes, PE 171.253

Report on the action programme for the vocational training of indirect taxation officials (Matthaeus-tax)
COM(92) 0550 - C3-0028/93

Magdalene HOFF (PES/D)
A3-0095/93
adopted on 25.5.93
Minutes, PE 171.252

Report on the framework programme for priority actions in the field of statistical information (1993-1997)
COM(92) 0395 - C3-0385/92

5(c) fiscal

Ben PATTERSON (EPP/UK)
A3-0374/92
adopted on 20.11.92
Minutes, PE 162.996

Report on the general arrangements for products subject to excise duty and on the holding, movement and monitoring of such products
COM(92) 0426 final - C3-0437/92

Ingo FRIEDRICH (EPP/D)
A3-0424/92
adopted on 19.1.93
Minutes, PE 163.893

Report on turnover taxes - amendment of Directive 77/388/EEC and 89/465/EEC
COM(92) 0215 final

Lyndon HARRISON (PES/UK)
A3-0427/92
adopted on 21.1.93
Minutes, PE 163.895

Report on amending value added tax applicable to passenger transport
COM(92) 0416

5(d) technical

Ben PATTERSON (EPP/UK)
A3-0417/92
adopted on 18.12.92
Minutes, PE 163.455

Report on the seventh report on completion of the internal market
COM(92) 0383 - C3-0403/92

Juan José de la CAMARA MARTINEZ (PES/ES)/Dieter ROGALLA (PES/D)
A3-0401/92
adopted on 18.12.92
Minutes, PE 163.455

Report on the necessary follow-up to the 1992 internal market programme

Pierre LATAILLADE (RDE/F)
A3-0088/93
adopted on 21.4.93
Minutes, PE 170.813

Recommendation with a view to the adoption of a directive concerning medicinal devices
C3-0105/93

Stefan PFITZNER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON MONETARY AFFAIRS

I. Members of the Subcommittee on Monetary Affairs

II. Introduction

III. Overview of reports adopted in the Plenary and other activities

I. EPP members of the Subcommittee on Monetary Affairs

Vice-chairmen

Georgios SARIDAKIS (GR)
Karl von WOGAU (D)

Members

(Valéry GISCARD D'ESTAING (F),
until June 1993)
André FOURÇANS
Fernand HERMAN (B)
Ben PATTERSON (GB)

Substitutes

Bouke BEUMER (NL)
Ingo FRIEDRICH (D)
Christopher JACKSON (GB)
Gabriele SBOARINA (I)

II. Introduction

In accordance with its terms of reference the Subcommittee on Monetary Affairs has given particular attention this year to the conditions required for implementation of the monetary provisions of the Maastricht Treaty.

It accordingly examined in turn the convergence programmes drawn up by the Netherlands, Italy, Greece and Belgium.

In November 1992 a two-day public hearing on the role of the ECU during the three stages of EMU led the subcommittee to come to some conclusions particularly as regards the need to increase the credibility of the ECU market by adopting a clear political commitment to the third stage, the desirability of new institutional initiatives to promote the ECU and the importance of all currencies returning to the EMS.

Since September 1992 the subcommittee's work has also focused on the causes of the most serious crisis which the EMS has ever experienced since it was set up and possible remedies for it. Constructive exchanges of views were held on this point with the former German chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, with J.-L. Trichet, Chairman of the Monetary Committee, J.-J. Rey, Chairman of the Committee of Governors of the Central Banks, Jens Thomsen of the Danish Ministry for the Economy and Mr Christophersen and Mr Bangemann, Members of the European Commission.

III. Reports adopted in Plenary

Christa RANDZIO-PLATH (PSE/D)

A3-0392/92

Adopted on 17.12.1992

Minutes PE 163.454

Report on the first Annual Report of the activities of the Committee of Governors of the Central Banks
C3-0212/92

Ben PATTERSON (EPP/GB)

A3-0213/93

Adopted on

Minutes PE 174.419

Report on the second Annual Report 1992 of the activities of the Committee of Governors of the Central Banks and on the monetary and financial conditions in the Community
C3-0170/93

Public hearing on 4 and 5 November 1992

Title of the hearing: 'The role of the ECU'

Christine DETOURBET

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

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Coordinator: Carlos ROBLES PIQUER (ES)

Deputy Coordinator: Filippos PIERROS (GR)

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<u>G. RINSCHÉ (D)</u>	<u>A. LAMASSOURE (F)</u>
<u>C. ROBLES PIQUER (ESP)</u>	<u>G.B. PATTERSON (UK)</u>
<u>Ch. F. ROVSING (DK)</u>	<u>G. SBOARINA (I)</u>
<u>B. SÄLZER (D)</u>	<u>A.E. TURNER (UK)</u>
<u>M. SELIGMAN (UK)</u>	<u>J.L. VALVERDE LOPEZ (ES)</u>

1. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH

The research and technological development sector, on which economic development and hence competition at world level depends, is influenced by a number of factors, the most important of which are costs and the transfer of research results to industry.

With regard to costs, we should bear in mind that the challenges from other parts of the world, especially the United States and Japan but also - no less significant - from the emerging countries of Eastern Asia, often require investments which are beyond the capacity of the individual Member States.

Research sectors such as semiconductors - on which the information technology market is based - aerospace technologies, new industrial technologies and research into new energy sources and biotechnologies need a substantial research effort in terms of both human and financial resources.

The transfer of research results to industry is becoming increasingly important for the survival of a European industry which is competitive at world level. However there cannot be a profitable transfer of research results if businesses do not occupy enough of the market to be able to bear the costs.

All these barriers, be they research costs, development costs, the size of markets or challenges from other parts of the world, may be overcome by means of decisive Community action with clear and practical objectives.

An initial response has been provided by the Maastricht Treaty, which lays down a procedure and a series of rules common to all Community research measures, which should facilitate and improve coordination of research.

Furthermore, the launching of the Fourth Community Framework Programme for research and technological development for the period 1994-1998 should ensure:

- an improvement in the economic and social impact of research activities. This should be achieved by developing technologies which may be used in a number of applications and by encouraging the dissemination and exploitation of results, inter alia by means of the establishment of 'relay' centres and European facilities for the dissemination and exploitation of results.
- the revival of international cooperation. Since many activities are already carried out in cooperation with third countries, the task of the Fourth Framework Programme will be to rationalize Community measures by means of unified coordination.
- the integration of research efforts in Europe. An important step towards the creation of the European Union was the introduction of the principle of subsidiarity, or the principle whereby the Community intervenes only when the Member States either for financial reasons or for reasons of scale and organization cannot carry out their tasks alone.

The principle of subsidiarity, which is therefore to be understood as Community assistance in solving national problems which have a Community dimension, applies to the research sector in which, on the one hand, there is a major commitment on the part of the Twelve Member States in twelve national R & D programmes and, on the other, Community action covering all those programmes which require a joint effort.

Since the principle of subsidiarity, as applied to research, presupposes adequate acquaintance with the tasks and duties of the individual countries and of the Community, the Fourth Framework Programme will take the opportunity to coordinate and bring together all the research being carried out in Europe in the context of national programmes, Community programmes and EUREKA, as well as that being carried out by the various European scientific cooperation organizations (ESA, CERN, EMBO, etc.)

In this context we should mention the report which the Committee on Research has decided to draw up on the guidelines for the Fourth Framework Programme pending official consultation by the Council of Ministers.

The report, which is to be drawn up by Mr R. Linkohr (D,S), highlights, among other things, the need to have a broader financial base and to focus attention on programmes with a strong impact on economic and industrial growth.

Mr C. Robles Piquer (ES,EPP), EPP Group coordinator, has pointed out the need to give Community research a political dimension, i.e. integration and economic and social cohesion, in order to reduce the present imbalances which are crippling the Community.

Mrs G. Quisthoudt-Rowohl (D, EPP), first vice-chairman of the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology and coordinator of the Working Party on the Fourth Framework Programme, has pointed out the need to ensure a sound research basis geared to the real needs of a European economy which is searching for new growth areas and prospects.

As rapporteur on the re-financing of the Third R & TD Framework Programme, Mrs Quisthoudt-Rowohl (D,EPP), also stressed the need for balanced funding and for streamlined and more efficient management by the Commission.

During the debate and vote in plenary on the report by Mr R. Linkohr (D,S), in which Mr B. Sälzer (D, EPP) vice-chairman of the EPP Group, Mr M. Chiabrandò (I, EPP), Mr F. Pierros (GR,EPP) and Mr C.F.Rovsing (DK,EPP) took part, the Group formally requested the introduction of an important Community initiative to promote the transfer of research results to businesses, to be achieved by stimulating private and public investment in venture capital projects and creating European network for the exchange and exploitation of results.

With regard to the activities carried out in the committee by members of the EPP Group, we should mention, in addition to those listed later on, the reports by:

- Mr CHIABRANDO (I, EPP): own initiative report on research into protection against earthquakes¹
- Mr SELIGMAN (UK, EPP): irradiated nuclear fuel storage, transport and reprocessing²
- Mr ROVSING (DK, EPP): cooperation in dealing with pollution of the North Sea by oil and other harmful substances³

¹ B3-172/91, B3-1634/92, B3-436/92, PE 204.166

² B3-35/91, PE 203.259, PE 200.182

³ COM(92) 133, PE 202.629

- Mr SÄLZER (D, EPP): advanced television services⁴
- Mrs QUISTHOUDT (D, EPP): report on supplementary financing of the Third Framework Programme (1990-1994)⁵
- Mr CHIABRANDO (I, EPP): opinion on special measures to terminate the service of JRC officials⁶
- Mr SELIGMAN (UK, EPP): report on the establishment of a European Centre for the research, development and scientific evaluation of laboratory testing⁷
- Mr PIERROS (GR, EPP): Report on the standardization of technical specifications of energy products⁸
- Mrs QUISTHOUDT (D, EPP): Report on negotiations between the Community and Canada for an agreement on technological development cooperation
- Mr CHIABRANDO (I, EPP): Report on reducing CO₂ emissions from domestic appliances.

⁴ COM(92) 154, PE 201.592

⁵ COM(92) 309, A3-372/92

⁶ COM(92) 299, PE 202.933

⁷ B3-712/92

⁸ SEC(92) 575

2. ENERGY

During the last legislative year the energy sector has been widely debated in the Community.

The whole Community is faced with two challenges.

The first is the problem of the supply of energy resources and hence the steps to be taken to prevent excessive dependence. The Community has always been a big importer of resources such as gas, petroleum and coal, despite the development of nuclear energy for the production of electricity and the exploitation of the Community's fossil deposits has to a great extent alleviated energy dependence on third countries. However, the heterogeneous energy structure of the 12 Member States still makes the Community as a whole vulnerable.

Furthermore, the gradual and inexorable closure of coal mines throughout Europe, although it has at least one quarter of world resources, in favour of imports from third countries which are more competitive, increases dependence on supplies of petroleum and gas, and even more so in view of the promise of economic recovery.

The Community must respond by finding other or at least supplementary energy sources, by means of specific research programmes.

An example is the Altener programme on alternative energies (solar, wind energy, biomass, etc.) and the programme on controlled thermonuclear fusion. Although the first alternative - renewable energy sources - is already within reach, although its contribution is still marginal, the second will require many more years of research and heavy investment.

The second challenge is how to establish a single market in energy, as mentioned in the Treaties.

The two Commission proposals for directives on opening up frontiers in order to establish a single market in gas and electricity have been the focus of debates in this committee.

Since the creation of an internal market in gas and electricity would entail the loss of a monopoly by the various national energy corporations, and hence the creation of the preconditions for ensuring a real opening up of the markets, there have been numerous discussions and debates with experts involved in the production, distribution and consumption of energy.

The Group has not had any serious reservations about the Commission's proposal, for whom Mr C. Desama (B, SOC) is rapporteur but it has repeatedly called on the Commission to adopt a cautious approach as regards deadlines and methods.

Mr B. Sälzer (B, EPP) group coordinator for this subject, has drawn attention to the need to ensure beforehand that there is a precise and complete legal and regulatory framework to ensure that the opening up of markets does not create instability and confusion in either production companies or firms which transport and distribute energy. It should be borne in mind that investment in these sectors are substantial and that the financial and industrial risk involved is unacceptable in an unclear context which is not at all regulated.

Mr Robles Piquer (ES, EPP), formerly the rapporteur on trans-European networks in the sector of transport of electricity and natural gas, with which the Community intends to promote the private sector's financial participation in projects for trans-European networks in the two sectors mentioned and Mr F. Røvsing (DK;EPP) pointed out that it was important to achieve the creation of the single market, inter alia as a means of achieving fruitful synergies and optimizing energy planning, but without creating harmful confusion by taking incomplete and hasty decisions.

Mr Chiabrando (I, EPP) emphasized the need for the single energy market to be launched with a precise guarantee as regards legislative measures to be adopted in the environmental field, without which it is impossible to ensure that the single market will actually be completed.

3. REPORTS ADOPTED

Report by Mr Adams (UK, S) on the safety of nuclear installations in the European Community⁹

Single reading: September 1992

The report tackles the problem of the safety of nuclear installations in the Community and the measures needed to guarantee an adequate level of safety throughout the nuclear cycle: the construction, operation and dismantling of nuclear power stations and the manufacture and processing of nuclear fuel.

The report advocates, as far as is possible, the harmonization of safety rules adopted by the various Member States, and calls for Community research to be stepped up.

Furthermore, it urges the Commission to implement the provisions of the Euratom Treaty regarding the inspection of nuclear power stations and radiological and environmental protection. In the resolution a renewed request is made for a revision of the Euratom Treaty to enable the European Parliament to be more closely involved in the decision-making process.

Finally, the Commission is urged to step up international cooperation, with particular reference to Eastern European countries which, as regards nuclear power, need special help in closing down dangerous installations or raising the safety levels of installations still in operation.

Report by Mr Mayer (F, CG) on the European response to the challenge of modern technology¹⁰

Single reading: September 1992

The report considers Europe's response to the challenge of modern technology and hence the measures to be taken to meet it.

It analyses the global challenges resulting from the changes taking place on our planet: the challenge of feeding the growing world population, the challenge of conservation and environmental protection and energy production and the ethical challenge inherent in the new biomedical technologies.

The report therefore proposes research and development measures capable of solving these problems.

⁹ B3-15/90
B3-477/89
B3-249/90
B3-266/909
B3-844/90
A3-227/92

¹⁰ A3-240/92

All this may be achieved by reinforcing Community activities, improving scientific cooperation between Member States and involving them more in the challenges presented by the countries of Central Europe and the CIS, as well as developing countries.

Report by Mr Hervé (F, S) on improving Parliament's sources of scientific and technological information¹¹

Single reading: September 1992

At present the European Parliament does not have the means to enable it to assess correctly the impact of scientific and technological innovations on society and the environment. The report considers that it needs permanent access to specialized information that is sufficiently diversified and multi-faceted to enable it to state opinions that are independent of the views of the Commission and interest groups and to reach wiser decisions regarding R + D programmes. Improving Parliament's means of obtaining information and carrying out assessments is particularly important in view of the prospective entry into force of the Maastricht Treaty. The power of co-decision, which will apply in particular to the adoption of the framework programme, will make it essential for Parliament to be better informed and for genuine interinstitutional cooperation to be developed.

In order to achieve this, it is necessary to strengthen and enhance Parliament's sources of information and means of assessment and to assess the possibilities of increasing combined action and interinstitutional cooperation.

Report by Mr Sanz Fernandez (ES, S) on the TIDE programme¹²

Single reading: September 1992

The TIDE programme is a Community initiative designed to promote research into and the development of high-tech products to improve the integration of the elderly and the disabled in society. The programme has been in operation since early 1991 in the form of a pilot project with a budget of ECU 8 m for that year.

However, TIDE is not one of the research programmes covered by the Framework Programme for R + D: at present therefore, apart from the resources allocated in the budget (Parliament increased them from ECU 8 m to ECU 10 m in the Council's draft for 1992), there is no specific legal base for the operation of this programme.

In view of the positive effects expected from the TIDE programme in the social sphere, the relieving of the burden on social security systems and the simultaneous development of R + D in a market with considerable expansion potential, there is an urgent need for at least minimum financial resources in order to guarantee this programme's success. The Commission should therefore put forward a proposal for the implementation of a two-year transitional programme (1993-1994) with an appropriate legal basis and a total budget of ECU 40 m.

¹¹ B3-194/91
A3-246/92

¹² B3-1464/91
A3-247/92

Report by Mr Robles Piquer (ES, EPP) on trans-European networks in the electricity and natural gas domain¹³

Single reading: November 1992

With the declaration of European interest the Commission intends to promote the participation of private capital in projects for trans-European networks in the area of electricity and gas transmission. This initiative is based primarily on the strategic importance of trans-European networks in the context of the completion of the internal market and the consolidation of the principle of economic and social cohesion.

The Commission proposal was submitted jointly with two others concerning transport networks and telecommunication networks, the text of which is identical.

The report raises the question whether the fact that the proposals are virtually identical is acceptable, in view of the fact that the sectors concerned are so different from one another.

It also stresses that the declaration of European interest does not necessarily imply that financial support will be obtained from the Community or the Member States. A similar situation effectively emptied the earlier Commission initiative - the declaration of European utility - of any practical significance; that initiative did not lead to any actual applications, but the present initiative is none the less aimed at linking up with it.

Report by Mrs Larive (NL, LDR) on the International Centre for Science and Technology¹⁴

Single reading: November 1992

The report deals with the creation of an international Centre for Science and Technology in Moscow. The aim of this centre, which will be financed on the one hand by the United States, Japan and the Russian Federation and on the other by the Community, is to preserve and redeploy the scientific expertise of the former USSR.

The Centre, which will also be used to prevent a brain-drain to certain countries (Iran, Iraq, etc.) should find new employment for Soviet experts, especially in the aerospace and nuclear fields.

In the nuclear sector the skills required by the Centre will be in the civilian field, concerning the improvement of nuclear power stations and the nuclear fuel cycle and, in the military sphere, for the conversion of the nuclear arsenal.

¹³ COM(92) 15
A3-351/92

¹⁴ COM(92) 1990
A3-358/92

Report by Mrs Quisthoudt (D, EPP) on supplementary funding of the Third Framework Programme (1990-1994)¹⁵

Single reading: November 1992

In its proposal for supplementary financing of the Third Framework Programme, the Commission proposes adding an extra ECU 1 600 m to the ECU 5 700 m already decided, thus bringing the total to ECU 7 300 m.

A measure of this kind should not entail any changes to specific programmes but should merely increase the total financial allocation and reduce the additional resources for the various specific programmes. The report stresses the difficulties which Parliament encountered in tackling the proposal. As regards the total amount requested for this financial adjustment the report recognizes, given the present financial climate, the need to show flexibility. In view of the administrative hurdles which the Commission has to a great extent created for itself, Parliament is not entirely convinced that the expenditure envisaged for the Third Framework Programme in 1992 and 1993 will be fully committed. Furthermore, in its Fourth Framework Programme proposal the Commission envisages expenditure of ECU 550 m in 1994. In the circumstances, given the same administrative arrangements, the ability to commit a further ECU 1 600 m without adequate control of quality and purpose may be questioned. Difficulties also arise with regard to the distribution of this supplementary finance.

The report therefore proposes a more plausible approach, which consists of a linear, proportional increase across the board.

Report by Mrs LARIVE (NL, LDR) on conditions for granting and using authorizations for the prospection, exploration and extraction of hydrocarbons¹⁶

Single reading: November 1992

The Commission's proposal for a directive seeks to ensure that all qualified firms may gain access to the prospection, exploration and production of oil and natural gas. The report stresses that the proposal serves the purpose of creating a Community framework for this sector and considers that legal certainty is an essential element in it.

It should be borne in mind that even though the proposal only deals with the Member States (or, at most, the states belonging to the European Economic Area), the Commission would like to make it a model for third countries, most of which are suppliers of the European Community, so that they may bring their own directives on the subject into line with it.

¹⁵ COM(92) 309
A3-372/92

¹⁶ COM(92) 110
A3-355/92

Report by Mr BETTINI (I, V) on renewable energy sources¹⁷

Single reading: January 1993

The report tackles the question of promoting renewable energy sources as a means of transition towards an energy production system which sees renewables as of key importance.

At the current stage of development of technology and the electricity production system in general (nuclear energy, hydroelectric energy and power stations using fossil fuels), it is inconceivable to replace it immediately with clean and renewable energy sources. The theory of 'energy transition' is based on the assumption that natural gas will be used as a transitional energy source until the energy produced by the sun (understood in the a broad sense as a source of renewable energy, including wind, solar and photovoltaic energy, biomass and hydrogen produced by photovoltaic means), becomes widespread over the next two or three decades.

Natural gas is a fuel with a low level of carbon dioxide emissions, when compared with fossil fuels such as petroleum and coal: burning natural gas produces 50% less CO₂ than coal and 30% less than fuel oil.

The replacement of fuels with a high carbon content by fuels with a high hydrogen content is therefore crucial if the greenhouse effect is to be reduced.

Report by Mr TURNER (UK, EPP) on European aeronautical research and technology¹⁸

Single reading: February 1993

The report examines those technological factors in the aeronautical sector, regarding management, decision-making, design, development and production of aircraft and their operation which could ensure the competitiveness of a key Community industry in the post-Cold War world, and recommends policy changes in the area of research and technological development.

The European aeronautical industry is already adjusting to heavy cuts in defence business with unused capacity and reductions in manpower already in hand.

The industry is also faced with the commercial conundrum of the aerospace market of the Commonwealth of Independent States, where the industry employs ten times the number of skilled employees as the European industry. Political stability within the CIS is a vital investment condition. If the Community fails to influence aeronautical policy in the CIS and in Central and Eastern Europe, the Community industry may be unduly influenced by its European, American or Japanese competitors.

The report recommends that the Commission should include in the Fourth Framework Programme for Community Research and Technological Development a specific programme in the sector of aeronautical research and technology. It considers that special structures for the coordination of measures undertaken should be created at Community level for the aeronautical industry.

¹⁷ B3-1686/90
A3-405/92

¹⁸ B3-1227/91
A3-426/92

Report by Mr DESAMA (B, S) on a multi-annual programme for the development of Community statistics on research, development and innovation¹⁹

Single reading: March 1993

Generally speaking, statistics which appear in documents are considered as referring to 'factual' data and excluding any attitudinal data collected in censuses and surveys.

The report points out that this limitation has less and less justification today in the two areas of R&D and energy, where attitudes about efficiency or awareness of Community activities are necessary data for policy-making.

EUROBAROMETER and business expectation surveys are two extremely useful sources of attitudinal data. Whenever possible, EUROSTAT should coordinate its work with EUROBAROMETER etc. and include attitudinal data, for instance in surveys on the labour force.

It would be useful to have systematic data showing the use made of Community funds for technological research and development in each Member State. Basic statistics on energy are relatively exhaustive.

Attempts should be made to improve the 'readability' of published statistics in order to make them more comprehensible to non-experts, possibly through the use of 'stats flashnews' or other bulletins on current issues or trends.

Second report by Mr BETTINI (I, V) on the ALTENER programme²⁰

Single reading: May 1993

The Commission's proposal for a decision is one of the measures aimed at reducing the causes of the greenhouse effect and emissions of gases into the environment, and deals with four major lines of action:

- the development of the market in renewable energies and their integration in the internal energy market;
- financial and economic measures;
- information measures;
- cooperation with third countries.

The energy sources promoted by the ALTENER programme are those provided by biomass including the production of biofuels from solar energy by means of photovoltaic installations, wind energy etc.

The first report was referred back to the Energy Committee because the Council wanted to amend the legal base of the proposal for a decision.

The Council subsequently accepted the position expressed by Parliament, which then drew up and adopted a second report.

¹⁹ COM(92)91
A3-55/93

²⁰ COM(92)180
A3-156/93

Second report by Mrs GOEDMAKERS (NL, S) on the SAVE programme²¹

Single reading: May 1993

The proposal for a directive deals with measures which may improve energy efficiency and are intended to reduce CO₂ emissions.

The proposed measures cover the following sectors:

- energy certification of buildings;
- billing of heating, air-conditioning and hot water costs on the basis of actual consumption;
- promotion of third-party financing for energy efficiency investments in the public sector;
- thermal insulation in new buildings;
- regular inspection of boilers;
- regular inspection of vehicles;
- energy audits of businesses.

The first report was referred back to the Energy Committee because the Council wanted a change in the legal base of the proposal for a decision.

The Council subsequently accepted the position expressed by Parliament, which then drew up and adopted a second report.

Report by Mr LINKOHR (D, S) on the Fourth Framework Programme (1994-1998)²²

Single reading: June 1993

In April 1993 the Committee submitted a second working document on R&TD policy in the Community and the Fourth Framework Programme (1994-1998).

On the basis of the documents submitted and pending consultation by the Council on the Fourth Framework Programme (on the basis of Article 189b introduced by the Treaty on European Union) the Energy Committee wanted to draw up a preliminary report in order to provide Parliament with policy guidelines for the new R+TD research phase in the Community.

An initial policy recommendation in the report was that Parliament should be consulted about the Fourth Framework Programme via the co-decision procedure envisaged in the Maastricht Treaty. Parliament will therefore not take a formal decision before the Treaty is ratified.

The report stresses that the funding envisaged is inadequate and will not allow the objectives to be achieved and that efforts should be therefore concentrated on the projects which ensure real economic growth. Furthermore, emphasis is given to the need to ensure better dissemination of research results to firms, in particular small and medium-sized undertakings.

²¹ COM(92) 182
COM(92) 246
A3-157/93

²² COM(92) 406
A3-192/93

Report by Mr REGGE (I,S) on energy planning at regional level in the European Community²³

Single reading: July 1993

The need for an energy policy at regional level has emerged only recently and the idea is in its early stages.

On the one hand, the situation implies a certain amount of uncertainty and potential conflict; on the other, the absence of clear guidelines for energy planning makes certain types of measure possible which would be difficult if not impossible in a consolidated structure.

The report considers that the Community should first of all define the energy regions which have an interregional or supra-national character and do not necessarily coincide with local administrative boundaries; practical, homogeneous and structural measures could be implemented in such areas in order to use energy rationally.

At the same time, the Community should coordinate in an appropriate way existing local responsibilities, in order to avoid conflicts which would have adverse effects on energy policy, and it must therefore tackle effectively the unsolved problem of geographical/energy homogeneity in relation to political and administrative homogeneity.

Paolo LICANDRO

²³ B3-1270/91

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	<u>Observer:</u> Jürgen SCHRÖDER (D)

II. Summary of the committee's work

Over the past year the committee has continued to deal with the problems of the former COMECON countries, both by requesting statements from the Council and Commission with subsequent motions for resolutions, and by drafting reports.

Towards the end of 1992 the committee recommended the adoption of the association agreements with Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia (the 'Europe Agreements'). In the case of Czechoslovakia, as a result of the changes in the internal political situation there, the agreement became two agreements, with the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic respectively. These association agreements have not yet entered into force, since the ratification procedure has not yet been completed.

In the spring of 1993 Parliament adopted agreements of the same kind with Romania and Bulgaria. In the interests of helping these countries, it was decided to permit the provisions of these agreements relating to trade and commercial cooperation to enter into force immediately.

In principle, the association agreements cover all areas of EC legislation, though in fact separate agreements have been concluded for steel, textile and agricultural produce. These countries' stated eventual objective is to become full members of the EEC. The Community has given its tacit approval to this wish by issuing a declaration of intent on the possibility of enlarging the European Union when a number of criteria have been fulfilled; this statement was most recently confirmed by the Heads of State and Government at the summit in June 1993 in Copenhagen.

The committee has approved the conclusion of trade and cooperation agreements with the Baltic States, in spite of serious misgivings as to the extent to which these countries uphold the principles of human rights, which are a condition for the implementation of the agreement.

Future cooperation between the Community and the independent states in the former Soviet Union - the CIS - has been the subject of many debates both in committee and in plenary. In an own-initiative report, the committee called on the Commission to conclude negotiations as soon as possible on a new type of external agreement, known as agreements on partnership and cooperation, with such of the CIS states as wished to do so. These agreements are a half-way house between association agreements and traditional trade and cooperation agreements.

The PHARE programmes have been subject to detailed assessment in the committee in connection with the use of resources from the EC budgets in recent years. The Commission was strongly criticized for under-utilization of the resources made available under the PHARE programmes. The committee decided, together with the Committee on Budgetary Control, to hold a public hearing on the PHARE and TACIS programmes in June 1993, which will subsequently be used as the basis for a report.

Of great political significance were the agreements concluded by the EC, on the committee's recommendation, on trade and cooperation with all the countries of Central and South America. To stress further the importance of relations between the EC and the countries of Latin America, the committee held a public hearing in November 1992 on future economic and trade relations.

The continuing negotiations towards an agreement on GATT were the subject of a number of discussions both in the committee and in plenary. The Commission, represented by Frans Andriessen and later Sir Leon Brittan, and the Council, represented by Richard Needham, British Minister for Trade, and Hans Ørstrøm Møller, Danish State Secretary, informed Parliament of the developments in the various sectors of the Uruguay Round, in which the most difficult problems had arisen in the areas of

agriculture, the environment, textiles, the service sector and the protection of copyright. The recent elections in the USA and France gave the negotiations a new political momentum, which will hopefully contribute towards their conclusion before the end of 1993.

In October 1992 the European Parliament, together with 18 other parliaments, ratified the Agreement on the establishment of the European Economic Area (EEA) with a view to its entry into force on 1 January 1993. However, the result of the Swiss referendum meant that Switzerland was unable to participate in the EEA Agreement and necessitated the agreement's being renegotiated to take account of the new situation. An additional protocol was signed in March 1993 and adopted by the European Parliament in June 1993. Only when all the parliaments have ratified the agreement together with the additional protocol can the agreement finally enter into force.

During the year, the committee held two meetings outside the normal places of work: in October 1992 in Cordoba, Spain, where the committee visited the Seville World Fair. The situation in the Balkans was the subject of discussion at the committee's meeting in Metsovo, Greece, in June 1993.

III. Summary of resolutions adopted by Parliament

SEPTEMBER 1992 PART-SESSION

OJ No. C 284, 2.11.1992

A3-0234/92 Willy DE CLERCQ (LDR/B) on aiding Hungary to deal with its debt

Adopted on 17 September 1992

EPP speakers: Stavrou and Peijs

The Hungarian economy has made distinct progress in the last two years, and it has been possible to restructure the economy at not too great a social cost. In spite of its high level of foreign debt, Hungary has always met its interest and capital repayment obligations to the western industrialized countries and thus remains credit worthy. There would consequently be little point in granting Hungary special conditions to defer debt repayments. Hungary's trade policy has helped it to achieve a positive trade balance, and has thus helped the country to solve its own problems.

A3-0235/92 Konstantinos STAVROU (EPP/GR) on economic and trade relations between the European Community and Poland

Adopted on 17 September 1992

EPP speakers: Peijs and Penders

The committee supported the conclusion of the Association Agreements (Europe Agreements) with Poland and Hungary as a step in the development of relations between the EC and these two countries. However, the committee considered that the Europe Agreements were too uniform and did not take sufficient account of the different conditions in the two countries. Since 1990, the Polish economy has been undergoing shock therapy. The country has not only had a general election, but has also requested economic support from international organizations. Poland needs help. Under the old system, in spite of everything, a basic minimum wage was guaranteed, and the country needs assistance now that this has disappeared.

A3-0266/92 Pol MARCK (EPP/B) on conclusion of the agreement between the EEC and the Republic of Albania on trade and commercial and economic cooperation (COM(92) 178 final)

Adopted on 17 September 1992

EPP speaker: Marck

The economic situation in Albania is disastrous, and help is urgently needed. Albania is the poorest country in Europe, with a per capita GNP of \$470 according to official sources. It will be many years before the situation improves. There is a need to develop the country's own systems, to expand the transport infrastructure and to bring some order into the country's agriculture. The Commission's proposal is a first step in this direction, but is conditional on the country upholding the principles of democracy and human rights.

A3-259/92 Karla PEIJS (EPP/NL) on EC/US economic and trade relations

Adopted on 17 September 1992

EPP speaker: Herman

The US is the EC's most important trading partner. The trade balance between the EC and the US was characterized by a constant EC deficit until 1983. From then until 1988 the EC had a considerable trade surplus. In 1991 the EC's trade balance with the US showed a deficit of ECU 20.7 bn.

The report cites a number of examples of US trade laws becoming more restrictive in recent years. The rapporteur considers that American tax and customs legislation had shown an increasing tendency towards protectionism and that the USA had enacted unilateral provisions in areas covered by the GATT agreements. The American Government's decision to double export subsidies for cereals is loudly condemned by the rapporteur who considers that the present GATT round should be completed as quickly as possible and that the EC and US should reach a sensible compromise.

B3-1187/92 Enrique BARON CRESPO (PES/ES) Oral Question to the Commission on relations with the States of the CIS
Commissioner Andriessen answered on behalf of the Commission.
Motion for a resolution B3-1261/92 by Sir Fred Catherwood and others was adopted on 18 September 1992.
EPP speaker: Penders

A3-0265/92 Pol MARCK (EPP/B) on financial assistance for Albania (COM(92) 0355 final)
Adopted on 18 September 1992
EPP speaker: Marck

Parliament considered that Albania must persevere with fundamental political and economic reforms with a view to introducing a fully democratic system and a form of market economy. Parliament supported the Council's proposals for financial support for Albania's balance of payments in the form of a pledge of up to ECU 70 m. The Commission could not support the rapporteur's proposal that this loan be made available to Albania in two instalments of ECU 35 m each.

A3-0264/92 Konstantinos STAVROU (EPP/GR) on further medium-term financial assistance for Bulgaria (SEC(92) 1081 final)
Adopted on 18 September 1992
EPP speaker: Habsburg

The Commission proposed that the Community contribute up to ECU 110 m towards a medium-term credit package from the G24 to Bulgaria totalling ECU 240 m for a maximum of seven years. The aim of this aid to Bulgaria was first and foremost to create the conditions whereby the country could later enter into a fully fledged agreement with the EC. The committee was in favour of providing this aid but set a number of conditions, expressed in the form of three amendments, which the Commission was unable to support.

A3-0236/92 Manuel PORTO (LDR/PT) on the European leather and tanning industry
Adopted on 18 September 1992
EPP speaker: none

The EC produces around 20% of the world's tanned leather. Production is concentrated mainly in Italy and Spain. The footwear industry uses around 40% of the tanned leather produced. The EC tanning industry is in difficulties because some developing countries have introduced export restrictions on untreated leather. The committee also criticized the Japanese for introducing trade restrictions which harmed exports to the European tanning industry. To improve matters, the committee considered that the industry should be permitted to participate in EC programmes to support the development of advanced and clean technologies.

OCTOBER 1992 PART-SESSION

OJ No. C 305, 23.11.1992

A3-0306/93 Giorgio ROSSETTI (GUE/I) on the European Economic Area (SEC(92) 0814 final)

Adopted on 30 October 1992

The opinion on this subject, contained in report A3-0316/92 - JEPSEN (EPP/DK) - for the Committee on Foreign Affairs, was adopted on 28 October 1992

EPP speakers: Jepsen, Moorhouse, Braun-Moser and Stavrou

The EEA Agreement is surely one of the most far-reaching association agreements the EC has concluded so far. It is what is known as a 'mixed' agreement which not only forms the legal basis for the creation of the largest free trade zone in the world with a total of 380 million inhabitants, but also lays the foundations for increased political cooperation between the EC and EFTA. Under the agreement, the EFTA countries are to transpose into their national law the EC legislation concerning the 'four freedoms'. In other words, there is to be freedom of movement for goods, persons, services and capital throughout the EEA. Trade policy with third countries, and the EC policies on agriculture and fisheries, fall outside the scope of the agreement.

The agreement contains a number of rules concerning the decision-making procedure. The institutional structure is relatively complex. The aim of both the institutional structure and the decision-making process is to permit cooperation in a wide range of areas without weakening the decision-making autonomy either of the EC or of the EFTA countries. The EFTA countries therefore have no right of co-decision in drawing up EC legal acts. The EEA Agreement enables the EFTA countries to prepare for possible membership of the EC.

GATT negotiations Oral statement by Commissioner PANDOLFI on behalf of the Commission

No motion for a resolution

EPP speaker: Stavrou

A3-0325/92 Leopoldo ORTIZ CLIMENT (EPP/ES) on further medium-term financial assistance for Romania (SEC(92) 1080 final)

The proposal was rejected and referred back to the committee for further discussion

EPP speaker: Ortiz Climent

The Commission proposed that a Romania be granted medium-term loan of ECU 80 m for a maximum of seven years to support its balance of trade and foreign currency reserves.

A3-0324/92 James MOORHOUSE (EPP/UK) on medium-term financial assistance for Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania (COM(92) 0410 final)

Adopted on 30 October 1992

EPP speakers: Moorhouse and Habsburg

The committee supported the Commission's proposal for a medium-term loan to the Baltic States totalling ECU 220 m, of which Estonia would receive ECU 40 m, Latvia ECU 80 m and Lithuania ECU 100 m. Under the proposal, the loan should be for a period not exceeding seven years and should be paid in two equal instalments. The committee proposed that the loans be made conditional on the Baltic States' respecting human rights and the rights of minorities.

NOVEMBER 1992 PART-SESSION
OJ No. C 337, 21.12.1992

A3-0352/92 Gijs de VRIES (LDR/NL) on participation by the Community in the third revised OECD decision concerning national treatment (COM(91) 0442 final)

Adopted on 18 November 1992

The Member States of the OECD have given an undertaking to allow 'national treatment' to businesses under foreign control. This means that firms operating in an OECD Member State and controlled by nationals of another Member State are to receive treatment no less favourable than that accorded to firms controlled by nationals of the state in which they are established. In view of the considerable increase in indirect foreign investments from OECD countries, the Council decided in 1990 to authorize the Commission to make further amendments to the provisions on national treatment. In a recommendation, the Commission proposed that the EC should participate in the third revised OECD decision on national treatment.

A3-0311/92 Manuel PORTO (LDR/PT) on the conclusion of the Framework Agreement for cooperation between the EEC and Brazil (COM(92) 0209 final)
and

A3-0310/92 Manuel PORTO (LDR/PT) on economic and commercial relations between the European Community and Brazil

EPP speakers: Carvalho Cardoso and Marck

The committee supported the Commission's proposal to conclude a framework agreement between the EC and Brazil. This is what is known as a third generation agreement, largely identical with the agreements concluded between the EC and other countries in Latin America, and is intended to replace the earlier agreement of 1982. The Commission proposed to step up cooperation in trade and industry, investments, technology and services in general and particularly in transport and tourism, and in financial and monetary matters.

The aim of the agreement is to strengthen mutual economic ties, extend trade and open new markets, and protect and improve the environment. The committee noted that, in spite of declarations on commitment to the development of democracy, there continued to be unacceptable violations of human rights in Brazil.

The most important objective of the agreement is to create democratic political stability, which is needed in order to carry through current reforms aimed at promoting the country's development.

A3-0325/92 Leopoldo ORTIZ CLIMENT (EPP/ES) on financial assistance for Romania (COM(92) 1080 final)

Adopted on 17 November 1992 (see Minutes of 30 October 1992)

EPP speaker: Ortiz Climent

GATT negotiations. Statements by President Delors on behalf of the Commission, and by President-in-Office Garel Jones on behalf of the Council.

Motions for resolutions B3-1507/92 Willy DE CLERCQ (LDR/B) on behalf of the REX Committee

B3-1521/92 AINARDI (CG/F), B3-1524/92 LANNOYE (V/B), B3-1526/92 DE LA MALENE (RDE/F), B3-1598 MARTINEZ (DR/F) and B3-1603/92 ROBLES PIQUER (EPP/ES)

EPP speakers: Stavrou, Peijs, Moorhouse, Bocklet and Spencer

Motion for resolution B3-1507/92 from the REX Committee was adopted in amended form on 19 November 1992

A3-0293/92 Michael HINDLEY (PES/UK) on a trade and cooperation agreement between the EEC and Macao (COM(92) 0239 final)

Adopted on 20 November 1992

PPE speaker: none

The committee supported the conclusion of this agreement, which expressed the wish by both parties to strengthen relations up to and possibly even after the time when Macao reverts to Chinese rule. The agreement is limited in principle to the period while Macao is still under Portuguese administration, but the conclusion of the agreement has not as yet brought forth any unfavourable reaction from the Chinese side.

Macao consists of the Macao peninsula, an enclave on the Chinese mainland, and the two adjacent islands of Taipa and Coloane.

DECEMBER 1992 PART-SESSION

OJ No. C 21, 25.1.1993

A3-0378/92 Gijs DE VRIES (LDR/NL) on the Free Trade Agreement between the United States of America, Canada and Mexico (NAFTA)

Adopted on 15 December 1992

EPP speaker: Peijs

On 1 January 1994 a North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is due to enter into force, subject to ratification by the legislatures of the USA, Canada and Mexico. The free trade agreement will create a market with 360 m potential consumers, slightly more than the population of the EC.

The NAFTA agreement contains provisions on the gradual abolition of tariffs on all goods defined as North American. The committee urged the Commission, once the final version of the NAFTA agreement had been published, to focussed to the Council and to Parliament an analysis of its possible effects on EC and Latin American interests.

The Commission agreed to submit an analysis of the agreement and its possible consequences.

GATT - Agreement on agricultural produce. Oral Question to the Commission by the Committee on Agriculture and the REX Committee

Commissioner CARDOSO E CUNHA answered the questions.

Motions for resolutions B3-1685/92 Willy DE CLERCQ (LDR/B) on behalf of the REX Committee

B3-1722/92 MARTINEZ (DR/F), B3-1724/92 AINARDI (CG/F), B3-1725/92 WOLTJER (PES/NL), B3-1792/92 BOCKLET (EPP/D) and B3-1793/92 Committee on Agriculture EPP speakers: Stavrou, Böge, Sonneveld, Carvalho Cardoso and Marck

Motion for a resolution B3-1793/92 by the Committee on Agriculture was adopted on 17 December 1992 in amended form.

A3-0418/92 Ana MIRANDA DE LAGE (PES/ES) on imports of maize and sorghum into Spain (COM(92) 0168 final)

Adopted on 18 December 1992

EPP speaker: none

In connection with Spain's accession to the EC in 1986 the USA was accorded a special quota arrangement for maize and sorghum to compensate for the loss of income from the sale of feed maize to the Spanish market. This arrangement was extended for one year and the Commission's proposal was that it should be further extended until April 1993. The committee considered that this was unreasonable, and that such an extension was contrary to the basic principles of GATT. The committee also protested

against the fact that Parliament had been consulted only on the implementing provisions, not on the principles.

A3-0367/92 Gary TITLEY (PES/UK) on the conclusion of a trade and commercial and economic cooperation agreement between the EEC and Estonia (COM(92) 0177 final)

A3-0363/92 James MOORHOUSE (EPP/UK) on the conclusion of an agreement on trade and commercial and economic cooperation between the EEC and Lithuania (COM(92) 0179 final)

A3-0359/92 Gerd LEMMER (EPP/D) on the conclusion of an agreement on trade and commercial and economic cooperation between the EEC and Latvia (COM(92) 0176 final)

A3-0364/92 James MOORHOUSE (EPP/UK) on trade and economic relations between the European Community and the Baltic States

Adopted on 18 December 1992

EPP speakers: Lenz and Habsburg

The aim of the Commission's proposal to conclude trade and economic agreements with the Baltic States is to improve relations between the EEC and these countries. The agreements principally concern the EC's active participation to support structural changes to the economy, the transition to a market economy, in these three countries, and the increased exchange of goods and services; the promotion of joint ventures, licence agreements and other forms of scientific and industrial cooperation and technological development; and the promotion of cooperation on environmental protection, including combatting water and air pollution and environmental accidents. They also concern the management of natural resources in an environmentally acceptable manner in other areas such as industry, agriculture, energy and transport. When the agreements are concluded, the Baltic countries will be allowed to participate in the PHARE programmes.

Respect for the principles of democracy and human rights forms an important part of the agreements, and in Article 1 it is laid down that if the countries in question do not pursue policies which are compatible with the principles of human rights, the agreement may be suspended immediately.

The agreement with Lithuania also covers cooperation in the field of nuclear energy.

The committee recommended that Parliament support the conclusion of these agreements, and supported the Baltic States' request for Russian troops to be withdrawn as soon as possible, since they threatened political stability.

On the principles of human rights, the committee expressed serious concern in particular about the treatment of the Russian minority, which forms 40% of the total population. Parliament opposed the Baltic States' plans not to give ethnic Russians the opportunity to obtain the citizenship of the country in which they were living.

JANUARY 1993 PART-SESSION

OJ No. C 42, 15.2.1993

EEA Agreement - Oral statement on behalf of the Commission by Commissioner PINHEIRO

Motions for resolutions B3-0039/93 JEPSEN (EPP/DK), B3-0040/93 JUNKER (PES/D), B3-0110/93 DE CLERCQ (LDR/B)

EPP speakers: Jepsen and Spencer

A joint motion for a resolution from the PES, EPP and LDR Groups was adopted.

A3-0329/92 Tom SPENCER (EPP/UK) on environment and trade
Adopted on 22 January 1993
EPP speakers: Spencer and Peijs

The background to this report was the growing concern at worldwide pollution as seen in the relationship between trade policy and environmental policy. Only during the last ten years had the connection between these factors been seriously recognized. Not only had the major influence of trade policy on the environment been acknowledged, but it had also been observed that environmental considerations could act as a protectionist excuse for placing obstacles in the way of free trade.

The report noted that GATT had hitherto not taken sufficient account of the reciprocal effects of trade and the environment. GATT would continue, as it had done in the past, to base its agreements relating to environmental issues on purely commercial considerations, unless legal guidelines on trade and the environment were imposed in cooperation with environmental experts. The committee recommended that GATT increase its efforts to ensure that international agreements and international trade were based on the principle of sustainable growth.

The committee's opinions were supported by the Commission, which agreed that more clarity was needed in formulating environmental demands in negotiations on the GATT rules.

A3-0390/92 James MOORHOUSE (EPP/UK) on trade and economic relations between the EC and Japan
Adopted on 22 January 1993
EPP speakers: Moorhouse, Sälzer, Peter Beazley and Habsburg

The committee's extensive motion for a resolution supported the Commission's and Council's efforts to establish more balanced commercial and economic relations between the EC and Japan. The Commission and Council promised to develop a consistent overall strategy on Japan. The reason for this was the unprecedented and rising imbalance in trade between the EC and Japan. The Council must show the political will to support the Commission's efforts aimed at opening up the Japanese market and improving the balance in trade relations, if the Community's strategy on Japan was to be successful.

The Commission agreed with the report's analysis and considered that the most important problems were of a structural nature. The fear of a bilateral agreement between the USA and Japan meant that the EC needed to play an active role in the necessary dialogue between Europe, the USA and Japan.

A3-0425/93 Eugenio MELANDRI (V/I) on the conclusion of an agreement on trade and economic cooperation between the EEC and Mongolia (COM(92) 0050 final)
Adopted on 22 January 1993
EPP speaker: Habsburg

The agreement is based on respect for the principles of democracy and human rights. It applies to trade in all goods originating in the EC and Mongolia. Its aim is to promote the development of industry and agriculture, to open up new sources of supply and markets, and to help in particular to develop Mongolia's economy and raise its standard of living.

FEBRUARY 1993 PART-SESSION

OJ No. C 72, 15.3.1993

A3-0045/93 Leopoldo ORTIZ CLIMENT (EPP/ES) on the conclusion of the interim agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the EC and Romania (COM(92) 0510 final)

Adopted on 12 February 1993

EPP speakers: Suarez Gonzalez and Habsburg

Negotiations on an association agreement (Europe Agreement) between the EC and Romania were completed in November 1992. The agreement is a mixed agreement, covering both areas which are the responsibility of the Member States and those which are the responsibility of the Community, and therefore requires ratification by the national parliaments of the Member States and the European Parliament, which may take some time. With this in mind, the parties have agreed in the meantime to implement the part of the agreement which relates to trade, in order to enable Romania to take advantage as soon as possible of the trade advantages conferred by the Treaty. This provisional agreement takes as its legal basis Articles 113 and 235 of the EEC Treaty.

The agreement includes a demand for the principles of democracy to be respected and for human rights to be upheld as an essential precondition to trade cooperation.

The agreement on trade is a preferential agreement with the objective of gradually setting up a free trade area for the majority of trade between the EC and Romania. The liberalization of trade is to take place gradually and will be completed within nine years, although special rules for textiles, shaped steel and agricultural produce will continue to apply.

MARCH 1993 PART-SESSION

OJ No. C 115, 26.4.1993

A3-0072/93 Gijs de VRIES (LDR/NL) on Community instruments of commercial defence (SEC(92) 1097 final)

Referred back to committee on 9 March 1993

EPP speakers: Peijs and Chabert

When safeguarding its interests in the matter of trade policy, the EC is frequently hindered by long-winded and complex decision-making procedures. The Commission therefore considered that a more effective system should be introduced which could delegate more power to the Commission to implement and protect the EC's trade policy.

A new decision-making procedure was proposed whereby the Commission, after consulting the Member States, would take measures to protect trade. In cases where Member States did not wish to follow the Commission's decisions, the Council would take a decision by a qualified majority supporting the Commission's decision. This proposal related only to decision-making procedures and in no way altered the real conditions for applying the EC's instruments of trade policy.

The committee warned that the EC would lose credibility if it did not have a common commercial policy; trade policy instruments were therefore needed.

The committee's amendments to the Commission proposal were adopted in plenary, but since the Commission refused to support Parliament's opinion, the amended proposal was referred back to committee.

A3-0069/93 Jan SONNEVELD (EPP/NL) on the opening of a special import tariff quota for high quality beef and veal (COM(92) 0518 final)

Adopted on 11 March 1993

EPP speaker: Sonneveld

The Commission proposed for 1993 a quota of 11 430 tonnes for the duty-free imports into the EC of beef and veal of particularly high quality. For imports over and above that limit, a duty of 20% was proposed. The imports concerned were from Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Australia and New Zealand.

A3-0073/93 David MARTIN (PES/UK) on future agreements between the EC and the CIS

Adopted on 12 March 1993

EPP speakers: Price, Zavvos and Stavrou

In October 1992 the Council requested the Commission to open negotiations on partnership and cooperation agreements with the independent states of the former Soviet Union, with the aim of obtaining agreements between the EC and the twelve CIS states on the basis of Articles 113 and 235 of the EC Treaty.

The Council's negotiating directive defined a new type of external agreement, known as an agreement on partnership and cooperation, intended as a halfway-house between association agreements and customary agreements on trade and cooperation. The main differences between the proposed agreements on partnership and the 'Europe Agreements' are the following:

- the agreements on partnership and cooperation do not mention the possibility of future EC membership;
- unlike the Europe Agreements, they do not set up a free trade area between the EC and the states of the CIS;
- in the partnership agreements freedom of movement for workers, capital and services is based on most-favoured-nation status.

The committee was able to support the general principles of economic co-operation set out in the draft agreements, but considered that more importance should be accorded to supporting environmental projects and improving nuclear safety. Sectors such as textiles, ECSC products and the products of the nuclear industry would be the subject of separate agreements. The committee regretted that the Commission had not laid greater importance on creating a genuine free trade area between the EC and the CIS.

The section of the agreement on parliamentary cooperation was very weak, and the European Parliament insisted that it be improved as a step towards establishing a political dialogue.

EEA Agreement. Statement on behalf of the Commission by Commissioner STEICHEN on the results of negotiations between the EEC and EFTA on the conclusion of an additional protocol following the Swiss rejection of the EEA Agreement.

No motion for a resolution.

EPP speakers: Jepsen, Stavrou and Chanterie

APRIL 1993 PART-SESSION

OJ No. C 0150, 31.5.1993

EBRD. Statement on behalf of the Commission by Commissioner CHRISTOPHERSEN on the EBRD's activities, particularly the relationship between its administrative and operational expenditure.

EPP speaker: Kellett-Bowman

No motion for a resolution

A3-0130/93 Konstantinos STAVROU (EPP/GR) on the conclusion of the Interim Agreement between the EEC and Bulgaria on trade and trade-related matters (COM(93) 0046 final)

A3-0129/93 Konstantinos STAVROU (EPP/GR) on economic and trade relations between the EEC and Bulgaria

Adopted on 23 April 1993

EPP speakers: Peijs and Pasmazoglou

The negotiations on an association agreement (Europe Agreement) between the EC and Bulgaria were completed in March 1993. The agreement in question was a mixed agreement, requiring ratification by the Member States' national parliaments and the European Parliament. So as not to delay economic development in Bulgaria, the parties decided to conclude an interim agreement for those parts of the agreement on trade and trade-related matters. Article 113 and 235 of the EEC Treaty form the legal basis for the interim agreement. The agreement includes provisions calling for respect for the principles of democracy and the upholding of human rights as an essential prerequisite for trade cooperation.

The agreement on trade is a preferential agreement, aiming to establish gradually a free trade zone for the majority of trade between the EC and Bulgaria. The liberalization of trade is to take place gradually, and should be completed within nine years, though special rules will still apply to textiles, manufactured steel and agricultural produce.

The report on economic and trade relations between the EC and Bulgaria stressed the importance of the cooperation agreement concluded in 1990 as a first step in the process of reform currently under way in Bulgaria following the major political and commercial upheavals in the former COMECON.

A3-0132/93 Leopoldo ORTIZ CLIMENT (EPP/ES) on economic and commercial relations between the European Community and Romania

Adopted on 23 April 1993

EPP speakers: Habsburg and Stavrou

The committee considered that a positive outcome to the process of economic readjustment in Romania was dependent in the medium and long term on the Romanian authorities' ability to convince the international community of their firm intention to uphold the principles of democracy and introduce a market economy; only in this way could they secure assistance from the international community.

A3-0131/93 Willy DE CLERCQ (LDR/B) on transitional tariff measures for the states of Central and Eastern Europe to take account of German unification (COM(93) 0005 final)

Adopted on 23 April 1993 without debate

The Commission proposed that goods from the former COMECON countries might under certain conditions be imported tariff-free into the former GDR. This was one of a number of transitional measures adopted in connection with the unification of Germany. The reason for the tariff exemption was to enable businesses in the five new Länder to maintain traditional trade relations and limit the negative effects of German unification on the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. The tariff exemption is subject to imports being included in the existing bilateral agreements, and that the imported goods remain in the former GDR. These arrangements were extended until the end of 1993. The committee supported the Commission proposals.

A3-0134/93 Gerd LEMMER (EPP/D) on guidelines for officially supported export credits (COM(92) 0502 final)

Adopted on 23 April 1993

EPP speaker: Lemmer

The Commission submitted a proposal to update the procedural rules on export credits. The international system of rules for the granting of public support for export credits is decided upon in the OECD. Experience has shown that more formal procedures need to be followed to define the EC's position.

The committee criticized the Council for not consulting Parliament in connection with the agreement. The Council in its solemn declaration of July 1993, on European Union, had undertaken to consult the European Parliament in connection with the conclusion of international agreements of major importance.

MAY 1993 PART-SESSION

OJ No. C 176, 28.6.1993

Relations with Central and Eastern Europe. Three oral questions to the Council and Commission. HELVEG PETERSEN, President of the Council, and Sir Leon BRITTAN, member of the Commission, answered questions.

Motions for resolutions B3-0663/93 REX Committee, B3-0680/93 PEIJS (EPP/NL) and B3-0682/93 WOLTJER (PES/NL)

EPP speakers: Stavrou, Habsburg, Peijs, Elles, Pasmazoglou, Sonneveld, McMillan-Scott, Braun-Moser and Zavvos

A joint motion for a resolution by SAKELLARIOU (PES/D), PEIJS (EPP/NL) and DE CLERCQ (LDR/B) was adopted on 27 May 1993.

A3-0152/93 Henry CHABERT (EPP/F) on the provision of technical assistance to economic reform and recovery in the independent states of the former Soviet Union and Mongolia (COM(92) 0475 final)

Referred back to committee on 27 May 1993

EPP speakers: Marck, Penders, Sir Fred Catherwood, Chabert, Pöttering and Price

The TACIS programme on technical assistance to the CIS entered into force in 1991, and it is now proposed that it be extended. The programme covers the twelve independent states of the former Soviet Union and Mongolia. Mongolia is included because the country's situation and need for aid is similar to that in the CIS.

The aim of the programme is to provide technical assistance for economic reform and recovery. The priority sectors for technical assistance are the development of human resources, support for businesses including those providing financial services, the production, distribution and sale of foodstuffs, transport and energy. A proportion of the resources available may be used for humanitarian aid.

There were problems with the earlier TACIS programme, as its procedures were complex and did not work as intended. The Commission was broadly able to support the committee's report, including its amendments concerning changes to the procedure. The Council, on the other hand, was not prepared to accept Parliament's amendments of the Commission's proposal, for reasons of principle, and the rapporteur therefore requested that the report be referred back to committee.

A3-0092/93 Michael HINDLEY (PES/UK) on the inclusion of China and Taiwan in GATT, and
A3-0139/93 Viviane REDING (EPP/L) on GATT membership for Taiwan (Committee on Foreign Affairs and Security)
Adopted on 28 May 1993
EPP speaker: Peijs

The REX Committee drew up a report on the special problems arising from the fact that both China (the People's Republic of China) and Taiwan (the Republic of China) had applied for membership of GATT.

China was one of the 23 countries involved in the establishment of GATT. However, after the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949, China was represented in GATT by the former Chiang Kai-Shek regime which had taken refuge on the island of Formosa (Taiwan). This state of affairs continued until 1950, when Taiwan decided to renounce its membership of GATT.

The committee noted that Taiwan's application for membership of GATT did not present any particular problems of an economic nature, since the principles of the market economy had long been accepted there. Moreover, in 1992 Taiwan achieved the status of an industrialized country with a per capita GNP of over US\$10 000.

The committee was in favour of according China (the People's Republic of China) the status of a contracting party to GATT, but felt that the most useful way in which China could resume its rights and obligations within GATT would be by way of a gradual reintegration with a transitional period leading to full integration. The level of state involvement in the country's trade, and the extent to which China still needed to be regarded as a state trading country, required further clarification.

A3-0000/00 Economic aid for certain countries of Central and Eastern Europe (COM(93) 0113 final)
Adopted on 28 May 1993 pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

The Commission proposed to amend the list of countries in Central and Eastern Europe which were entitled to financial assistance under the PHARE programmes. Czechoslovakia was replaced by the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic.

JUNE 1993 PART-SESSION OJ No. C 194, 19.6.1993

A3-0175/93 Giorgio ROSSETTI (PES/I) on the conclusion of an Agreement on trade and economic cooperation between the EEC and Slovenia (COM(92) 0487 final)
Adopted on 25 June 1993
EPP speakers: Peijs and Habsburg

The Commission proposed that the substance of the agreement with Slovenia should be the same as the economic and trade agreement concluded in 1980 between the EC and the then Yugoslavia, with the exception of a number of social provisions (equal treatment and social security regulations). The legal basis of the agreement is Articles 113 and 235 of the EEC Treaty. However, the agreement contains a provision enabling the partners to conclude an association agreement at a later stage on the same basis as the Europe Agreements concluded with Romania and Bulgaria.

The trade provisions give Slovenia free access to the Community for industrial products, including ECSC products. Special arrangements are made for agricultural produce and textiles.

The committee recommended that the agreement with Slovenia be approved, since it was not only of great political importance, but was also a concrete and practical way of recognizing Slovenia as an independent state. It also had great significance for economics and trade, since Slovenia had lost most of its former markets in Yugoslavia and the former COMECON countries and therefore needed to reorient its export markets towards Western Europe.

A3-0176/93 **Giorgio ROSSETTI (PES/I)** on the conclusion of a protocol on financial cooperation between the EEC and Slovenia (COM(93) 0056 final)

Adopted on 25 June 1993

EPP speakers: Peijs and Habsburg

The purpose of this protocol was to permit the Community to participate 'in the financing of projects designed to contribute to the economic development of Slovenia, and in particular projects of common interest to Slovenia and the Community'.

The European Investment Bank has made ECU 150 m available in the form of loans out of the bank's own resources, and the Community may provide ECU 20 m in grant aid with a view to according a 2% interest subsidy on the Bank's loans.

The EIB loans will be used in the first instance as far as possible for funding transport infrastructure projects.

JULY 1993 PART-SESSION

OJ No. C ...

A3-0225/93 **Ana MIRANDA DE LAGE (PES/ES)** on the conclusion of a framework cooperation agreement between the EEC and the Andean Pact (COM(92) 0463 final)

Adopted on 15 July 1993

EPP speaker: none

This framework cooperation agreement between the EC and the Andean Pact (Bolivia, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela) replaces the former cooperation agreement of 1983.

The democratic basis of cooperation forms a significant part of the agreement. Article 1 states that the cooperation links between the Community and the Andean Pact are founded on respect for the principles of democracy and human rights. The preamble to the agreement acknowledges the positive consequences of the modernization and economic reform process and the liberalization of trade in the past few years in the Andean Pact countries.

The new framework agreement contains a number of new features which were not present in the earlier agreement, including a wide and very complete range of industrial sectors and cooperation instruments defined in great detail in the fields of economic, industrial, scientific, technological, commercial, social and cultural cooperation, and environmental protection.

The agreement, which is valid for five years, emphasizes the opportunities for cooperation in the field of high technology, including information technology and telecommunications. It also stresses the importance of cooperation in the fight against drug abuse.

A3-0221/93 Karin JUNKER (PES/D) on the conclusion of a Framework Cooperation Agreement between the EC and the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama (COM(93) 0052 final)
Adopted on 15 July 1993
EPP speaker: Suarez Gonzalez

This framework cooperation agreement between the EC and Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama replaces the earlier agreement of 1985.

The framework agreement is identical in substance with the agreements with Uruguay, Paraguay, Brazil and the Andean Pact. The only significant difference from the other agreements is the inclusion of provisions on cooperation on refugees, displaced persons and returning refugees and on strengthening the development of democracy in Central America.

A3-0152/93 CHABERT (EPP/F) on technical assistance to economic reform and recovery in the independent States of the former Soviet Union and Mongolia (COM(92) 0475 final)

At its sitting on 27 May 1993 Parliament adopted a number of amendments to the Commission proposal. The Commission accepted these amendments, but the Council was not prepared to comply with Parliament's wishes.

On 14 July 1993 Parliament adopted a legislative resolution rejecting the Commission proposal.

GATT - Outcome of the Tokyo Summit. Statement, with debate, with Mr CHRISTOPHERSEN, Commission Vice-President, Mr CLAES, President of the Council, and Sir Leon BRITTAN, Commission Vice-President with special responsibility for GATT.

Motions for resolutions B3-1118/93 DE LA MALENE (RDE/F), B3-1119/93 BLOT (DR/F), B3-1120/93 REX Committee, B3-1121/93 DE VRIES (LDR/NL), B3-1122/93 WOLTJER (PES/NL), B3-1123/93 LANNOYE (V/F)
EPP speakers: Stavrou, Peijs, Moorhouse and Böge

The joint motion for a resolution by WOLTJER (PES/N), PEIJS (EPP/NL) and DE VRIES (LDR/NL) was adopted on 15 July 1993.

Niels PEDERSEN

II. INTRODUCTION

Under the chairmanship of Mr E. BOCKLET, and from 28 June 1993 of Mr S. ALBER, both Members of the European Parliament from the Group of the European People's Party, the Committee on Legal Affairs and Citizens' Rights considered and adopted, between September 1992 and July 1993, ten Council common positions at second reading, seven Commission proposals at first reading (cooperation procedure), three consultations and three reports under Rule 63 of the Rules of Procedure. In addition, the committee drew up several opinions for other committees and examined possible changes in the legal basis of several Commission proposals.

The committee also worked in close cooperation with the European Parliament's Legal Service, monitoring the adoption of Community legislative measures by the Council with a view to safeguarding the prerogatives of the European Parliament. All the reports drawn up by the Committee on Legal Affairs and Citizens' Rights during the abovementioned period, were adopted by a very large majority in the European Parliament, thus enabling the rapid implementation of several Community measures necessary for the setting-up of the internal market.

The EPP Group were responsible for highly important dossiers concerning company laws, financial services, intellectual property, freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services and played a very active role in the committee. For these reasons, several amendments tabled by the EPP to legislative measures, were adopted not only by Parliament, but also by the Commission and the Council, thus making positive additions to legislative texts.

The committee also received visits from key personalities throughout the year, including:

- Danish Minister of Industry, Mr TRØJBORG, as President-in-Office of the Council of Ministers for the Internal Market, on 24 February 1993
- Commissioner Mr VANNI D'ARCHIRAFI, responsible for the 'Internal Market' portfolio, on 25 February 1993
- Danish Minister of Justice, Mrs PIA GJELLERUP, President-in-Office of the Council of Ministers for Justice, 17 March 1993
- Mrs SCRIVENER, Commissioner responsible for 'Consumer Protection', 6 May 1993.

In conclusion EPP Group members participation in the Committee on Legal Affairs and Citizens' Rights, during this period, should be stressed. They were responsible for more than one-third of the reports adopted by the European Parliament, they succeeded in safeguarding the Group's first priority, namely the completion of the internal market within the prescribed period.

III. REPORTS ADOPTED

INGLEWOOD (EPP/GB)
A3-267/92
Vote: 17.9.92
Regulation: 2913/92
L 302/19.10.92

Recommendation on the Common
Position C3-233/92 with a view
to the adoption of a regulation
establishing a Community Customs
Code

The aim of the proposal for a regulation is to assemble customs legislation in a single Code which will apply, as general law of the Customs Union, only to the trade in goods between the EC and third countries. The objectives of the Code are the following:

- replacement of a number of individual measures with a coherent text,
- transparency,
- codification of existing legislation.

The legislative content of the Code comprises the following elements:

- the introductory part of the Code: (Titles I to III) deals with goods brought into the customs territory of the Community,
- the central part of the Code: (Title IV) under the heading 'Placing of goods under a customs procedure', there is a whole series of instruments and customs procedures of economic importance, headed by 'the release for free circulation' - the crucial concept of the Customs Union,
- the final part of the Code: (Titles V to VIII) brings together all provisions relating to the payment of a customs debt and procedural rules laid down for the adoption by the Commission of implementing provisions. Article 257 in particular contains the list of Council regulations which are replaced by this Code.

The Council's common position generally corresponds to the Commission's initial proposal and to the amendments tabled at first reading by Parliament on 22 February 1991 (A3-12/91). However, the main problem lies in the inclusion of 'new material' by the Council in a legislative proposal which seeks to codify existing measures. Parliament adopted, by a large majority, two amendments to the common position relating to comitology and the date of entry into force. The Commission also undertook to avoid the future introduction of 'new material' during the codification of legislative texts and to consider the possibility of reaching an inter-institutional agreement to deal with the procedure to be followed when dealing with codification.

Group speaker: GARCIA AMIGO

GARCIA AMIGO (EPP/ES)
A3-268/92
Vote: 28.10.92
Dir. 92/96/EEC
L 360/9.12.92

**II Recommendation on the common
position established by the Council
(C3-290/92) with a view to the
proposal of a third directive
relating to direct life assurance and
amending Directives 79/267/EEC and
90/619/EEC

Following the First Council Directive in 1979 on life assurance which laid down certain basic rules relating to the taking up and pursuit of the business of life assurance in other Member States while maintaining the full national control systems and the second Directive enabling policy holders to have recourse to undertakings with a head office in

other Member States as well as authorizing life assurance undertakings to sell group assurance such as complementary retirement schemes beyond national frontiers, the third Directive which is proposed will enable undertakings to operate freely throughout the Community on the basis of home country control.

The Directive lays down provisions on harmonization as regards the definition and calculation of technical provisions and measures concerning the representation, evaluation, diversification and localization of the matching assets of these provisions. In particular, it abolishes the requirement that assurance undertakings localize assets in the Member State where they carry out their activity, and also the requirement of placing a minimum of assets in particular categories such as, in state securities. The proposal also lifts the ban on cumulation of activities as regards the right of establishment and the freedom to provide services; instead a system of single authorization and prudential control by the home state is introduced. With regard to composite companies, restrictions are lifted as long as there is separate management of accounts. Consumer protection is guaranteed in various ways, particularly:

- by the protection of policy holders in accordance with the legislation of the country where they are domiciled or their country of origin;
- by the home country's ability to take immediate measures with regard to a subsidiary whose parent undertaking is established in another Member State, if an urgent problem arises following non-compliance with regulations;
- by making available to the policy holder, before the signing of the contract and if necessary, during the duration of this contract, all necessary information about the contract and the undertaking;
- by the possibility of cancelling a contract, within a period of between 14 to 30 days, from its conclusion;
- by the right granted to the Member States, on a proposal from their competent authorities, to prohibit the marketing of policies within their territory which conflict with the general good as defined by the Court of Justice;
- by the equality of treatment for all assurance creditors, irrespective of nationality or country of residence, in the event of liquidation.

All of the rapporteur's amendments were adopted unanimously in most cases. Amendments to the report were mainly aimed at:

- avoiding any reduction, because of the creation of the single market, in the legal safeguards which consumers are entitled to expect,
- ensuring that the head office and central administration of assurance undertakings are located in the same Member State,
- clarifying the definition of life assurance,
- Drawing attention to the legal distinctions which exist between freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services, despite the lifting of the ban on the simultaneous carrying on of business,
- Maintaining the periodic notification of contractual and technical documentation including a definition of the term 'periodic',
- Clarifying the legal situation as regards the free movement of insurance products in connection with the provisions concerning the general good in force in the Member States and stating that any

national provision hindering the freedom to provide services must be justified with regard to Community law,

- Maintaining the arrangements established under the first Directive 79/267 on coordination of composite undertakings,
- Amending some prudential rules laid down in the provisions of the directive (technical bases; calculation of technical provisions; investment policy; minimum solvency margin; free assets; the supply of technical information to the supervisory body;),
- Clarifying that the tax regime will be that of the Member State where the business is carried out,
- Establishing specific transitional periods for Portugal, Spain and Greece to enable them to limit freedom to provide services, in their territory for a certain period.

At the first reading on 13 May 1992 (A3-173/92) the Commission took over resumed several important Parliament amendments which the Council included in its common position. Parliament therefore accepted the common position adopted unanimously by the Council without any amendments.

GROUP SPEAKER : GARCIA AMIGO

PERREAU DE PINNINCK
(EPP/ES)
A3-274/92
Vote: 28.10.92
Dir. 92/101/EEC
L 347 / 28.11.92

**II Recommendation on the common position (C3-288/92) with a view to the adoption of a directive amending Directive 77/91/EEC on the formation of public limited-liability companies and the maintenance and alteration of their capital

This proposal should be considered together with the proposal for a second amendment to the proposal for a fifth Directive on the structure of public limited companies and the powers and obligations of their organs. Both proposals seek the elimination of legal obstacles to takeover. The proposal to which this report relates is mainly concerned with the maintenance of company capital and seeks to extend the restrictions on the acquisition by a public limited - liability company of its own shares. A company can ward off a hostile bid by putting a certain percentage of its subscribed capital into its subsidiaries and freezing voting rights in order to prevent takeover.

The proposed measures stipulate that shares in the parent company acquired by its subsidiaries must be added to those held by the parent company when calculating the maximum (10%) of subscribed capital which can be held at any given time by the company and that the voting rights attached to these shares must also be suspended.

At first reading on 10 July 1991 (A3-181/91) the European Parliament had adopted only one amendment which sought to extend the concept of subsidiary to cover all companies in which a parent company may control, either directly, or indirectly via other companies, a majority of voting rights.

The common position of the Council, adopted unanimously, is along the same lines as the position of Parliament, but makes provisions for certain derogations reducing somewhat the scope initially proposed.

GROUP SPEAKER: JANSSEN VAN RAAY

BANDRES MOLET (V/ES)
Doc. A3-27/92
Final vote: 28.10.92

* Report on the proposal for a
regulation on Community plant variety
rights COM(90) 347

The European Patent Convention adopted in Munich in 1973, stipulates that patents shall not be granted in respect of plant or animal varieties or essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals. However, this provision does not apply to microbiological processes or the products thereof. It is in this specific areas that the Commission submitted its proposal for a directive on the legal protection of biotechnological inventions directly related to the regulation on plant variety rights.

The aim of this regulation, which is based on the protection measures instituted by the Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), is to establish a special form of industrial property rights in the Community and to ensure a proper reward to plant breeders as well as to promote continuous upgrading of plant varieties.

The main provisions lay down the conditions for the grant of Community plant variety rights, namely in particular distinctiveness, uniformity, stability, novelty of the variety concerned and personal entitlement. It defines the uniform effects of the right granted and confirms both the principle of 'breeders exemption' for new varieties developed from protected varieties and 'farmers' exemption' in relation to seeds obtained by the farmer for use on his own holding. In addition, it provides for a system of compulsory licensing and a 'Community Plant Variety Office' to ensure the implementation of Community plant variety rights.

The amendments adopted inat plenary in February 1992, were mainly concerned with clarifying the scope of protection concerning patents on plants. The term 'variety' was defined more precisely and the relationship with the special provisions for plant breeders at both national and Community level was clarified (balancing 'cross-licensing' between plant breeders and patent holders).

Parliament also called for the insertion of a provision in the regulation in order to protect the right of farmers to plant harvested material on their own holding without having to pay royalties on the patented seeds. This amendment also stipulated that any modification of this farmers' right should be undertaken in accordance with the normal legislative procedure, in other words after a Commission proposal for amendment of the regulation. Parliament voted almost unanimously in favour of this report.

GROUP SPEAKER: GARCIA AMIGO

ANASTASSOPOULOS (EPP/GR)>
A3-297/92
Vote: 28.10.92
Dir. 92/100/EEC
L346/27.11.92

**II Recommendation on the common
position C3-287/92 concerning the
proposal for a directive on rental
right, lending right and on certain
rights related to copyright

The aim of the Commission's proposal is to grant to authors, performing artists and producers the right to authorize, with payment, or prohibit the rental and lending of originals and copies of copyright works. More particularly this right is granted to the author in relation to the original and copies of his work. Performing artists and producers are granted neighbouring rights covering right of fixation, right of reproduction and distribution rights.

Commercial rental particularly of compact disks and video cassettes has been increasing steadily over the last few years. Because of sophisticated copying systems, rightholders who are generally not remunerated for

these rentals, suffer financially because of the fall in sales due to piracy.

Lending, as opposed to rental, is non-commercial and takes place mainly in libraries. The Commission proposes to extend the provisions which already exist in four countries, namely the UK, Denmark, Germany and Netherlands, to the whole of the EC. In these countries authors obtain a remuneration when they authorize lending on a non-profit-making basis. However, Member States can, for cultural or other reasons derogate from this exclusive public lending right, via a remuneration to authors.

Within the framework of this proposal for a directive which aims at harmonizing rental and lending rights, the minimum duration of authors' rights remains governed by the Berne Convention on the Protection of Literary and Artistic works, i.e. 50 years from the time of death of the author.

With regard to the minimum duration of neighbouring rights contained in this proposal, reference is made to the duration of protection provided for in the Rome Convention.

The amendments adopted at first reading on 12 February 1992, (A3-49/92) are mainly those of the rapporteur and are related to the amount of adequate remuneration which should be duly proportional to the contribution made to the work protected; the request (to those concerned) to step up reciprocal relations with third countries and the possibility of retroactive application of the provisions of the directive, allowing three years (for the parties) to adapt, in the spirit of the directive, the various conventions or contracts in force at 1 January 1993.

The Council's common position adopted unanimously generally takes account of Parliament's amendments. However, at second reading, and on a proposal from the rapporteur, the plenary reintroduced a recital on the need to open negotiations with third countries with a view to securing reciprocal legal protection.

GROUP SPEAKERS: ANASTASSOPOULOS, INGLEWOOD, HOPPENSTEDT

ROTHLEY (PSE/D)
A3-286/92
Vote: 29.10.92

**I Third report on the proposal for a directive on the legal protection of biotechnological inventions (COM(88) 496 final)

This proposal for a directive concerns the approximation of national legislative provisions governing intellectual property rights in the area of biotechnology. There are three objectives:

- to establish legal certainty for the granting of patents on inventions related to different forms of living matter;
- to ensure the smooth functioning of the internal market in the area of biotechnological products;
- to foster biotechnological research in line with the Community's framework programmes.

The need for a directive became apparent when interpretation by national authorities' provisions of existing Conventions in relation to new processes varied considerably from one state to another. Account was also taken of competition from the United States and Japan where the law assures patentability and greater protection than in Europe in this field.

The directive therefore allows the patentability of living matter and does not exclude the patentability of the pre-existing living matter on

condition that there has been a sufficient degree of human intervention. The duration of legal protection granted to patented inventions capable of self-replication is 20 years from the date of filing, in other words for as long as the patent is valid. Patents can also be granted for plants and animals under the following conditions: novelty, invention and industrial application. Under the provisions laid down in the directive, the practical effect will essentially be to enshrine in law the patentability of products created by genetic engineering, particularly micro-organisms.

The amendments adopted principally concerned: replacing (in the case of an invention) the term 'living matter' by 'biological material' and the definition of the latter; the exclusion from patentability of inventions which are contrary to public order or morality; the incompatibility with public order of inventions concerning the human body and parts of the human body or inventions likely to change genetic identity except in the case where genetic changes are necessary for curing diseases; the incompatibility with public order of inventions which have harmful effects on animals or cause unnecessary suffering and physical harm; the non-patentability of procedures for surgical, therapeutic or diagnostic treatment carried out on the humans or animals; the introduction of a licensing system for holders of a plant variety rights or patent holders who cannot exploit the protected variety or patent without infringing the patent or plant variety right.

After the adoption by a very large majority in plenary on 8 March 1992, of the amendments contained in the first report and following the referral back to committee of the report in order to negotiate with the Commission on the acceptance of certain amendments, the Commission agreed to accept the compromise amendments on the right of the farmer to use the harvested seeds on his own holding and the non-patentability of the human body as well as on the inventions contrary to public order on animals which could have harmful effects on their health.

The report was then finally adopted on 29 October 1992 by a large majority.

GROUP SPEAKER: GARCIA AMIGO

ANASTASSOPOULOS (EPP/GR)
Doc. A3-328/92
Vote: 18.11.92
Dir. 92/121/EEC
L 29/5.2.93

*II Recommendation on the
common position C3-360/92 con-
cerning a proposal for a directive on
monitoring and controlling large
exposures of credit institutions

The provisions laid down in the proposal for a directive are mainly intended to control large exposures in the banking sector. The object is therefore to guarantee that no bank can be seriously threatened by any default on the part of a client. This proposal reinforces the stability of the banking system within the Community.

The spread of risks incurred by credit institutions is thereby modified. Concentration of risks in relation to a single client may no longer exceed 25% of the institution's own funds and any risk exceeding 10% of these funds must be periodically notified to the competent national authorities. Finally, the total amount of large exposures incurred may not exceed 800% of own funds.

In order to allow smaller credit institutions such as small cooperative banks, to adjust to the provisions of the present directive, a first transitional period of five years in which competent authorities may apply less strict rules is provided. A further period of three years is also possible in which existing loans will continue to be treated as before.

The rapporteur's main amendments were adopted unanimously in plenary on 13 May 1992 (A3-174/92). They were directed at modifying, solely for a period of 10 years, the aforementioned percentages to 40% (Commission: 25%) for risks concentrated in relation to a single client and 30% (Commission: 20%) if the client or group of connected clients was the parent company and/or one or more of the subsidiaries of that parent company. In relation to the definition of a large exposure, the report proposed that for a period of 10 years a large exposure would be defined as one with a value of 15% or more of own funds. After that time the percentage proposed by the Commission (10%) would be applied. In addition, the report proposed that Member States should be entitled to establish a 20% weighting coefficient (under certain conditions) for assets constituting claims of more than one year represented by securities issued by a credit institution which do not constitute own funds within the meaning of Directive 89/229/EEC. In relation to a branch with its head office in a third country, the report called for Member States to be entitled to require the branch's exposures to be reported to them and also stipulated that Member States should not apply to these branches a more favourable position than to a branch having its head office within the EC.

The Council's common position takes account of all of Parliament's amendments which had been taken over by the Commission. The recommendation therefore proposed only two changes to the common position, one concerning the treatment of subsidiaries (established in the EC) of third countries' credit institutions and the other concerned the commitology procedure III(a) in place of procedure III(b) established by the Council in its common position.

The European Parliament approved with more than 260 votes the amendments proposed by the rapporteur on 18 November '92.

GROUP SPEAKER: ANASTASSOPOULOS

JAANSEN VAN RAAJ (EPP/NL)

and ZAVVOS (EPP/GR)

Doc. A3-356/92

Vote: 18.11.92

**I Report on the proposal for a directive relating to the freedom of management and investment of funds held by institutions for retirement provisions (COM(91) 301

Systems of retirement provision have developed in very different ways in the different Member States of the Community. This is seen most clearly in the different proportions of retirement income that come through state, occupational or individual provision, through funded or pay-as-you-go provision, through publicly or privately administered provision, and through compulsory or voluntary provision.

The market to which the directive will apply accounts for ECU 700 billion. The directive will benefit the free movement of workers and the cross-border companies which up to now have been obliged to maintain separate pension funds in the different Member States where they are established.

The main objective of the proposal is to bring greater precision to the application of the fundamental principles laid down in the Treaty to institutions for retirement provision and in particular as regards freedom of cross-border financial management and freedom of cross-border investment management.

Consequently, on the one hand this proposal lays down limits on the type of restrictions that may be imposed by Member States on prudential grounds, where such restrictions would be inconsistent with Treaty principles. On the other hand, it proposes a number of prudential

investment principles which should be followed by all institutions for retirement provision. The provisions in the directive give a very wide definition of 'institution for retirement provision' and 'retirement benefits' excluding statutory social security funds as defined in Regulation 1408/71.

The directive essentially covers, for example, certain institutions whose operation is based on mandatory membership and which operate essentially on a pay-as-you-go basis with limited reserves. In more general terms, the directive provides for all financial institutions which are not already covered by other directives in related areas.

Other provisions concern financial management, and the deposit and investment of assets.

The European Parliament adopted the amendments included in the report by a very large majority. These mainly concerned: the representation of pensioners on a 50%-50% basis in the management body; a ceiling on investment by the institution in its own shares, set at 15% of its assets; investment of 50% at least in the EC and financial and legal independence of those who deposit shares in an institution for retirement provision.

Some additional EPP amendments were adopted in plenary in November 1992. These concerned principally : auditing and approval of accounts of institutions for retirement provision, obligatory modification of large categories of investment, the duties and responsibilities of the administrative board and the definition of the institution for retirement provision.

GROUP SPEAKERS: JANSSEN VAN RAAJ, ZAVVOS, INGLEWOOD

ZAVVOS (EPP/GR)
A3-349/92
Vote: 18.11.92
Dir. 93/6/EEC
OJ L 141 (11.6.93)

**II Recommendation on the common position adopted by the Council (C3-361/91) on the proposal for a directive on the capital adequacy of investment firms and credit institutions

Capital adequacy describes the system of rules which supervisory authorities apply to assure that the financial institutions under their supervision have adequate reserves to cover the risks they assume in the course of their business.

The proposal for a directive is the technical complement to the directive on investment services which is now being considered with a view to finding a common position in the Council.

The new directive is to be applied to all firms involved in financial investments for their clients whether they are banks or others. The main objectives are the following:

- to fix prudential rules and thus to establish thereby common financial conditions for the setting up and operation of investment firms, in order to enable them to carry out their activities throughout the Community;
- to ensure that banks and investment firms other than banks are subject to equivalent requirements with regard to capital, in order to guarantee conditions for fair competition between the different types of such firms;
- to maintain the international competitiveness of the Community financial sector and to strengthen it for the future;

- to guarantee adequate protection to the investor.

All the amendments tabled by the rapporteur at first reading were adopted by Parliament and considerably changed the Commission's initial proposal.

The Council's common position takes over most of Parliament's amendments which had been accepted by the Commission at first reading on 20 November 1991 (A3-298/91). Considerable changes have thus been introduced into the directive such as: improvement of the definition of the portfolio of negotiation with the inclusion of pension funds on an inter-professional basis; improvement of other definitions (over-the-counter derivative instruments, central government items, etc.) the introduction of provisions related to the supervision of market risks on a consolidated basis; the easing of restrictions resulting from the obligation to communicate information; the refining of methods of calculating counterparty risk and exchange risk and in particular the adoption of the 'building block approach' (replacing the 'global approach') to calculate exposures, in the meaning advocated by international bodies.

The recommendation therefore proposed the adoption of the common position, but with the reintroduction of the comitology procedure III (a) as it appeared in the Commission's amended proposal (Art. 9). The Council had decided in its common position to hold over the decision relating to the setting up of an advisory committee, until the end of the year. The European Parliament approved this single amendment by more than 260 votes.

GROUP SPEAKER. :ZAVVOS

BRU PURON (PES/ES)
A3-348/92
Vote: 19.11.92

**I Report on the proposal for a
directive harmonizing the term of
protection of copyright and certain
related rights COM(92) 33

The purpose of the proposal is to harmonize the term of protection of copyright and certain related rights because of the wide disparity between the legislations of Member States in this area. The disparity in national legislations had been raised by the Court of Justice in a judgment given on 24 January 1989 (Case 341/87) pointing out that an internal market for literary and artistic works and cultural goods and services can be achieved only if there is a harmonization of terms of protection.

Following hearings of interested parties, the Commission opted for the proposal for a term of protection of 70 years from the death of the author in the case of a natural person, thus taking account of the increase in life-expectancy in order to protect two generations of the author's legitimate heirs. If copyright belongs to all those who collaborated in a work, this protection is calculated from the death of the last surviving person. In the case of anonymous or pseudonymous works, created by legal persons and collective works, the term of protection is 70 years after the date of publication when the work is lawfully made available to the public. With regard to related rights, the term is fixed at 50 years following the first publication of the fixation of the performance.

The amendments proposed by this report were adopted by a majority. The main amendments to be noted are:

- the amendment conferring the quality of author of an audiovisual work on the director, the script writer, the dialogue writer, the adaptor and the composer of music

- the amendment to Art. 6, so that acts of exploitation lawfully carried out before 1 July 1994 should not be adversely affected by the provisions of the directive

- and the amendment to Art. 1 on the period of protection for posthumus works which remains at 70 years from the date on which the work was lawfully made available to the public, provided this occurs within 70 years after the death of the author.

GROUP SPEAKERS. GARCIA AMIGO, LORD INGLEWOOD, HOPPENSTEDT

PROCEDURE WITHOUT REPORT
Vote: 18.12.92

Simplified procedure without report and without debate (Rule 116(1)) on the proposal for a regulation introducing special termination-of-service measures temporarily applicable to certain officials of the European Communities paid from the research and investment appropriations

The aim of this proposal is to introduce special measures, on a temporary basis, to terminate the service of officials of the Joint Research Centre (JRC). The objective is to reduce the average age of the management. This measure is in response to the repeated requests from the European Parliament and the Court of Auditors for the JRC to consolidate the reforms started in 1988, particularly to recruit younger staff with new skills. The measures proposed will apply to officials in Grade A3, A4,, A5, B1 ,B2 and C1, who are at least 55 years of age and have 30 years service and who submit an application. However these measures are restricted to 75 people who will be authorized to terminate their service up until 31 December 1993.

HOON (PES/GB)
A3-409/92
Vote: 16/12/92
Dir. 93/13
L 95/21.4.93

**II Recommendation on the common position C3-409/92 concerning the proposal for a directive on unfair clauses in consumer contracts COM(90) 322 final

The purpose of the Commission proposal was to list the terms regarded as unfair and therefore impermissible in the contracts concluded in the Community between a consumer (natural person) and party acting in the context of commercial, industrial or professional activity. A series of terms were declared unfair and null and void because they increased the economic power of a supplier of goods or services to the detriment of the consumer's interests by depriving him, notably, of the means of defending himself. The proposal defined an unfair term as a term which created a substantial imbalance in the parties' rights and obligations to the contract. A black list was drawn up by the proposal containing a number of unfair terms.

Responsibility for monitoring terms in contracts was assigned to Member States; this went beyond the use of judicial channels, provision being made for checks and self regulation.

The principal amendments adopted in plenary, on 20 November 1991 (A3-295/91) concerned the field of application of the directive and the criteria for defining unfair terms (Art. 2).

In particular, the field of application of the directive was limited to unfair terms in contracts concluded with consumers including standard contracts while excluding contracts all of whose terms were negotiated individually by the parties.

The common position adopted unanimously by the Council including certain Parliament amendments, clearly departed from the Commission's initial proposal and Parliament's expectations. This is why Parliament was opposed to the three fundamental changes introduced by the Council, namely:

- limiting the field of application of the directive to contracts concluded with consumers and to terms which are not individually negotiated.
- removing provisions guaranteeing consumers' positive rights in relation to guarantee of goods and services

and mainly

- removing the restrictive and non-exhaustive character of the annex which contains a number of unfair terms (this annex was 'transformed', by the common position, into an indicative list).

The recommendation proposed six amendments to the common position mainly in order to oblige Member States to prohibit unfair terms, to transform the annex into a restrictive list but not a non-exhaustive one of unfair terms and also to clarify that unfair terms do not bind the consumer, while the rest of the contract remains binding on the other parties.

In addition, the amendment relating to Article 3(1) reintroduced the formula of the Commission's amended proposal (not accepted by the Council) to highlight that 'an unfair term causes the performance of the contract to be significantly different to what the consumer could legitimately expect'.

Parliament adopted all the amendments to the common position as well as a further amendment to the annex concerning the possibility for an individual to withdraw from a timeshare contract within 14 working days.

VAYSSADE (PES/F)
A3-1/93
Vote: 20.1.93

**I Report on the proposals for regulations on the statute for a European Association, a European Cooperative Society and a European Mutual Society as well as on the directives concerning the involvement of employees. COM(91) 273

Cooperatives, mutual societies, associations and foundations should be able to benefit, without restrictions, from the advantages produced by the completion of the internal market, especially in relation to cross-frontier activities, while at the same time maintaining their own specific characteristics.

This sector of cooperatives has expanded significantly in the Community. It accounts for 10% of retail trade turnover, 17% of savings and covers health insurance for 40 million families.

The regulations - which were inspired by the proposal for a regulation on the European Company - stipulate that the European Cooperative Society (SCE), the European Mutual Society (ME) and the European Association (EA) may be constituted either by direct creation, or by conversion of a cooperative or a mutual society or a national association, when it has an establishment or subsidiary in another Member State. European Associations may also be constituted directly by natural persons. With regard to statutes, the provisions provide for similar rules on general meetings, bodies, forms of financing, provisions for accounting, winding-up and liquidation, insolvency and suspension of payments. There are specific rules which are provided for in the respective texts, notably capital requirements for the SCE, establishment funds for the ME and

formation of the EA as well as rules of procedure for the administrative body.

Fiscal provisions concerning these societies are not part of the regulations proposed. These problems will be dealt with by specific directives including problems which may arise during transfer of the head office of the society to another Member State.

The role of workers in these types of societies is regulated through directives which refer back to national provisions on this matter.

However, where there are no national provisions the directives provide for information, and consultation procedures between the management and/or advisory boards and the representatives of employees.

The amendments adopted mainly concerned: the formation and definitions of the association, cooperative society and mutual society (making a distinction between mutual societies for carrying on provident insurance activities and mutual societies engaged in other activities); the law applicable; the forms of financing as well as the obligation regarding the 'participation' of employees in the system established by supplementary directives concerning cooperative and mutual societies with regard to involvement of employees.

The EPP amendment which was adopted should also be noted. It was intended to relieve the obligations of 'publication' (i.e. name, precise statement of objects, names of members, powers and competence of the administrative boards, etc.) for the associations which are not defined as economic associations under national legislation, as well as professional and inter-professional groups.

Other amendments also provide the possibility of relief from obligations of certain associations concerning the publication and disclosure of their accounts.

The two amendments seeking the inclusion in the annex of the regulation regarding the German SGB and RVO mutual insurance associations, were not adopted because the EPP voted against them.

Two other important amendments tabled by the EPP were adopted; one called on the Commission not to revise the list of entities in the annexes of the bank directives so as to exclude the credit unions set up in the UK and in Ireland. The other amendment sought to exclude the application of directives on the role of workers, of European associations and cooperatives with less than 50 workers.

GROUP SPEAKERS: FONTAINE, MENRAD, THYSSEN, CHANTERIE, BROK, BRAUN-MOSER, CARDOSO, COONEY

GRUND (NI/D)
A3-385/92
Vote: 22.1.93

Report (Rule 63) on the coordination of the conditions governing the right to engage in and carry on the profession of alpine guide in the Member States of the EC

This report, pursuant to Rule 63 of the Rules of Procedure, called on the Commission to draw up a proposal - in the form of a recommendation or directive - to ensure that the Community platform governing the right to engage in and carry on the profession of guide is properly transposed into the law of the Member States, in the manner in which it was adopted in autumn 1990 by Italian, German, French and British alpine associations. The purpose of this platform was not to achieve uniformity, but a harmonization of training provisions in the states concerned. Obviously this platform also provided for the recognition, in all Member

States of authorizations issued in line with the requirements set out in the Community platform, without further formalities.

GROUP SPEAKER : WITHOUT DEBATE

A. SIMPSON (EPP/GB)
A3-28/93
Vote: 11.2.93

Own-initiative report (Rule 121) on measures on easier cross-border payments in the internal market

In this report cross-border payments were considered as essential to the smooth functioning of the internal market. Consequently speed and price were regarded as important issues particularly in relation to the harmonization of national legislation regarding finality and irrevocability of payments and insolvency. For this reason, the motion for a resolution called on the Commission to draw up a proposal for a directive in this area and called on financial institutions to draw up and implement a strict code of conduct relating to technical standards, to ensure that cross-border payments would be made in a reliable, inexpensive and effective manner.

In addition, the report called upon the Commission to recommend that national bodies established or to be established following the recommendation of 14 February 1990 to deal with complaints should be granted sufficient authority to deal with cross-border complaints in liaison with the redress systems established by the other Member States concerned.

The Commission was also called on to negotiate with third countries, in particular the United States and Canada, regarding reciprocal treatment for Community financial institutions as regards cross-border payments.

This report was adopted by a very large majority.

GROUP SPEAKERS : SIMPSON, LULLING, ZAVVOS, PATTERSON

BONTEMPI (PES/I)
A3-38/93
Vote: 11.2.93

Report on the application of Community law (9th annual report to the EP by the Commission) COM(92) 136

The motion for a resolution contained in this report mainly called for a legislative programme to be drawn up by the three institutions at the beginning of each year and that each institution should organize its own work in such a way as to enable citizens and national parliaments to be informed promptly enough regarding progress made in legislative procedures. Legislative proposals should respect the subsidiarity principle and furthermore legislative provisions which are repeatedly amended should be consolidated according to a determined procedure. Community institutions should cooperate with national institutions during the period in which Community measures are being transposed, stressing that failure to transpose Community law may be to the considerable disadvantage of citizens. The motion for a resolution reiterated that in such cases, the rulings of the Court had established the principle that Member States were required to make restitution to individuals. The Commission should draw up a proposal to organize a permanent framework for administrative cooperation between Member States and its own services particularly concerning the application of Community law in the internal market. In addition, the Commission should also introduce, within the framework of Rule 8E of the Treaty on European Union, measures aimed at simplifying appeals to administrative or judicial authorities by citizens and consumers organizations. In other provisions of the motion for a resolution, efforts made by the Commission to prevent infringements of Community law were recognized and Parliament was satisfied that the

Treaty on Union (Rule 171) allowed the Court to impose penalties in the event of non-compliance with judgments.

The EPP amendments adopted unanimously in committee and incorporated into the motion for a resolution, called on the Commission to draw up a recommendation that Member States and their universities should stipulate a knowledge of Community law for lawyers and magistrates. Parliament considered that an amendment to the Council's rules of procedure would be desirable in order to enable its proceedings to take place in public when it made laws. Another EPP amendment called on the Court of Justice and the Commission to step up collaboration on organizing advanced training courses and seminars on Community law aimed at lawyers and judges in the Member States. All amendments were adopted by a very large majority.

GROUP SPEAKERS : ANASTASSOPOULOS, INGLEWOOD

VAYSSADE (PES/F)
A3-42/93
Vote: 10.2.93

**II Recommendation on the common position adopted by the Council C3-9/93 with a view to a proposal for a directive to facilitate the free movement of doctors and the mutual recognition of their diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications SEC(91) 2316

With a view to simplifying and clarifying Community law, the Commission submitted a proposal for constituent codification (i.e. the new directive was intended to supersede various directives whose provisions were thereby consolidated. The directives in question were as follows:

- 72/362 (supplemented by Directive 81/1057 and amended by Directives 82/76, 89/594, and 90/658 and by the Acts of Accession of GR, ESP and PORT);
- 72/363 (amended by Directives 82/76, 89/594 and 90/658, and by the Acts of Accession of GR, ESP and PORT);
- 86/457;
- 75/363;
- 81/1057.

The proposed codification fully respected the substance of the texts which it served to consolidate and confined itself to regrouping them, the only amendments being formal ones required for the purpose of this operation.

The proposal was submitted to Parliament under the cooperation procedure. At first reading, the EP adopted the proposal on 8 April 1992 by a very large majority and under the simplified procedure without report (Rule 116).

The common position adopted unanimously by the Council, added only some purely technical modifications to the text and consequently Parliament adopted it without any amendments.

GROUP SPEAKER : PROCEDURE WITHOUT DEBATE

SALEMA (LDR/PT)
A3-51/93
Vote: 9.3.93

Report (Rule 63) on the abduction of children

The report considered that it is necessary to protect and restore the right of custody to the parent who was granted that right while protecting and guaranteeing rights of access (both national and

international family mediations are envisaged) of the other parent. In the case of abduction of children by a third party, the report recommended that penalties be made even more severe and especially take account of the abolition of internal frontiers. It is also proposed that a study be conducted into the freedom of movement enjoyed by non-emancipated minors and the means proposed by the Member States to empower parents having custody to withhold permission for a child to leave the territory of its habitual country of residence. Member States which have not yet ratified the 1980 Convention of The Hague on the civil aspects of international child abduction and the 1980 Convention of Luxembourg on recognition and enforcement of decisions concerning custody of children, were requested to do so and to limit the number of exemptions. However, the report stressed the weaknesses of both Conventions particularly, the slowness of procedures and the difficulties faced by applicants in obtaining legal assistance under the systems currently in force in the Member States. For these reasons, the report stresses the need for legislation at Community level of a sufficiently adaptable and flexible nature to ensure that children are returned to their country of residence as swiftly as possible. The Commission was called upon to submit a communication - after an examination of all aspects relating to the international abduction of children in the EC - on the possibility of introducing an instrument at Community level and the legal possibility of including, in the 1968 Brussels Convention concerning legal competence and enforcement of decisions of a civil and commercial nature, the automatic recognition and enforcement of decisions concerning custody and rights of access. The report also suggested that Member States use the power conferred upon them under the first indent of Article 220 of the Treaty to conclude a legal instrument based thereon.

The Commission was also called on to refer systematically to these matters whenever conducting negotiations for cooperation agreements with third countries. With regard to right of access, Member States were asked to guarantee this right through specific provisions.

The report was adopted by a very large majority.

GROUP SPEAKERS : FONTAINE, INGLEWOOD

VAYSSADE (PES/F)
A3-58/93
Vote: 10.3.93

**I Report on the proposal for a
directive on deposit guarantee
schemes COM(92)188 final

The aim of the proposal for a directive is to ensure that should a credit institution with its head office in the Community suffer a financial crisis, all its depositors would receive compensation of ECU 15 000 (obviously if the total of the deposit is below this sum, compensation will be equal to the sum of the total) within three months. A deposit guarantee scheme is necessary in order to complete adequate and effective monitoring of credit institutions, thus maintaining confidence in the banking system even in the event of a financial crisis.

The sum of ECU 15 000 (minimum coverage) was chosen because it corresponded to the average level of protection in the Community. However, there is no guarantee scheme in two Member States (GR, PORT). This directive stipulates therefore that all credit institutions authorized in a Member State must be members of a deposit guarantee scheme. Deposits held by a branch of an institution which has its head office in another Member State are in principle covered by the guarantee scheme operated by the home Member State. However, in order to supplement their coverage where this is appropriate, branches may also join the scheme operated by the host Member State (if the level of protection is higher). In addition an annex is provided in the directive containing a list of depositors or deposits which Member States may exclude from the guarantee system.

The amendments proposed are principally concerned:

- to fix the sum of 'minimum protection' at ECU 20 000 instead of the 15 000 proposed
- to provide a clause for the revision or adaptation of the minimum sum of 20 000, at least every two years and to enable the maintenance or possible adoption of provisions under which certain types of deposits which are of existential importance to the depositor, such as retirement and home ownership savings can be totally guaranteed
- to oblige credit institutions to inform their depositors regarding the amount of coverage made available and the conditions for compensation and the formalities which must be fulfilled in order to obtain compensation
- to ensure that the depositor's right to compensation can be fulfilled by direct legal action against the deposit guarantee scheme
- to exclude from any refund deposits made under fraudulent acts carried out in the hope of benefiting from the guarantee scheme
- to include postal banks which are not covered by guarantees of a Member State nor by any equivalent guarantee scheme
- to oblige Member States to ensure that branches in the EC of credit institutions which have their head office outside the EC receive coverage equivalent to that applicable to the guarantee scheme to which the parent company belongs and, failing that, Member States must ensure that the branch joins a guarantee scheme in operation on their territory.

GROUP SPEAKERS: von WOGAU, ZAVVOS, INGLEWOOD

BRU PURON (PES/ES)
A3-80/93
Vote: 10.3.93
Dir. 93/22
L 141 of 11.6.93

**II Recommendation on the common position adopted by the Council C3-5/93 with a view to adopting a directive on investment services in the securities field.

The main objective of this proposal is to enable an investment firm with a head office in a Member State to carry out its activities throughout the Community on the basis of a 'European passport' (single authorization) granted by its home Member State. With this aim in mind, the proposal harmonizes conditions for authorization and operating conditions. Responsibility for prudential supervision systems is conferred on the competent national authorities of the home Member State. In addition this proposal which is the essential extension of the Second Banking Directive, organizes collaboration between authorities from the home Member State and those of the host Member State and grants investment firms the right to all regulated markets in the Community.

The common position, adopted unanimously by the Council very largely takes account of Parliaments amendments at first reading (A3-44/89, 25 October 1989), aimed mainly at increased investment protection, greater transparency and the introduction of rules of conduct for investment firms.

The seven amendments proposed in the recommendation and adopted by Parliament mainly concerned the question of comitology (procedure IIIa), the guarantee offered to investors during the transitional period (this important amendment is intended to make a guarantee system obligatory during this period), and the strengthening of investor protection.

Although the adoption of the common position with the amendments proposed did not pose any particular problems, it is however obvious that the

directive in question should be supplemented by the new texts which the Commission has undertaken to submit.

GROUP SPEAKERS : GARCIA AMIGO, ZAVVOS

B3-666/93
Vote: 25.5.93

Motion for a resolution (Rule 41(4))
on a proposal for a regulation on the
security measures applicable to
classified information produced or
transmitted in connection with EEC or
Euratom activities COM(92)56

The motion for a resolution defines a framework which will allow exchanges of classified information, where necessary, between the institutions and between the institutions and the Member States. The provisions laid down in this regulation concern the exchange of classified information and the protection measures which must be applied to such information during its preparation, circulation and storage. In addition, the proposal provides that the declassification of information is the responsibility of the institution or Member State which assigned the security grading.

According to the proposal, an item of information should be assigned a security grading only when its disclosure could be detrimental to the essential interests of the Communities or one or several Member States. The legal basis for the proposal is Article 235 EEC and Article 203 EAEC. This means that the Council will act unanimously to adopt this proposal.

Because the principles contained in the proposal are not sufficiently clear and different interpretations could be given to certain provisions in this regulation and also the fact that there is no provision made for derogations from the general principle for the European Parliament, the motion for a resolution concludes that the matter of classification of documents is important and therefore that a regulation is necessary, especially in the interests of the participation and monitoring by Parliament.

However the Commission's current proposal is not considered satisfactory as it is drafted in terms which could infringe civil liberties and freedom of access to information and does not ensure a sufficient level of legal certainty and clarity. Consequently the Commission is called upon to withdraw its initial proposal and to submit a new draft to Parliament which would take into account the objections put forward by Parliament.

During discussion in plenary the Commission agreed to withdraw its proposal which had been included in the Edinburgh list and to consider the possibility of presenting a new proposal taking into account Parliament's concerns.

GROUP SPEAKER: JARZEMBOWSKI

GARCIA AMIGO (EPP/ESP)
A3-183/93
Vote: 23.6.93

** Proposal for a directive on the
legal protection of databases
(COM(92) 24 final)

The proposal seeks to introduce a harmonized and stable legal regime which would protect and foster the creation of databases within the Community. At present, some countries already grant this kind of protection in the form of copyright. However, the scope of this protection is not the same everywhere and the situation in other EC countries is not clear. This sector is growing steadily and the world turnover for

electronic on-line databases in 1989 was in the region of ECU 8.5 billion of which over ECU 2 billion was from Western Europe (EEC + EFTA). The turnover for Europe in 1992 is expected to reach ECU 3.5 billion.

For these reasons, in addition to introducing harmonized protection deriving from copyright, the proposal for a directive offers 'sui generis' protection for intellectual property and grants a ten-year period of protection to producers of electronic databases against unfair copies of the contents of their databases, on condition that these databases comply with certain conditions of originality.

The amendments adopted - largely, the rapporteur's amendments - were concerned with:

- the replacement of the concept of 'unfair extraction' with 'unauthorized extraction' and 'author of a database' with 'owner of a database';
- maintaining compulsory licences with the addition of further details;
- increasing the period of protection from 10 to 15 years starting on 1 January of the year following the date when the database was first made available to the public or after any substantial change to the database.

The report was adopted by Parliament by a very large majority.

GROUP SPEAKERS: GARCIA AMIGO, Lord INGLEWOOD

MEDINA ORTEGA (ES/PES)
A3-211/93
Vote: 14.7.93

**II Recommendation on the common position established by the Council (C3-201/93) with a view to the proposal for a directive on the coordination of certain rules concerning copyright and rights related to copyright applicable to satellite broadcasting and cable retransmission

The objective of the proposal for a directive which supplements the Directive 'Television without Frontiers' was to compensate for the inadequacy of trans-frontier broadcasting of programmes in the areas of both satellite broadcasting and cable retransmission.

With regard to satellite broadcasting, the draft laid down as a principle that authorization for satellite broadcasting of copyright works should be acquired in the country of origin while on the other hand, remuneration would be paid on the basis of the real or potential audience - possibly spanning over several countries. In order to avoid shifts to other countries where legislation is more favourable to satellite broadcasting bodies, the proposal provided for a common level of protection for authors, performing artists, producers of phonograms and broadcasters throughout the Community.

As for cable retransmission, it was proposed that authors' rights be protected under the 'umbrella' model used in several Member States namely, negotiating authorization for cable retransmission on a centralized basis by transferring the management of rights to a collecting society representing holders of copyright, cable transmitters and broadcasters. Two complementary measures were added: the possibility for one of the parties to request a neutral framework for negotiation, in the form of an amicable arrangement of a non-obligatory nature and the fact that one of the parties cannot withdraw from the negotiations without a valid reason. Thus there is an obligation to negotiate but the parties are not forced to conclude an agreement.

The aim of Parliament's amendments at first reading on 29 October 1992 (A3-271/92), was to clarify 'communication to the public by satellite', 'cable retransmission' and 'collecting society'. In addition, Parliament advocated the recognition of the director as author of an audio-visual work and when agreement cannot be reached on authorization of the cable retransmission of a broadcast, an independent or impartial authority may be appealed to.

The Council's common position, adopted unopposed with one abstention, generally takes account of the European Parliament's amendments at first reading which were adopted by the Commission.

The Council's text mainly provided for the following changes:

- a number of recitals concerning the impact of new rules on the existing situation and ensuring that the proposal for a directive is consistent with Directive 92/100/EEC (on rental and lending rights);
- the definition of the term 'collecting society', in a general way so as to determine which are the 'umbrella' organizations for the negotiation of cable retransmission rights;
- the transfer into a preamble of a provision laid down in the proposal on the principle of contractual acquisition of satellite rights so as to specify that when determining the remuneration corresponding to the rights acquired, all parameters must be taken into account such as actual audience, potential audience and language version;
- Member States with a system of collective extended contracts must indicate to the Commission the broadcasting bodies entitled to these contracts;
- a provision on the problem of existing international co-production contracts. Prior consent from the co-producers is necessary in all cases where satellite broadcasting may damage the language exclusivity of one of the co-producers;
- a provision for cases where a Member State's legislation establishes a link between broadcasting of a work and its subsequent cable retransmission;
- the proposal of mediators (where there is negotiation and disagreement), should be notified to the parties in accordance with the rules applicable to the notification of legislative acts.

On the initiative of the EPP Group, the recommendation reintroduced two amendments to the recitals to emphasize the impact which new technologies may have on the level of protection granted by the directive to all right holders, in particular to ensure that any developments in this area are examined on an ongoing basis. A third EP amendment called on the Commission to submit, within a period of five years of the entry into force of the Directive, a report assessing and possibly revising the level of protection guaranteed to the various holders in relation to the matters governed by this directive.

GROUP SPEAKERS:

ANASTASSOPOULOS, Lord INGLEWOOD

IV. OTHER INITIATIVES

(a) On behalf of the committee, the chairman, Mr Bocklet, tabled an oral question with debate to the Council on extending the jurisdiction of the Court of First Instance. This question should have been examined in plenary in June 1993. The committee's motion for a resolution to wind up the debate, adopted by a very large majority, called on the Council to adopt the proposal for a Court of Justice decision, pending since 1991, for the transfer of certain responsibilities to reduce the large number of actions in the Court of Justice. The Council had meanwhile adopted the decision, mostly in line with Parliament's wishes and consequently the question was withdrawn as it had become redundant.

(b) HEARINGS

The committee organized the following hearings:

- (i) 23 and 24 November 1992 'on the deposit guarantee scheme'
- (ii) 17 March 1993 'legal protection of databases'
- (iii) 2 June 1993 'on the accession of the European Community to the European Convention on Human Rights'

(c) PROCEEDINGS:

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Citizens' Rights is also responsible for submitting recommendations to the President of Parliament concerning the probability of bringing proceedings for annulment of a legislative act, before the Court of Justice, when Parliament's rights, as laid down in the Treaty, are infringed. In addition, on the recommendation of the Committee on Legal Affairs, the President of Parliament can bring proceedings for failure to act against another Community institution, if the latter does not take the appropriate measures. In this last case, on 28 June 1993, the Committee on Legal Affairs adopted a very important recommendation for the President of Parliament calling on him to send, within the framework of the procedure laid down in Article 175 of the Treaty, a letter of notice to the Commission formally requesting it to take action, i.e. to submit concrete proposals within two months, in order to put into effect the free movement of persons within the Community, pursuant to Article 8a of the Treaty.

Ilias KAVALIERAKIS

**COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS, EMPLOYMENT AND THE
WORKING ENVIRONMENT**

(38 members, including 12 from the EPP Group)

I. Positions of EPP Group Members

Coordinator: Elmar BROK (D)

Deputy coordinators: Bartho PRONK (NL)
O'HAGAN (UK)

MEMBERS	SUBSTITUTES
Elmar BROK (D)	Ralf CHANTERIE (B)
Gerard DEPREZ (B)	Maria Teresa COPPO GAVAZZI (I) from June 1993
Lorenzo DE VITTO (I)	José Antonio ESCUDERO (ES)
José Maria GIL-ROBLES GIL-DELGADO (ES)	Roberto FORMIGONI (I) until June 1993
Menelaos HADJIGEORGIOU (GR)	Gerard GAIBISSO (I)
Robert E.V.HERSANT (F)	Francesco GUIDOLIN (I)
Caroline F. JACKSON (UK) from June 1993	Caroline F. JACKSON (UK) until June 1993
Winfried MENRAD (D)	Hedwig KEPPELHOFF-WIECHERT (D)
The Lord O'HAGAN (UK)	Anne Caroline McINTOSH (UK) from June 1993
Ferruccio PISONI (I)	Edward H.C.McMILLAN-SCOTT (UK) until June 1993
Bartho PRONK (NL)	Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN (NL)
Viviane REDING (L)	Eolo PARODI (I)
John C.C.STEVENS (UK) until June 1993	Ursula SCHLEICHER (D)
	John C.C.STEVENS (UK) from June 1993
	Marianne THYSSEN (B)
	Lothar KLEIN (D) observer until November 1992

I. General

Well before the Maastricht Treaty was agreed, it was already clear how difficult it would be to create a single social area within a single internal market complemented by monetary union and culminating in European Union. The negotiations on the European Social Charter showed that the positions of individual Member States concerning the extent and objectives of social policy were irreconcilable, although the same could not be said of the views of their elected representatives in the European Parliament. In December 1989 therefore, the Social Charter was ultimately signed by only 11 States, because the United Kingdom remained steadfast in its rejection of such a statement of intent concerning the fundamental social rights of workers. Yet the Charter itself largely aimed to do no more than approximate social conditions for employees in the Community, not to create a uniform social area for the people of the EC.

In the Protocol on Social Policy accompanying the Maastricht Treaty, all the Member States except the UK resolved to continue along the path laid down in the Social Charter. The UK would not participate in decisions for this purpose, they would not apply to the UK, nor would the financial consequences of the measures taken as a result. This decision created a two-speed Europe in the field of social policy, as some social legislation would now apply in all Member States while some was binding on only 11 Member States.

The participating Member States also agreed to involve the two sides of industry in the Community's social policy to a greater extent, so that the Member States could now leave it to them to realize the social dimension. It is possible for them to conclude agreements in all areas of social policy at European level, thereby rendering superfluous Community legislation on social measures for which the Commission intends to draft proposals. Thanks to the free collective bargaining which exists in some Member States, the two sides of industry can now act as legislators. This places the adoption of social measures on a new footing.

The agreement can certainly be seen as representing a measure of progress towards the more effective pursuit of a common social policy, given that it links the Social Charter with the Treaty on European Union and enhances the role of the two sides of industry at European level, giving them powers to act at that level whereas they have previously concentrated on action at national level. On the other hand it is arguable that the agreement reached creates a somewhat obscure situation; many of the areas in which the 11 States are empowered by the new agreement to conclude agreements coincide with areas for Community action laid down in the EEC Treaty. It is first necessary to sound out the UK to ascertain whether it is willing to participate in legislation. Once it has been clearly established that the UK is not interested in a Community-wide instrument, the two sides of industry are to be asked whether they could conclude an agreement between themselves on the subject in question. If it transpires that there is no chance of success here either, the legislative procedure is to be set in motion for the 11 Member States which have signed the Agreement on Social Policy annexed to the Maastricht Treaty. Only in the first and third cases is the European Parliament as a legislative body involved in consideration of a proposal to realize the European social area. The Reding report is currently attempting to clarify Parliament's exact position in this procedure and to ascertain who would represent the two sides of industry for the purposes of the Agreement on Social Policy.

Meanwhile it remains to be seen whether the desire expressed in the Agreement on Social Policy to make more progress in the social field can be translated into action in the other 11 Member States and whether the proposals for directives which the Committee on Social Affairs favours can be adopted by the Council. Social improvements are rarely cost-neutral. If one country fails to participate, the others have good reason to fear that they will be placed at a competitive disadvantage, and they

will probably hesitate to pursue social progress without the UK. Thus in the future the Committee on Social Affairs will no doubt be forced as usual to deplore the lack of progress in the social dimension at European level, noting that, of the major proposals for directives to implement the Charter of Fundamental Social Rights, the Council - after protracted negotiations - has succeeded in finally adopting only the directive on the protection of pregnant women, and adopting the directive on working hours at first reading. Common action and coordinated measures by the Member States to achieve economic and social union is more urgent than ever, with an unemployment rate of more than 17 million and rising in the Community and at a time when the unemployed are being used as a pretext to pursue economic policy at the expense of social policy.

II. The work of the Committee

Experience has shown that the Community finds it difficult to make progress when it comes to working out details of any given measure. Determined negotiations with the Council were needed before a directive to protect pregnant women could be agreed, and even then it certainly did not fully meet the expectations of the northern European countries (75% of the woman's wage to be paid for 14 weeks), but which in the case of the UK and, to some extent, of the southern European countries, represented progress. Even harder fought was the battle over the directive on working hours, which had been awaiting a decision by the Council for years; particularly contentious issues here were the proposed rules on certain minimum daily rest periods (11 hours), minimum breaks for workers working longer than six hours, the maximum working week (48 hours) and 4 weeks' paid annual leave. At length agreement was reached in the Social Affairs Council at Copenhagen in June, but with exemptions to these principles for the UK.

No agreement was reached this year on the Papayannakis report (GUE/GR) on the adoption of binding provisions for enterprises posting workers to another Member State, on the information and consultation rights of employees of transnational undertakings (Menrad report (EPP/D)), which is very topical in view of a number of surprising transfers of plants from one Member State to another (Leyland-DAF, AKZO), as the workers affected by such transfers were not informed of management's decisions in advance, or the directive on the protection of young people at work (Rönn report (PES/DK)), setting 15 as the minimum age for employment, guaranteeing at least 5 weeks' leave and a maximum working week of 40 hours, and prohibiting night work as a general rule. The proposal concerning the posting of workers in the framework of the provision of services lays down that workers sent to another Member State to perform services must at the minimum enjoy rights equivalent to those laid down by law or contract in the country concerned with regard to working hours and free time, paid leave, minimum wage rates, health protection, equality between the sexes and other protective measures. This is intended to protect companies in countries with a higher level of social protection against competition from Member States with lower standards.

Similarly, it was not possible to reach agreement within the Council on the Menrad report (EPP/D) on the Statute for a European association, a European cooperative society and a European mutual society, as this statute and that for European companies provided for worker participation, which met with strong resistance from some Member States. For one particular category of workers, the own-initiative report by Gil Robles (EPP/ES) on the situation of managerial staff in the European Community likewise seeks to lay down provisions concerning rights to participation and information.

There was controversy within the committee over the Wilson report (PES/UK) on the draft Commission Opinion on an equitable wage. As a majority on the committee favoured a minimum wage, setting aside the principle of free collective bargaining, the EPP Group had no alternative

but to vote against this report in plenary. On the other hand, after nearly nine months of intensive debate it proved possible to reconcile the different points of view within the committee concerning the new action programme to assist disabled people (Oomen-Ruijten report on the Helios II programme) and the rapporteur's ideas about the programme were adopted in full, as they subsequently were by the Council despite opposition from the Commission.

One of the committee's main concerns this year was the reform of the Structural Funds; the committee was responsible in the case of the European Social Fund, and considered the framework and coordinating directive in cooperation with the Committee on Regional Policy under the Gomes procedure. Altogether, ECU 141 billion will be available for the Structural Funds in 1993-1999, including some ECU 45 billion for the four Member States which are to receive funding from the cohesion financial instrument.

In order to render the Structural Funds more transparent, the committee presented the Commission with guidelines for the revision of the Structural Funds (Onur report (PES/D)), which were largely accepted by the Commission. Of the five priority objectives:

- promoting the development and structural adjustment of the regions whose development is lagging behind (Objective 1);
- converting the regions, frontier regions or parts of regions seriously affected by industrial decline (Objective 2);
- combating long-term unemployment and facilitating the integration into working life of young people and those socially excluded from the labour market (Objective 3);
- facilitating the adaptation of workers to industrial changes and to changes in production systems (Objective 4);
- promoting the development of rural areas (Objective 5),

Objectives 3 and 4 have been reformulated as quoted here; the Social Fund is primarily responsible for these, and the Pisoni report on the reform of the Social Fund was mainly concerned with their revision.

Both in the committee and in plenary, there was wide endorsement for the Hadjigeorgiou report on combating poverty and social exclusion, which affect more than 50 million Community citizens, the von Alemann reports (LDR/D) on access to continuing vocational training and on vocational training in the EC in the 1990s, and the report by Brok (EPP/D) and Fayot (PES/L) on the living and working conditions of Community citizens resident in frontier regions, while the Oomen-Ruijten report (EPP/NL) adopted in committee on a European agency for safety and health at work has yet to be adopted in plenary because financial questions remain unresolved.

In connection with the implementation of the social action programme, progress in which was assessed by the Van Ostrive report (PES/B), the committee again considered the Commission proposals on health and safety which had been announced in the programme and had now been submitted, this time concerning:

- mineral extraction industries and mines (McCubbin report (PES/UK))
- fishing vessels (Marques Mendes report (LDR/PT))
- biological agents (Hughes report (PES/UK))
- Hepatitis B (Hughes report (PES/UK))
- transport (Hughes report (PES/UK)).

None of these reports gave rise to much controversy in the committee, and all were adopted by the Council, some of them swiftly.

At the request of the plenary, the committee considered the economic and social consequences of German reunification for the new Länder, in cooperation with the Committee on Economic Affairs. At a first hearing in Dresden on 18 May 1992, many politicians and representatives of trade and industry were questioned on the subject. At a second hearing in Brussels in May 1993, the conclusions for a European policy in support of the social and economic development of the new Länder were worked out and incorporated in the Brok (EPP/D) and Donnelly (PES/UK) report.

III. Work by the Group

The worldwide recession which set in in 1990 unfortunately reversed the favourable trend in the creation of new jobs caused by the European single market, compelling the social policy group to devote more attention to employment policy. Particularly on account of structural imbalances in the Member States, certain sections of the work-force are especially hard hit by rising unemployment, such as the young, women, the long-term unemployed, the disabled and those with few qualifications. However, despite its Structural Fund resources, the Community's employment policy funds would not be sufficient to provide a lasting solution. Employment policy therefore remains a special responsibility of Member States. Nonetheless, experience has shown that securing prolonged economic growth is the best way of reducing unemployment. How the necessary economic growth could be brought about in order to reduce unemployment in the Community from over 17 million was the subject of the Group's study days from 10 to 13 May in Valencia, and views on this were expressed in the resolutions and questions on the coal and steel industry (B3-1619/92), the social dimension of the internal market (A3-0399/88), the effect of restructuring of national enterprises (B3-0283, 8 February 1993), customs agents (B3-0866/92), AKZO (B3-1415/91) and Leyland (B3-0290/93), economic and social cohesion (B3-0851/93) and the Copenhagen summit (B3-0947/93).

Taking its cue from the Year of the Elderly, the Group considered how the elderly could remain independent, contact between generations could be improved and equality, mutual respect, integration and sympathy could be promoted. For this purpose it convened a conference in Brussels on 13/14 April, chaired by Mrs Oomen-Ruijten (EPP/NL), in collaboration with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, attended by delegations of elderly people from all Member States. It concluded with a resolution concerning policy on the elderly, which will guide the EPP Group in the political line it adopts at the Pensioners' Parliament to be held in Luxembourg on 22-24 November. Our Group will invite 163 delegates and 9 observers from the new Länder to attend. The administrative and political preparations for this huge gathering are being carried out by a team headed by Mrs Oomen-Ruijten. The European Parliament's rapporteurs for the Pensioners' Parliament are Chanterie (EPP/B) and Fayot (PES/L), who are drafting working documents for it. The topics to be debated by the Pensioners' Parliament are: income, the employment market, independence and integration.

IV. Summary of reports adopted in committee

A. Directives on safety and health

*I Proposal for a Council directive concerning the minimum safety and health requirements for work on board fishing vessels - individual directive within the meaning of Article 16(1) of the framework directive

89/391 ** COM(91) 0466 - C3-0018/92
COM(91) 0466 OJ C337/21

Rapporteur: António Joaquim MARQUES MENDES (LDR/PT)

Adoption in committee: 16.6.1992

Adoption in plenary: 8.7.1992

Sea fishing is dangerous work. The Commission considers working in the industry to be about 10 times as dangerous as working in mining, the construction industry or agriculture. The proposed measures are largely in line with existing international conventions (IMO Convention 198 and the Torremolinos Convention (ILO No. 125)). They are intended to take account of the situation in the Member States, whose legislation differs widely, and achieve a minimum of harmonization in order to improve the protection of the health and safety of workers on fishing vessels. The proposal mainly lays down safety requirements to make it possible to prevent accidents, alleviate their serious consequences and remove obstacles to free movement of workers.

Shadow rapporteur: Menelaos HADJIGEORGIOU (EPP/GR)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

I/II Proposal for improving the safety and health protection of workers in the extractive industries for the exploration and exploitation of minerals in mines and quarries (COM(92) 0014 - C3-0193/92)

I/II COM(92) 0251 - C3-0091/92
OJ C58/3-19

Rapporteur: Henry Bell McCUBBIN (PES/UK)

Adoption in committee: 1st reading 16.6.1992
2nd reading 8.10.1992

Adoption in plenary: 1st reading 8.7.1992
2nd reading 28.10.1992

The proposal is based on Article 118a of the EEC Treaty and is presented in the form of an individual directive within the meaning of Article 16 (1) of Council Directive 89/391 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at work. The aim of the proposal is to prevent accidents in the mineral extraction industries by harmonizing minimum provisions for the protection of health and safety of workers. In addition to suitable instruction, training and qualification of workers, it requires them to be consulted and to take part in the discussion of all issues relating to health and safety at work.

Shadow rapporteur: Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN (EPP/NL)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

**I Proposal for a Council directive amending Directive 90/679/EEC on the protection of workers from risks related to exposure to biological agents at work

COM(92) 0261 - C3-0340/92

Rapporteur: Stephen HUGHES (PES/UK)

Adoption in committee: 1st reading 26.1.1993
2nd reading 1.7.1993

Adoption in plenary: 1st reading 10.2.1993
2nd reading 14.7.1993

Directive 90/679 on the protection of workers from risks related to exposure to biological agents, adopted by the Council on 26 November 1990, divides these substances into four categories according to the risk of infection arising from them. A group 1 agent is unlikely to cause human disease. A group 2 agent can cause human disease and might be a hazard to workers; it is unlikely to spread to the community; there is usually effective prophylaxis or treatment available. A group 3 agent can cause severe human disease and present a serious hazard to workers; it may present a risk of spreading to the community, but there is usually effective prophylaxis or treatment available. A group 4 agent causes severe human disease and is a serious hazard to workers; it may present a high risk of spreading to the community; there is usually no effective prophylaxis or treatment available.

A list based on these criteria has been drawn up which is as complete as possible given the present state of knowledge. In view of the large number of pathogenic species and strains within those listed, it would be wrong to assume that any species or strains not mentioned are harmless. The list merely contains those agents most commonly associated with disease.

Shadow rapporteur: Bartho PRONK (EPP/NL)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

Vaccination of health care workers and other at-risk occupations against Hepatitis B

PE 201.977 - A3-0027/93

Rapporteur: Stephen HUGHES (PES/UK)

Adoption in committee: 26.1.1993

Adoption in plenary: 8.2.1993

The committee considered the European Year of Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work an appropriate time to draft an own-initiative report drawing attention to the dangers posed by the Hepatitis B virus (HBV) and making proposals for controlling the risks associated with it, as HBV can be fatal in its most severe form. In less severe cases it causes a highly debilitating disease which can persist for some months. However, effective vaccines exist, which the committee believes should be made available free of charge to workers who are at risk in order to combat the disease effectively.

Shadow rapporteur: Bartho PRONK (EPP/NL)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

* Proposal for a Council regulation establishing a European agency for safety and health at work

COM(90) 0564 - C3-0371/93 - A3-0016/93

Rapporteur: Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN (EPP/NL)

Adoption in committee: 26.1.1993

Adoption in plenary: not yet adopted *

The purpose of the Commission proposal is to establish an agency to give the Commission direct access to information and specialist knowledge concerning safety and health protection at work and assist it in carrying out further action programmes in this field. It is also intended to cooperate with other Community and international bodies and institutions and set up a network linking national information networks, focal points and thematic centres. The agency's organizational structure would be similar to that of the Community's other specialized agencies.

Shadow rapporteur: Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN (EPP/NL)

* The report was referred back to the committee because means of financing the proposal had not yet been determined.

Proposal for a Council directive concerning the minimum safety and health requirements for transport activities and workplaces on means of transport

COM(92) 0234 - C3-0477/92

Rapporteur: Stephen HUGHES (PES/UK)

Adoption in committee: 1.7.1993

Adoption in plenary: 13.7.1992

This directive would be an individual directive within the meaning of Article 16 (1) of Council Directive 89/391 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at work. The aims of the proposal are as follows:

- to promote a better standard of protection of health and safety in workplaces on means of transport;
- to create better conditions for the protection of health and safety in transport operations, especially by means of organizational measures;
- to prevent any dangers which might arise from the free movement of workers.

To this end, certain obligations are imposed on employers and requirements concerning construction and equipment are laid down in the interests of the health and safety of their workers.

Shadow rapporteur: Winfried MENRAD (EPP/D)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

B. Directives to realize the social dimension

Report on the establishment of a European Works Council in Community-scale undertakings or groups of undertakings for the purposes of informing and consulting employees

**I COM(90) 0581 - C3-0065/91
OJ C120/35-37 /OJ 240/90-91
OJ C336/11-24
Amended proposal COM(91) 0345, 31.3.92

Rapporteur: Winfried MENRAD (EPP/D)

Adoption in committee: 20.6.1992

Adoption in plenary: 10.7.1992

The completion of the internal market will inevitably lead to concentration of enterprises, cross-frontier mergers, takeovers and joint ventures, resulting in enterprises or groups of enterprises with a transnational structure. If economic activities are to develop harmoniously, workers who are affected by management decisions must be informed and consulted.

However, as the structure of enterprises has changed, many existing procedures for consulting and informing workers no longer accord with their current structure. Arrangements for informing and consulting workers are far from uniform in the Community, and cease at national borders. They are legally binding only under the law of a particular country, apply only to workers from the country concerned and as a rule relate only to activities carried out within the territory of that country.

Under the proposal, enterprises with 500 or more employees in the Community which have at least two establishments in different Member States employing at least 100 workers per Member State would be required to establish a European Works Council to ensure that their workers were informed and consulted. The composition, powers and procedure of the European Works Council may be laid down in agreements between employees' representatives and the employer.

If no such agreement is concluded, a standard model applies, which contains provisions on the composition, function, powers and procedure of the European Works Council.

Shadow rapporteur: Bartho PRONK (EPP/NL)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

Proposal for a Council decision establishing a third Community action programme to assist disabled people

Helios II (1992-1996) COM(91) 0350 - C3-0411/91

Rapporteur: Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN (EPP/NL)

Adoption in committee: 8.10.1992

Adoption in plenary: 29.10.1992

The Helios II action programme is intended to continue and expand the activities begun under Helios I, particularly in the fields of prevention, early assistance, rehabilitation, nursery schooling, university education, continuing training, access to creative, sports and tourism activities, elimination of psychological inhibitions and of barriers to communication, participation in social life, problems in the families of the disabled, social, economic and legal protection, information and cultivation of awareness among the public and the media. Helios II aims to promote cooperation and coordination of action by all parties concerned at local, regional, national and Community level. With the aid of four Community networks and cooperation among non-governmental organizations which are active throughout the Community, it is intended that exchanges of information and experience should be arranged at European level and that the Handynet System - an information and documentation system - should be expanded. ECU 48 150 000 is earmarked for the programme.

Shadow rapporteur: Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN (EPP/NL)

The report was adopted by a large majority, after the Council had accepted the committee's suggestions, which included altering the organizational arrangements for the networks.

* Social security for people moving within the Community: annual update of Regulations 1408/71 and 474/72

COM(92) 0315 - C3-0365/92

Procedure without report

Adoption in committee: 8.10.1992

Adoption in plenary: 30.10.1992

Shadow rapporteur: Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN (EPP/NL)

Report on the application of the Community Charter of the Fundamental Social Rights of Workers

COM(91) 0511 - A3-0386/92

Rapporteur: Lode J.C. VAN OUTRIVE (PES/B)

Adoption in committee: 24.11.1992

Adoption in plenary: 17.12.1992

In order to implement the Community Charter of the Fundamental Social Rights of Workers, the Commission worked out an action programme comprising 47 proposals, 19 of which would be legally binding, based on the principles of subsidiarity, diversity of systems, cultures and national traditions, and preserving competitiveness. The rapporteur examines the extent to which the proposals have been implemented, concluding that in order to accelerate the transposition of the Commission's proposals into national law, it is necessary:

- to hold three-way consultations on social policy between the Council, Commission and Parliament;
- for the two sides of industry to be involved more in preparatory discussions;
- for national parliaments to be involved to a greater extent;
- to submit a complaint to the Court of Justice whenever the Council adopts legislation by political agreement without taking Parliament's views into account.

In this connection the rapporteur notes that six of the 47 proposals have priority in Parliament's eyes and should be adopted by the Council as a matter of urgency, namely those concerning:

- the living and working conditions of those in atypical employment;
- working hours;
- the notification, consultation and involvement of workers in businesses operating at Community level;
- subcontracting;
- protection of pregnant women at work;
- protection of young people at work.

Shadow rapporteur: José Maria GIL-ROBLES GIL-DELGADO (EPP/ES)

**I Proposal for a Council directive on the protection of young people at work

COM(91) 0543 final - PE 201.700 - A3-0397/92

Rapporteur: Joanna ROENN (PES/DK)

Adoption in committee: 3.12.1992

Adoption in plenary: 16.12.1992

The aim of this proposal for a directive is to afford all young workers the protection they need in the workplace to preserve their physical and mental integrity. According to Eurostat, some 2 million young people aged 15 are working. In order to protect their health and afford them protection in the workplace, it is necessary to lay down a minimum age for employment, maximum working hours, minimum rest periods and terms of employment and to ensure that they are protected against hazards at work.

The committee amended the Commission proposal, setting 15 as the minimum age for employment, permitting young people to perform light work from the age of 13, prohibiting night work (between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m.) for young people, laying down that in principle they should not work on Sundays, giving young people an entitlement to at least five weeks' leave and limiting the working week to 40 hours.

Shadow rapporteur: Lord O'HAGAN (EPP/UK)

The report was adopted unanimously.

**I Proposal for a Council directive concerning the posting of workers in the framework of the provision of services

COM(91) 0230 - A3-0161/92

Rapporteur: Mihail PAPAYANNAKIS (GUE/GR)

Adoption in committee: 26.1.93

Adoption in plenary: 10.2.1993 *

The purpose of the proposal is to coordinate the legislation of the Member States so as to lay down binding provisions for enterprises which post workers to another Member State. In view of the differences in terms of employment in different Member States, situations may arise in which it is agreed that workers posted abroad should receive lower wages and poorer fringe benefits than workers in the place where the limited-term work is carried out, which could cause unfair competition. The aim of the proposal is therefore to eliminate obstacles and uncertainties which could hamper freedom to provide services, and combat actions which could detract from fair competition between enterprises and workers by obliging foreign enterprises to comply with certain labour protection and wage provisions for workers in the host country.

Shadow rapporteur: Bartho PRONK (EPP/NL)

* The report was adopted by a large majority and referred back to the committee in plenary because of the evasive replies given by the Commission.

Commission communication on the living and working conditions of
Community citizens resident in frontier regions

COM(90) 0561 - A3-0024/93

Rapporteurs: Elmar BROK (EPP/D) and Ben FAYOT (PES/L)

Adoption in committee: 26.1.1993

Adoption in plenary: 10.2.1993

The Commission communication enumerates the problems facing citizens living and working in the immediate vicinity of national frontiers. One of the main problems for cross-border workers is differences between tax systems, which affect them particularly adversely because they live in one Member State and work in another. Other problems they encounter are:

- currency problems associated with transferring their wages;
- recognition of vocational qualifications;
- health care in the other country;
- poor transport within regions which are geographically continuous but divided by national frontiers.

Shadow rapporteur: Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN (EPP/NL)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

Report on the draft Commission Opinion on an equitable wage

PE 202.744 - A3-0060/93

Rapporteur: Joe WILSON (PES/UK)

Adoption in committee: 17.2.1993

Adoption in plenary: 9.3.1993

The Charter of Fundamental Social Rights states the principle that all employment must be remunerated equitably. It states that in accordance with the provisions applicable in each country, workers should be guaranteed appropriate wages, such as to ensure them an appropriate standard of living. The Commission has therefore attempted to establish a number of fundamental principles, taking into account social and economic realities, with the aid of the normal instruments of economic and social policy, designed to increase productivity, promote economic growth, eliminate discrimination and ensure solidarity among all sections of society.

Shadow rapporteur: Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN (EPP/NL)

The report was adopted, with the EPP Group voting against.

Report on the European Parliament's approach to the revision of the European Social Fund

PE 202.734 - A3-0057/93

Rapporteur: Leyla ONUR (PES/D)

Adoption in committee: 17.2.1993

Adoption in plenary: 9.3.1993

The Commission will be submitting proposals for revising the regulations on the individual Structural Funds with the aim of bringing the regulation into line with the Maastricht Treaty and improving their use to reinforce economic and social cohesion. The committee has therefore attempted to set forth general political guidelines for the preparation of the forthcoming revision of the ESF by the Commission, urging that:

- the percentage contributions of the Member States and the horizontal character of the objectives should remain unaltered;
- simplified administrative procedures, transparent decision-making procedures, more effective financial controls and more rapid payment of funds should be introduced;
- there should be greater equality of opportunity between the sexes;
- the criteria for access to the Fund should be applied more flexibly;
- the use made of the Fund should be coordinated more effectively with the other financial instruments of the Community;
- in view of the increase in the tasks of the ESF, the funds allocated should be substantially increased;
- the measures provided for by the ECSC Treaty to help workers find new employment and create new jobs or for the conversion of enterprises should be regarded as a suitable basis for pursuing the objectives of the ESF.

Shadow rapporteur: Bartho PRONK (EPP/NL)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

Commission memorandum on vocational training in the Community in the 1990s

COM(91) 0397 - A3-0093/93

Rapporteur: Mechthild VON ALEMANN (LDR/D)

Adoption in committee: 18.3.1993

Adoption in plenary: 20.4.1993

In the memorandum the Commission discusses vocational training after compulsory schooling, in order to assist discussion of education and vocational training in the Community and the Member States. The Commission believes that the memorandum 'will contribute to ... consolidating the foundations for building effective training policies'.

To this end, it calls for:

- greater investment in training;

- improved training;
- transparency of the training market;
- recognition of training on the employment market.

Shadow rapporteur: Winfried MENRAD (EPP/D)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

Council recommendation on access to continuing vocational training

COM(92) 0486 - C3-0095/93

Rapporteur: Mechthild VON ALEMANN (LDR/D)

Adoption in committee: 30.3.1993

Adoption in plenary: 20.4.1993

The Commission recommends that the Council ensure that enterprises give their employees opportunities to obtain vocational qualifications and to undergo further training and that there be no discrimination in access to further training for workers. For this purpose, State assistance measures and ideas for the guidance of enterprises are listed which should be taken into account as regards further vocational training, including retraining. Women returning to work, young unemployed people and the long-term unemployed should receive greater assistance.

Shadow rapporteur: Winfried MENRAD (EPP/D)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

Situation of managerial staff in the Community Own-initiative report

PE 203.452 - A3-0196/93

Rapporteur: J.M. GIL-ROBLES GIL-DELGADO (EPP/ES)

Adoption in committee: 9.6.1993

Adoption in plenary: 22.6.1993

The report observes that the term 'managerial staff' is used differently in different Member States and varies in meaning according to national circumstances. However, 'managerial staff' cannot by any means be equated with employers, even though they occupy senior posts, as they are accountable to directors and are therefore in a dependent position within a hierarchy.

In order to improve the legal status of such staff, the report calls on the Commission to take the necessary steps:

- to give managerial staff in enterprises and groups of enterprises operating on a European scale the right to be informed and consulted and to guarantee them independent staff representation;
- to permit their representatives to participate in the social dialogue at European level;
- to improve access to managerial posts for women;

- to eliminate existing obstacles to freedom of movement in the field of supplementary corporate retirement pensions.

Shadow rapporteur: Winfried MENRAD (EPP/D)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

**II Common position of the Council on the adoption of a regulation changing Part II of Regulation (EEC) No. 1612/68 on freedom of movement for workers within the Community

COM(91) 0316 - C3-0191/92

Rapporteur: Tove NIELSEN (LDR/DK)

Adoption in committee: 16.6.1992

Adoption in plenary: 8.7.1992

Part II of Regulation (EEC) No. 1612/88 on freedom of movement for workers in the Community concerns the workings of an exchange system of job vacancies, applications for employment and cooperation between the employment services of the Member States and the Commission, in an effort to facilitate the mobility of workers within the Community - the SEDOC system. The Commission aims to alter the SEDOC to render it efficient and more transparent, so that it can meet the wishes of job seekers and potential employers more effectively.

Shadow rapporteur: Ferruccio PISONI (EPP/I)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

Combating poverty and social exclusion in the Community
Own-initiative report

PE 204.646 - A3-0226/93 - COM(91) 0029

Rapporteur: Menelaos HADJIGEORGIOU (EPP/GR)

Adoption in committee: 1.7.1993

Adoption in plenary: 13.7.1993

On the basis of the Commission's reports on the Second European Poverty Programme (COM(91) 0029) and on combating social exclusion (COM(92) 0542), the rapporteur gives a critical assessment of the poverty programmes carried out by the Commission to date and tries to suggest a number of ways in which the new programme to be presented this year could be organized more efficiently.

As some 50 million citizens are living below the poverty line (defined as 50% of the average per capita income), the rapporteur considers it absolutely essential for both the Member States and the Community to devote greater attention to combating social exclusion. He says that resources from the Structural Funds should also be used for this purpose, as reintegrating the victims of social exclusion into the labour market is the best way of enabling them to escape the consequences of poverty through their own efforts.

Shadow rapporteur: Menelaos HADJIGEORGIOU (EPP/GR)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

**I/II Proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 4255/88 of 19 December 1988 laying down provisions for implementing Regulation (EEC) No. 2052/88 as regards the European Social Fund

COM(93) 0124 - PE 205.375 - C3-0179/93

Rapporteur: Ferruccio PISONI (EPP/I)

Adoption in committee: 1st reading 9.6.1993
2nd reading 12.7.1993

Adoption in plenary: 1st reading 23.6.1993
2nd reading 14.7.1993

To be able to carry out the new tasks assigned to the European Social Fund by the Maastricht Treaty (Article 123), the measures to combat unemployment which previously fell under Objectives 3 and 4 have now been brought together in the new Objective 3 as part of the revision of the Structural Funds. In addition, measures to assist victims of social exclusion and to secure equal treatment of people of both sexes have been incorporated in Objective 3. The new Objective 4 contains the measures - particularly in the field of vocational training and retraining - designed to facilitate adaptation to industrial change and changes in production systems. In carrying out this reform, the previous criteria for assistance - such as the age limit of 25, the definition of long-term unemployment as unemployment for 12 months or more, and the exclusion of apprenticeships from vocational training measures - have been abandoned, so as to enable Objectives 3 and 4 to be pursued more satisfactorily and to ensure maximum flexibility.

In connection with Objectives 1, 2 and 5b, the ESF completes the measures to improve education structures cofinanced by the ERDF by assisting the development of human resources in research, science and technology. In the case of Objective 1, the ESF helps to strengthen education systems not only at secondary level but as regards further education as well.

Shadow rapporteur: Elmar BROK (EPP/D)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

The Community response to the problem of restructuring in East Germany and the economic and social crisis

PE 204.199/rev. - A3-0230/93

Rapporteurs: Elmar BROK (EPP/D) and Alan DONNELLY (PES/UK)

Adoption in committee: 12.7.1993

Adoption in plenary: 15.7.1993

This report is the fruit of two conferences held by the European Parliament from 18 to 20 May 1992 and on 7/8 June 1993, and underlines the importance which the Community attaches to the unification of Germany. The report deals with the current economic and social situation in East Germany, outlines the funding which has so far been channelled to the region, stresses the need for a transfer of funds from the Community, and summarizes the main measures adopted by the Community. The rapporteurs take the view that a new effort in the form of a new action programme is required to supplement the work done by the Germans themselves. This programme should be based on three key criteria - solidarity, flexibility and fairness - and should have the following aims:

- to facilitate and cushion industrial restructuring;

- to assist the completion of the infrastructure required in the new Länder and their incorporation in trans-European networks;
- to combat the serious problem of unemployment;
- to rehabilitate the environment;
- to restore economic and other relations between the new Länder and the emergent democracies of Central and Eastern Europe.

Shadow rapporteur: Elmar BROK (EPP/D)

The report was adopted by a large majority.

Title: * Measures to adapt the profession of customs agent to the Internal Market
COM(92) 0328
Committee: ECON
Rapporteur: Willem J. VAN VELZEN (PES/NL)
Shadow rapporteur: José Maria GIL-ROBLES GIL-DELGADO (EPP/ES)
Adoption in committee: 3.11.1992
Plenary: Nov. 1992

Title: Immigration
SEC(91) 1855
Committee: ECON
Rapporteur: Anna CATASTA (PES/I)
Shadow rapporteur: Ferruccio PISONI (EPP/I)
Adoption in committee: 29.9.1992
Plenary: Nov. 1992

Title: Asylum law
PE 201.540/fin.
Committee: CIVI
Rapporteur: Ferruccio PISONI (EPP/I)
Shadow rapporteur: Ferruccio PISONI (EPP/I)
Adoption in committee: 3.11.1992
Plenary: Nov. 1992

Title: EC-Turkey relations
PE 153.446/suppl.
Committee: FASE
Rapporteur: Anthony Joseph WILSON (PES/UK)
Shadow rapporteur: Bartho PRONK (EPP/NL)
Adoption in committee: 22.9.1992
Plenary: Nov. 1992

Title: Discharge for the general budget for 1990
(final report)
PE 156.184/fin.
Committee: CONT
Rapporteur: Elmar BROK (EPP/D)
Shadow rapporteur: Elmar BROK (EPP/D)
Adoption in committee: 5.11.1992
Plenary: Nov. 1992

Title: ECSC operating budget for 1993
 SEC(92) 1670
 Committee: BUDG
 Rapporteur: Willem J. VAN VELZEN (PES/NL)
 Shadow rapporteur: Bartho PRONK (EPP/NL)
 Adoption in committee: 8.12.1992
 Plenary: Dec. 1992

Title: Budget for 1993 (Section III Commission)
 COM(92) 0140
 Committee: BUDG
 Rapporteur: Bartho PRONK (EPP/NL)
 Shadow rapporteur: Elmar BROK (EPP/D)
 Adoption in committee: 15.12.1992
 Plenary: Dec. 1992

Title: Community Structural Policies - assessment and
 outlook
 COM(92) 0084
 Committee: REGI
 Rapporteur: António Joaquim MARQUES MENDES (LDR/PT)
 Shadow rapporteur: Bartho PRONK (EPP/NL)
 Adoption in committee: 3.12.1992
 Plenary: Jan. 1993

Title: Discharge for the general budget for 1991
 PE 203.915/rev.
 Committee: CONT
 Rapporteur: António Joaquim MARQUES MENDES (LDR/PT)
 Shadow rapporteur: Bartho PRONK (EPP/NL)
 Adoption in committee: 30.3.1993
 Plenary: April 1993

Title: * Community's statistical programme 1993-1997
 COM(92) 0395
 Committee: ECON
 Rapporteur: Willem J. VAN VELZEN (PES/NL)
 Adoption in committee: 16.3.1993
 Plenary: May 1993

Title: Assessment of women's unwaged work
 PE 148.132/fin.
 Committee: WOME
 Rapporteur: Birgit CRAMON DAIBER (GUE/D)
 Shadow rapporteur: Elmar BROK (EPP/D)
 Adoption in committee: 2.6.1993
 Plenary: June 1993

Title: Fourth Framework Programme of research and
 technological development (1994-1998)
 COM(92) 0406
 Committee: ENER
 Rapporteur: Willem J. VAN VELZEN (PES/NL)
 Shadow rapporteur: Elmar BROK (EPP/D)
 Adoption in committee: 11.6.1993
 Plenary: June 1993

Title: * II Regulation amending 'coordination'
regulation EEC/4253/88
COM(93) 0067
Committee: REGI
Rapporteur: Mario DIDO (PES/I)
Shadow rapporteur: Elmar BROK (EPP/D)
Adoption in committee: 12.7.1993
Plenary: July 1993

Title: * Regulation amending the framework regulation
EEC/2052/88
COM(93) 0067
Committee: REGI
Rapporteur: Mario DIDO (PES/I)
Shadow rapporteur: Elmar BROK (EPP/D)
Adoption in committee: 12.7.1993
Plenary: July 1993

Title: Realizing the objectives of the reform of the
Structural Funds
Committee: REGI
Rapporteur: Willem J. VAN VELZEN (PES/NL)
Shadow rapporteur: Elmar BROK (EPP/D)
Adoption in committee: 30.6.1993
Plenary: July 1993

Title: **II National taxation officials: general
training programme
COM(92) 0550
Committee: ECON
Rapporteur: José Maria GIL-ROBLES GIL-DELGADO (EPP/ES)
Adoption in committee: 28.4.1993
Plenary: Oct. 1993

Title: **II Statute for a European cooperative
society, a European mutual society and a
European association
COM(91) 0273
Committee: LEGA
Rapporteur: Winfried MENRAD (EPP/D)
Shadow rapporteur: Winfried MENRAD (EPP/D)
Adoption in committee: -
Plenary: -

Klaus KELLERSMANN

**COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL POLICY, REGIONAL PLANNING AND
RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

I. POSTS HELD BY MEMBERS OF THE EPP GROUP

2nd Vice-Chairman: CUSHNAHAN John (IRL)
Coordinator: ORTIZ CLIMENT Leopoldo (ES)
(November 1992 - April 1993)
Assistant coordinator: HOWELL Paul (GB)

Full members:

CONTU Felice (I)
FERRER Concepciò (ES)
LAMBRIAS Panayotis (GR)
LUCAS PIRES Francisco Antonio (PT)
NICHOLSON James (UK)
MENDEZ DE VIGO (ES)
WELSH Michael J. (UK)

Substitutes:

BEAZLEY Christopher J.P. (UK)
DE VITTO Lorenzo (I)
DEPREZ Gérard (B)
DE BREMOND D'ARS Georges (F)
FLORENZ Karl-Heinz (D)
FORTE Mario (I)
FROMENT-MEURICE François (F)
PACK Doris Gisela (D)
PENDERS Jean (NL)
VANLERENBERGHE Jean-Marie (F)

Observers:

BEREND Rolf (D)

II. INTRODUCTION

Between September 1992 and July 1993 the Committee on Regional Policy held a total of seventeen meetings, including four extraordinary meetings. It adopted sixteen reports which were subsequently adopted in plenary sitting by the European Parliament and one resolution winding up the debate on a question to the Council of Ministers on the future 'Committee of the Regions'.

The reports adopted by our committee and in plenary sitting may be divided into three categories: political control on periodic progress reports from the Commission, own-initiative reports and reports of a legislative nature on the review of Structural Fund regulations.

An overall critical assessment of the work carried out by the members of this parliamentary committee concludes that the principal focus of their activities was a thorough examination of the problems facing regional policy today and the exploration of specific policies aimed at solving these problems.

It is now clear that the time has come for the Community to implement procedures and devote substantial resources to promote regional development. It is faced with a number of new challenges: regional planning on Community territory, the participation of Community partners in developing programmes, transfrontier cooperation, defining the role of the regions and economic and monetary union.

Our committee has done its utmost to give shape to a more dynamic regional policy, equipped with suitable instruments, the most important of which are the revised Structural Fund regulations. These regulations are the product of hard work, experience, patience and inter-institutional cooperation.

III. REPORTS ADOPTED

BRITO (CG/P)
Doc. A3-252/92
OJ No. C 284, 2.11.1992

Report on the Commission's annual report on the implementation of the reform of the Structural Funds in 1990 (COM(91) 400 final)

In this report the European Parliament expresses its disappointment at the global under-utilization of the appropriations available in 1990 and asks the Commission to strengthen its direct links with the regions, including financial links, and to ensure greater transparency in the utilization of funds. The EP regrets the omissions in the Commission's report relating to activities in 1990, particularly with regard to environmental impact assessment procedures, limiting global investment, the provision of technical aid and the assessment of any impact the single market may have on regions receiving money from the Structural Funds.

GROUP SPOKESMEN: NICHOLSON, McCARTIN, GUIDOLIN, CUSHNAHAN, VALVERDE LOPEZ

MAIBAUM (PES/D)
Doc. A3-253/92
OJ No. C 284, 2.11.1992

Report on a Community policy for regional planning: Europe 2000

In this report, the European Parliament expressed its desire for the Community to assume joint responsibility with the twelve Member States for regional planning, pursuant to the principle of subsidiarity.

Parliament recommended the establishment of a European monitoring and information centre for regional planning linked to the European Environmental Agency, involving all the Member States and European countries outside the Community. Its remit would be to evaluate the efficacy of regional, national and Community policies and their impact on the natural and man-made environment. It would advise regional authorities on physical planning and land use. Among other things, Parliament expressed the wish that environmental education should begin in primary school, that non-polluting public transport should be given preference over the private car, that island regions should be given special treatment taking into account their specific nature and insisting on the establishment of trans-European networks. Parliament also insisted that rural areas should be given educational and training facilities to counteract the migration of young and skilled people away from such areas.

GROUP SPOKESMEN: GIL-ROBLES, FERRER, VALVERDE LOPEZ, SIMMONDS

DAVID (PSE/GB) Doc. A3-402/92 OJ No. C 042, 15.2.1993	Community Structural Policies: assessment and outlook ('mid-term review')
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The report considers that the EP should have its say in the reform of the Structural Funds. In order to satisfy the growing demands for transparency and democratic supervision of Community action, the report stresses the need to strengthen the role of the European Parliament in the implementation of the next reform of the Structural Funds, legislation for which should expressly provide for:

- Parliament to express its view on the Community support programmes, country by country, after their adoption by the Commission, which shall take into account the guidelines laid down by Parliament in the mid-term review of Community support programmes;
- Parliament to express its view of Community initiative programmes before their adoption by formal decision of the Commission;
- the Members of the European Parliament to have the right to be members of the follow-up committee for their region.

GROUP SPOKESMAN: LAMBRIAS

IZQUIERDO ROJO Doc. A3-277/92 OJ No. C 042, 15.2.1993	Economic and social cohesion in the context of the completion of the single market and Economic and Monetary Union
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The rapporteur welcomes the creation of the cohesion fund as stipulated by Article 130D of the Maastricht Treaty, considering that 'the coherence of Community regional policy is reinforced by the exclusive devotion of this fund to projects in the areas of the environment and transport infrastructure'.

The report proposes establishing 'minimum priority services', from which any regional authority in the Community could benefit. It called on the Commission, in the context of the new reform of the Structural Funds and the discussion of the financial perspectives for 1993-1997, to devise a coherent framework for the development of the various Community policies in relation to economic and social cohesion. The report stressed that the principle of additionality must be honoured if structural intervention was to be effective and that, given the new context of preparation for Economic and Monetary Union, a link must be established between verification of adherence to additionality and the funding of

future projects for individual Member States. Lastly, it emphasized the need for more extensive use of EIB funds and improved coordination of its actions with the other structural instruments.

GROUP SPOKESMAN: LAMBRIAS

DAVID (PES/GB)
Doc. A3-300/92
OJ No. C 042, 15.2.1992

The regional and social redevelopment plan and the Community support framework for the areas of the Federal Republic of Germany included in Objective 2

The report by Mr DAVID concerns the regional and social redevelopment plan and the Community Support Framework (CSF) for the areas of the Federal Republic of Germany included in Objective 2 (the Länder of West Germany prior to unification suffering from industrial decline). The European Parliament underlined that despite exceptional economic performance there are areas affected by industrial decline in different sectors (coal and steel, shipbuilding, textiles, demilitarization of zones, etc.). The report was impressed by the implementation of the CSFs and welcomed the correct application of subsidiarity, partnership and additionality. Lastly, it considered that more flexible eligibility criteria were required to enable those regions of East Germany that are no longer eligible to benefit, since they are having to face the difficulties of industrial decline.

GROUP SPOKESMAN: LAMBRIAS

MAHER (LDR/IRL)
Doc. A3-304/92
OJ No. C 042, 15.2.1993

Report on the Atlantic Regions (the Atlantic Arc)

The Atlantic Arc consists of regions that border the Atlantic, including the islands in the Atlantic and other contiguous regions that have close economic and cultural ties with the Atlantic seaboard regions. This arc of regions, stretching from southern Portugal to northernmost Scotland, covers about 22% of the Community's territory and contains a population of approximately 46 million. The European Parliament is in favour of an Atlantic Arc Association, which would be in a better position to tackle common problems.

The EP stressed that the specific objectives of such a grouping should be the quest for solutions to problems of economic development, transport, environmental protection, tourism, the transfer of new technologies, the promotion of agriculture and the development of fisheries. The EP welcomed the Commission's initiative in financing a study on the Atlantic Arc designed to diagnose its strengths and weaknesses and urged that the conclusions of the study be borne in mind when revising the Structural Fund regulations.

GROUP SPOKESMAN: LAMBRIAS

MUSSO (RDE/F)
Doc. A3-303/92
OJ No. C 042, 15.2.1993

Fourth progress report by the Commission of the EC on Integrated Mediterranean Programmes (IMPs) for 1990

The European Parliament welcomes the improvement in the utilization of Community appropriations compared with 1989, despite delays in the implementation of the Italian IMPs. It regrets the low utilization rate of EIB loans and the delay in the regions of southern Italy. It notes

that overall implementation has been satisfactory, despite a number of difficulties over IMPs in France and Greece.

GROUP SPOKESMAN: LAMBRIAS

ORTIZ CLIMENT (EPP/ES)
Doc. A3-85/93
Reg. 792/93
OJ No. L 79, 1.4.1993

Commission proposal for a Council regulation establishing a cohesion financial instrument

On a proposal by the Commission, the European Council of Edinburgh decided on 12 December 1992 to set up a cohesion fund. Since it is impossible to implement all the conditions attached to the fund because the Treaty on European Union has yet to be ratified by all the Member States, the Council of Ministers temporarily put in place a cohesion financial instrument which will be replaced forthwith by the cohesion fund referred to in Article 130D of the Treaty, as soon as it comes into force. This instrument will finance projects involving the environment and trans-European networks of transport infrastructure in Greece, Spain, Ireland and Portugal. Each of these countries must have a convergence programme, examined by the Council, designed to avoid an excessive public debt. The indicative allocation of funds is mainly based on population, per capita GNP and area; it also takes into account other socio-economic factors such as the inadequacy of transport infrastructure. (The application of these criteria might lead to the following distribution: for Spain, 52-58% of the total; for Greece, 16-20%; for Portugal 16-20%; and for Ireland, 7-10%.) The Community's co-financing rate in respect of the fund should be between 80 and 85%. A satisfactory balance between the two intervention areas is also among the criteria that will ensure the successful achievement of these objectives. The situation of the four Member States which currently meet the first eligibility criterion (GNP less than 90% of the Community average) will be reviewed in 1996, and if this figure has been exceeded, the state in question will no longer receive aid from the fund.

Mr ORTIZ CLIMENT's report suggested deleting explicit references to excessive government deficits.

While the Commission laid down that the four beneficiary countries must 'have a convergence programme examined by the Council, designed to avoid an excessive government deficit', the rapporteur suggested that they must 'have convergence programmes examined by the Council and designed to avoid an excessive government deficit, in order to enable them to accede to Economic and Monetary Union'. He also called for the development of infrastructure to link landlocked or peripheral regions with one another. The rapporteur also stressed the need to coordinate projects supported by this instrument with the other Structural Funds, particularly the objectives of the Community support framework. It stated that the EIB participates in financing projects in conjunction with the EC's other financial instruments and asked that environmental policy be given the same priority as infrastructure policy. The Commission and the Member States guarantee freedom of access to information on the projects to be financed at every planning stage, from implementation to evaluation. Lastly, Mr ORTIZ CLIMENT called on the Commission to make provision for immediate suspension and recovery of sums lost through irregularity or negligence and to present an annual report on the activities of the financial instrument to the Committee of the Regions.

GROUP SPOKESMEN: ORTIZ CLIMENT, VALVERDE LOPEZ, CARVALHO CARDOSO, LAMBRIAS, CUSHNAHAN, ZAVVOS, ARIAS CAÑETE, LUCAS PIRES, KELLETT-BOWMAN and NICHOLSON

MORETTI (ARC/I)
Doc. A3-115/93
Vote: 28.5.93

Areas with exceptionally low
population densities

The Community's overall population density is 143 people per km², but geographical distribution varies tremendously. In fact, 70% of Community citizens live in cities of 300 000 or more, whereas large areas have a registered density of 5 people per km² or less. The reasons for this are cultural, economic and territorial (that is, climatic and environmental). In view of this situation, the rapporteur called for a study of the real reasons why people leave their home areas, even those that have an adequate level of infrastructure and elementary services. The rapporteur stressed that the outlying nature of depopulated areas did not militate against their integration into trans-European networks. In order to ensure human development, he called for appropriate economic, fiscal, social, educational, health, regional planning and environmental policies to benefit regions with low population densities. While welcoming the Commission plan to step up Community action in education and health, he rejected the primacy of 'profitability', which would result in huge regions losing their services.

Mr MORETTI called on the Commission to draw up projects of Community interest designed to encourage local crafts, farm holidays, flower growing, market gardening, reintroduction of fauna and flora and the exploitation of the socio-cultural sector. The Structural Funds and the cohesion financial instrument should be used in such a way as to make specialized production viable or to change and diversify it.

GROUP SPOKESMEN: CUSHNAHAN, NICHOLSON, Sir Jack STEWART-CLARK,
McCARTIN, HABSBURG

DA CUNHA OLIVEIRA (PES/P)
Doc. A3-0162/93
Vote: 23.6.93

Development of the French overseas
departments in the context of the
single market

In adopting this report, the European Parliament called for a range of measures to improve the effectiveness of the Community's aid to four French overseas departments. In particular, he considered that the CAP should confirm that the principle of Community preference applies to all their agricultural production and, to this end, it proposed: measures relating to the sugar cane/sugar/rum sector; protection of banana production and guarantees of outlets for it; the creation of labels of origin, the maintenance of a special fiscal regime and a guarantee of sale on the Community market at cost-effective prices for all rums produced in these regions using local raw materials; measures to protect and encourage tropical production and the cultivation of produce for marketing out of season.

GROUP SPOKESMAN: FROMENT-MEURICE

BETTINI (V/I)
A3-227/93
Vote: 15.7.93

Report on the regional impact of the
conversion of the arms industry and
military sites in the EEC

The report approves the CONVER programme for the conversion of the arms industry and military sites (even though the programme was presented by the Commission without prior consultation with the European Parliament). It is a most important document, taking into account the large number of military bases in the Community, particularly in the outlying regions, and the economic importance of the arms industry.

The report urges that Community conversion policy should be directed by the authorities and not by market forces, proposing global management of

the restructuring process, taking into account various regional parameters. Predicting that conversion of the war industry would lead to serious employment problems in the least favoured regions, the report proposes intervention by the Structural Funds (FEDER and FSE) in non-eligible regions, if they are badly affected by restructuring of the arms industry or the closing down of military sites.

Lastly, it calls for conversion projects where there is Community involvement to be consistent and coordinated with other policies, particularly where environmental considerations are concerned.

GROUP SPOKESMEN: PACK, CASSIDY, INGLEWOOD, SIMMONDS, WELSH

BRITO (CG/P)
A3-216/93
Vote: 15.7.93

Commission's annual report on the implementation of the reform of the Structural Funds in 1991

Unfortunately, though we know that the total aid granted for 1991 amounted to ECU 45 billion and that 90% of the appropriations allocated have been spent, we do not possess the more detailed information necessary to properly assess the efficacy of structural interventions. This gives rise to criticism and disappointment, despite the fact that in quantitative terms the implementation of the Structural Funds was considered good.

The report notes that there are a number of weaknesses in the implementation of the reform, particularly with regard to the follow-up mechanisms and the lack of coordination between EIB loans and subsidies from the Structural Funds. It stresses that some Member States did not fully cooperate with the Commission in supplying the data required to check that the principle of additionality had been properly applied.

1991 was characterized by a flagging growth rate and, in these conditions, convergence is hard to achieve. Nevertheless, economic disparities between the Member States did shrink slightly over this period. On the other hand, in some States there was actually an increase in disparities between regions.

Finally, the report criticizes the fact that the executive did not supply information on the way in which environmental protection was taken into account in the implementation of the Structural Funds in 1991 and calls for additional information on this point.

GROUP SPOKESMAN: NICHOLSON

BRITO (CG/P)
A3-202/93
Vote: 15.7.93

Community Support Framework for the five new Länder of the Federal Republic of Germany

The report notes that the regions of the former GDR meet the criteria for Objective 1. While recognizing the considerable efforts made by Germany in the form of transfers of public funds from West to East, the rapporteur is concerned that the major beneficiaries of these measures are western capital owners. The population of eastern Germany has no choice, he believes, but to witness the ever widening inequality in the distribution of wealth. The rapporteur draws attention to the possibility that the efforts being made via public financing and the Structural Funds may prove insufficient to close the present structural gap. He is aware of the difficulty of setting priorities for investment under the Structural Funds, given the magnitude of investment needs. However, he is confident that through appropriate application of partnership criteria and proper consultation with the 'social partners' and regional and local authorities, will lead to a more efficient basis for decision making. He

believes that the criteria adopted for structural assistance, such as additionality and partnership, are now in place.

GROUP SPOKESMEN: BROK, DALSSASS, PACK

REVIEW OF THE STRUCTURAL FUNDS: Change in continuity

KÖHLER (PES/D)
Doc. A3-234/93
Vote: 14.7.93

The tasks of the Structural Funds, their effectiveness and the coordination of their activities (framework regulation)

According to the report, certain improvements are necessary, particularly:

- strengthening the principle of partnership, which must not be limited to the Member State concerned but must also cover the regional level and the 'social partners'
- environmental protection (to ensure the application of the idea of sustainable growth which respects the environment, as advocated at the Rio Summit)
- raising the section of appropriations earmarked for Community initiatives
- encouraging Member States to accept more responsibility for implementing structural policies
- asserting the European Parliament's role in political policy making, ex ante and ex post assessment and monitoring fund management
- finalizing activities to promote equality between men and women
- reasserting Parliament's budgetary prerogatives.

LAMBRIAS (EPP/GR)
Doc. A3-237/93
Vote: 14.7.93

Coordination of the activities of the different Structural Funds between themselves and with the operations of the EIB and other financial instruments

The amendments proposed in this report may be summed up as follows:

- inclusion of the following indicators in the evaluation criteria: health, social conditions and environment
- possibility for the Commission to intervene in areas other than eligible areas (but with specific budget headings)
- speeding up payments by the Commission direct to their final destinations
- greater involvement of regional administrations in the preparation of the programme
- strengthening of the EP's role in drawing up programmes
- strengthening the provisions on additionality
- better coordination with the work of the EIB
- link between the evaluation of activities and convergence programmes

The report stresses the main new features in this review, viz. the inclusion of environmental protection and greater flexibility in sectors coming under the Community initiative.

The report calls for programmes to be undertaken on the initiative of the European Parliament and not only of the Commission and the Member States. It thus assigns greater importance to activities in the areas of research and development and culture.

GROUP SPOKESMAN: ARIAS CAÑETE, LAMBRIAS, PISONI F., THYSSEN, FORTE, DEBATISSE, PRONK, CUSHNAHAN, BROK, WELSH, FERRER, McCARTIN

IV. OTHER INITIATIVES

1. Oral question with debate on the Committee of the Regions

The oral question (with debate) addressed to the Council of Ministers on behalf of the Committee on Regional Policy was designed to obtain from the Council more information on the Committee of the Regions, for which provision is made in Articles 198 A and C of the Maastricht Treaty, 'taking into account the fact that the Maastricht Treaty will enter into force during the course of the next few months'. The questions asked may be grouped as follows:

- what rules do the Member States propose to follow to ensure that the balanced representation of local and regional authorities on the committee, in accordance with the constitutional arrangements of each Member State?
- does the Council intend to act upon Parliament's recommendation that the committee should consist of elected members, in order to ensure its democratic legitimacy?
- does it intend to notify in good time Parliament and the committee responsible in particular of the progress of negotiations with the Member States on the issue?
- what deadline does it intend to set the governments of the Member States for appointing future members of the Committee of the Regions?
- how does it propose to ensure the operational and budgetary independence of the committee and its integration into the Community's legislative process?

The Council's answers were not very explicit. A number of amendments improved the resolution to wind up the debate and introduce the idea of local power at the level of the representation of the partners.

GROUP SPOKESMEN: CUSHNAHAN, ORTIZ CLIMENT, LAMBRIAS, FERRER, FROMENT-MEURICE, NICHOLSON

2. Hearings:

The Committee on Regional Policy held three hearings:

- (a) on the problems and prospects of major conurbations, attended by the European Commissioner responsible for the Community's regional policy and several mayors of big cities in the Community (5 November 1992)
- (b) on the principles of cooperative enterprises, keys to their insertion into the economic and social fabric at regional and local level, attended by representatives of cooperatives, experts, ESC members and various committees (2 December 1992)
- (c) on the first EP/EC local authorities conference, the subject being local authorities for a European Union closer to the people, based on greater democracy and solidarity. The conference was supposed to be held next February, the hearing being organized in cooperation with the Bureau of the Council of European Local Authorities and Regions on 1 July 1993.

Spyros EFSTATHOPOULOS

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND TOURISM

Vice-chairman: CHRISTENSEN Frode Nor (DK)

Coordinator: SARLIS Pavlos (GR)

FULL MEMBERS

BOURLANGES Jean-Louis (F) (up to 30 March 1993)
DE VITTO Lorenzo (I)
JARZEMBOWSKI Georg (D)
MANTOVANI Agostino (I) (up to 31 December 1992)
MÜLLER Gerd (D)
PRAG Derek (UK)
McINTOSH Anne Caroline B. (UK)
BONETTI Andrea (I) (from 1 January 1993)
LUSTER Rudolf (D) (from 1 April 1993)

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I. Introduction

Over the period covered by this report the Committee on Transport and Tourism met 17 times, including 4 extraordinary meetings in Strasbourg following the urgent procedure requested by the Council.

It adopted 24 reports, 8 opinions and some 30 opinions in letter form.

The most important reports were on:

- the charging of transport infrastructure costs to heavy goods vehicles (BOURLANGES report which called on the Commission and the Council to agree to the idea of introducing a tax disc);
- the implementation of the action programme in the field of transport infrastructure (the two PRAG reports which led to the opening of the conciliation procedure with the Council in which the European Parliament was able to obtain positive results);
- the Commission Green Paper on the impact of transport on the environment (VAN DIJK report);
- the Commission Green Paper on the development of the single market for postal services (SIMPSON report);
- air traffic control and management (SAPENA GRANELL and TAURAN reports).

Committee meetings were attended by Commissioners VAN MIERT, VANNI D'ARCHIRAFI, MATUTES and BANGEMANN, Ministers MacGREGOR, MORTENSEN, TROJBORG and MAIJ-WEGGEN, the Director-General of DG VII, COLEMAN, Mr THOSS and Mr SUBIRATS, Members of the Court of Auditors and Mr DERIEUX, Member of the National Assembly.

The Committee on Transport and Tourism held three public hearings:

- on 4 November 1992 on electric cars
- on 29 April 1993 on tourism
- on 2 June 1993 on transport and energy

II. Reports adopted by the European Parliament

SEPTEMBER 1992

AIR TRANSPORT

SAPENA GRANELL (PES/ES)
A3-254/92
Adopted 18 September 1992
OJ No. C 284

Saturation of airspace and air
traffic control

There is a lack of coordination and integration at Community level among the various national air traffic control centres which use mutually incompatible equipment and do not operate jointly agreed standards or systems. The increase in air traffic and inadequate air space management have led to the saturation of airspace in some zones and air traffic congestion. With the adoption of the third package of air transport liberalization measures the situation will become even more serious.

Parliament considers that the various national ATC systems should be harmonized and integrated with a view to achieving the long-term objective of a single unified ATC system covering the entire Community airspace and controlled by a single Community Civil Aviation Authority. This authority should be established by 1 January 1996. This would make it possible to introduce the appropriate legal instruments, binding on the Member States, to facilitate, for example:

1. common safety rules for air transport,
2. a consistent policy regarding common standards and procedures for air traffic management,
3. agreed procedures and standards for the procurement of equipment for ATC purposes and flight safety for all types of aircraft,
4. planning, coordination and financing of the investment in ATC and airport infrastructure required for the introduction of a single system,
5. a single administration under the authority of the Commission to regulate ATC operations throughout the Community.

Parliament calls on the Member States to ensure that their national civil aviation authorities cooperate fully and actively with the Commission in setting up a single and consistent ATC system. EUROCONTROL could have a very important role in this regard.

Parliament observes that any consideration of Community airspace as a single entity for air traffic operations must be accompanied by the reduction to a minimum of airspace reserved for military purposes. It reaffirms the need to harmonize, throughout the Community and on an upward basis, the licences of all civil aviation personnel. It also calls on the Commission to examine what fuel savings can be achieved with optimum flight routes and how local noise and environmental problems and emission problems can be integrated into air traffic control.

TRANSPORT - GENERAL

LALOR (RDE/IRL)

A3-255/92

Adopted 18 September 1992

OJ No. C 284

Transport and regional development

The LALOR report highlights two aspects of the situation. Firstly, problems connected with the completion of the internal market: a genuine internal market cannot exist unless the problems of isolation and poor links between the Community's different regions are solved. Secondly, the problems of economic and social disparity between the different regions of the Community, which must be reduced and, in the long term, eliminated if the Community is to enjoy economic and social cohesion.

Both of these aspects are linked: the creation of the internal market and the elimination of physical, technical and fiscal barriers to trade within the Community will allow the development of the economic potential of all the Community's regions. A massive effort on behalf of the least-favoured regions of today's Community is required, however, if they are to be able to face the challenges of tomorrow's increased competition successfully.

Transport obviously has a vital role to play, since it is a fundamental element in regional development. The European Parliament therefore calls for the development of road and motorway networks, maritime transport and the establishment of a network of passenger services and ferries to and from towns in the Community. It is also in favour of the development of

coastal shipping, the modernization of the railway networks in peripheral regions and the provision of airports.

Parliament welcomes the decision taken at Maastricht in December 1991 to establish the Cohesion Fund, one of whose objectives is to improve transport infrastructures in qualifying regions, and reiterates its demands for the establishment of a European Infrastructure Fund to finance major projects of Community interest.

It calls for Community action to guarantee the peripheral regions' accessibility in relation to the developed markets of the central European axis and to step up interregional collaboration to encourage the emergence of new foci or axes of economic and social development outside the central axis.

TRANSPORT AND THE ENVIRONMENT

VAN DIJK (V/NL)
A3-256/92
Adopted 18 September 1992
OJ No. C 284

Commission Green Paper on the Impact
of Transport on the Environment
(COM(92) 46 - C3-182/92)

In April 1992 the Commission published its Green Paper on the impact of transport on the environment. The European Parliament welcomes the fact that this document takes up a number of issues already dealt with in the TOPMANN report (A3-216/91).

The Commission has managed to analyse the problem of the environment in relation to transport. It provides a realistic account of the irreconcilability of current trends and sustainable development. It makes clear that 'sustainable mobility' will require structural measures. A coherent and efficiently integrated environmental and transport policy would require a clear indication of priorities, and the time scale within which they are to be implemented. These features are, regrettably, absent from the Green Paper. This is why Parliament calls on the Commission to establish priorities for achieving 'sustainable mobility' on the basis of the following instruments:

- a coherent fiscal policy for the transport sector. The Commission is thus called on to introduce the planned CO₂ tax as soon as possible;
- a common infrastructure policy. The Commission is called on to ensure that, as regards the further development of transport infrastructures, priority is given to environmentally-friendly forms of transport and/or the construction of ecologically more favourable chains of transport;
- structural support for less environmentally harmful modes of transport (rail, public transport, electric vehicles, bicycles etc.);
- reduction of noise nuisance. Action must be taken as soon as possible considerably to reduce the noise nuisance caused by road traffic, motorcycles, trains and aircraft;
- speed restrictions. The Commission should propose maximum speed limits throughout the Community. However, the Member States must be able to set lower speed limits.

OCTOBER 1992

TRANSPORT- THIRD COUNTRIES

WIJSENBEK (LDR/NL)
DER WAAL (NI/NL)
A3-309/92
Adopted 30 October 1992
OJ No. C 305

Commission proposal for a Council decision concerning the conclusion of the agreements on the transit of goods between the European Economic Community and Austria and the EEC and Switzerland (COM(92) 107 - C3-258/92 and C3-259/92)

The transit agreements cover road, rail and combined transport. The intention underlying them all is the achievement of a lasting solution to the problems of trans-Alpine transit traffic that safeguards the quality of life of local residents, protects the environment and guarantees international trade. The agreements are objectively and politically linked with the agreement on the European Economic Area. They provide for the implementation in the years ahead of a number of carefully defined measures on Swiss and Austrian territory, as well as that of the Community, according to a specific timetable, making substantial improvements in the capacities and services provided by the railways as a part of combined transport for goods traffic.

1. The agreement with Switzerland is based on the fundamental notion that current transport restrictions on Swiss territory (28 tonne limit, ban on the movement of goods at night and on Sundays) will be accepted by the Community for the life of the agreement, with Switzerland undertaking in return substantially to increase transit capacity for combined transport and to carry out considerable infrastructure work to this end. Should it prove impossible to carry out certain urgent operations in combined transport because of lack of capacity, Switzerland declares its willingness to issue exemption permits to vehicles of more than 28 tonnes, though not in principle more than 50 per day in each direction. The annual maximum is to be 15 000 permits for each direction. These permits will only be issued to vehicles that meet the latest Community anti-pollution standards (gaseous and particulate emissions) or which, if they do not comply with these standards, were first registered no more than two years before the date of application.

With regard to infrastructure work, Switzerland has undertaken to carry out construction work on the north-south rail routes of Basel-Lötschberg-Simplon-Domodossola and Basel-Gotthard-Chiasso, which will increase combined transport capacity. Some time after 1994 Switzerland undertakes to construct:

- a railway line between Arth-Goldau and Lugano, including a Gotthard base tunnel (length about 50 km) and another base tunnel under Monte Ceneri (length 13 km);
 - a base tunnel under the Lötschberg (length about 30 km).
2. For the agreement with Austria, see MÜLLER report on the distribution of 'ECOPOINTS' (page 8).

In Parliament's opinion, the content of the agreements falls within the scope of the common transport policy and not the common commercial policy as decided by the Commission. It therefore advocates Article 75 of the EEC Treaty instead of Article 113 as proposed by the Commission. It adopted the report unanimously.

ROAD AND INLAND WATERWAY TRANSPORT

HERMAN (PPE/B)
A3-276/92
Adopted 30 October 1992
OJ No. C 305

Commission proposal for a Council
regulation on the transfer of
controls in the field of road and
inland waterway transport to the
Community's external frontiers
(COM(92) 105 - C3-198/92)

The Commission proposal is one of a series of measures being taken by the Community to eliminate checks at the internal frontiers by 1 January 1993 at the latest. It extends the scope of a regulation adopted by the Council in 1989 and amended in 1991 to vehicles and inland waterway vessels registered or put into circulation in third countries. The checks relate to all permits required for the journey within Community territory to the final destination. The checks are performed at the external frontiers of the Community but do not exclude the possibility that the competent authorities may perform checks anywhere in the Community.

The European Parliament believes that inspections should be performed only on a random sample of traffic. It therefore proposes that the Commission text be altered by means of an amendment whereby the authorities at the external frontiers of the Community would be required to ensure that, after the necessary checks have been performed, the name of the country of destination is clearly marked on the vehicle concerned (sticker on windscreen). This amendment would enable double checking in countries of transit to be kept to a minimum.

NOVEMBER 1992

TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

PRAG (EPP/UK)
A3-332/92
Adopted 20 November 1992
OJ No. C 337

Commission proposal for a Council
regulation amending Regulation (EEC)
No. 3359 for an action programme in
the field of transport infrastructure
with a view to the completion of an
integrated transport market in 1992
(COM(92) 231 - C3-372/92)

See page 4

TRANSPORT - THIRD COUNTRIES

ANASTASSOPOULOS (EPP/GR)
A3-330/92
Adopted 20 November 1992
OJ No. C 337

EEC-Hungary transit agreement
(COM(92) 203 - 6981/92 - C3-296/92)

This is the first transport agreement concluded by the EEC with a central or eastern European country, and it is the first time that questions of transit and transport infrastructure have been dealt with together.

Infrastructure in these countries is very poor and experience has shown that the PHARE programme is not sufficient to provide effective aid to these countries.

This agreement is also the result of the war in former Yugoslavia, since the volume and density of transit traffic through Hungary, particularly

by Community carriers operating to and from Greece, have increased considerably.

At the request of Greece, the Commission has obtained an increase in the number of transit permits and a reduction in transit fees. In return, the Community undertakes to explore, within the framework of the existing financial mechanisms, financing possibilities for the improvement of land transport infrastructure in Hungary.

The European Parliament adopted the reports on the transit agreements with Hungary and the CSFR unanimously. In both cases it advocated the use of Article 75 of the EEC Treaty instead of Article 113, as proposed by the Commission.

JARZEMBOWSKI (EPP/D)
A3-331/92
Adopted 20 November 1992
OJ No. C 337

EEC-CSFR transit agreement
(COM(92) 203 - 6981/92 - C3-297/92)

This report should be considered in parallel with the ANASTASSOPOULOS report on the transit agreements with Hungary.

However, the situation was far more complicated given that there was no certainty as to the contracting party after 1 January 1993, when the CSFR was to be dissolved and divided into two independent states.

Parliament therefore hesitated before giving its opinion. It called on the Commission, in the event of any future constitutional changes in the territory of the CSFR, to report to Parliament on the legal implications and, if appropriate, to negotiate adjustments to the agreement. Such adjustment would have to be made in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 75 of the Treaty.

In this report Parliament also recommends effective aid to improve land transport infrastructure. It welcomes the fact that the Commission has taken up transit problems through the CSFR as one of the first specific transport items in the context of the new association agreements. The present proposal can therefore be considered as a useful step forward on the Community's way to completion of its single transport market by the progressive development of external relations at Community level, with a view to achieving an efficient transport system all over the European continent.

MÜLLER (EPP/D)
A3-375/92
Adopted 20 November 1992
OJ No. C 337

Commission proposal for a Council
regulation on a system of
distribution of Rights of Transit
(ECOPOINTS) for vehicles having a
laden weight greater than 7.5 tonnes
registered in a Member State
transiting through the Republic of
Austria (COM(92) 343 - C3-382/92)

The agreement between the EEC and Austria on the transit of goods by road and rail includes the provision that transit of heavy goods vehicles through Austria is to be limited by means of an 'ECOPOINT' system in such a way as to reduce NO_x emissions from the transiting vehicles by 60% over the 12-year period covered by the agreement. In future a heavy goods vehicle with a laden weight exceeding 7.5 tonnes will have to 'pay' ECOPOINTS for transit through Austria. The number of ECOPOINTS required will depend on the specific emission of pollutants from the individual vehicle. One ECOPOINT will have to be paid for each gram of NO_x per Kilowatt-hour. ECOPOINTS will be in the form of a stamp (e.g. of 16, 9, 5 and 1 ECOPOINT) which the driver should fix to the usual documentation,

used for statistical purposes. These stamps are endorsed at the first border and give the right to transit and to leave Austria.

Each year the Community will receive a certain allocation of ECOPOINTS, which, pursuant to the agreement, will be calculated on the basis of the number of transit journeys made in 1991 (this number has been fixed at 1 264 000) and the estimated annual average NO_x emission of the vehicles. This number of points is then to be reduced by 60% up to the year 2003.

Given that the proposal only concerns the distribution of transit rights within the Community, Parliament considers that Article 75 must be regarded as the appropriate legal basis instead of Article 113 as proposed by the Commission.

Parliament adopted the report with some amendments.

TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

PORTO (LDR/P)
A3-295/92
Adopted 20 November 1992
OJ No. C 337

Declaration of European interest to facilitate the establishment of trans-European networks in the transport domain (COM(92) 230 - C3-399/92)

On 24 February 1992 the Commission submitted a proposal for a Council regulation concerning a declaration of European interest to facilitate the establishment of trans-European networks in the transport sector.

This proposal was based on Articles 75 and 84 of the EEC Treaty and aims, through a declaration of European interest, to improve the general conditions for the introduction of trans-European networks, in particular by financing the private sector.

Parliament welcomes the Commission proposal as a rational contribution towards the realization of trans-European infrastructure networks for the various modes of transport, even though it must naturally be followed by further measures, both in terms of planning and funding, if it is to result in a coherent policy.

The report was adopted unanimously. The amendments tabled by the EPP were accepted.

MARITIME TRANSPORT

SARLIS (EPP/GR)
A3-376/92
Adopted 20 November 1992
OJ No. C 337

Council proposal to the European Parliament for a regulation applying the principle of freedom to provide services to maritime transport within Member States (maritime cabotage) (Reconsultation) (Cons. 8845/92 - C3-390/92)

The proposal for a regulation differs in several important respects from the proposal originally put forward by the Commission in 1989 and from the amendments adopted by the European Parliament in its resolution of 26 October 1990.

The Council therefore decided to re-consult Parliament.

The main points of the Council's proposal are:

- the rules of cabotage are applicable to Community shipowners whose ships are registered in a Member State. They are also applicable to Community shipowners whose vessels will be registered in EUROS once the Council has approved the register;
- liberalization is to be phased in. In particular:
 - (a) there is provision for temporarily postponing implementation of the agreement in respect of:
 - 1. cruise services, until 1.1.1995,
 - 2. transport of oil, oil products and drinking water, until 1.1.1997
 - 3. services of any kind carried out by ships smaller than 650 GT, until 1.1.1998,
 - 4. regular passenger and ferry services, until 1.1.1999.

These temporary exemptions apply only to maritime transport in the Mediterranean and along the coast of Spain, Portugal and France;

- (b) the date for implementation of the regulation is postponed until 1 January 1999 for maritime transport of any form performing services carried out:
 - 1. between mainland ports of a country and ports on one or more islands of one and the same Member State or between island ports of one and the same Member State,
 - 2. with ports in the Canary Islands, the Azores, Madeira, Ceuta and the Melilla, the French islands along the Atlantic coast and the French overseas departments;
- (c) for reasons relating to social and economic cohesion, Greece is temporarily exempt from implementing the regulation until 1 January 2004. This applies to regular passenger and ferry services provided by vessels of less than 650 GT plying between ports on the Greek mainland and Greek island ports and between ports on the Greek islands.

Parliament adopted the proposal for a regulation with two amendments in which it calls for liberalization and harmonization measures in the field of maritime transport to be accompanied by the harmonization of conditions governing that sector and calls on the Commission to carry out a study on the likely social, economic and fiscal impact of cabotage, on the way of life of the inhabitants of the regions concerned and on the employment prospects of seafarers.

COMBINED TRANSPORT

AMARAL (LDR/P)
A3-377/92
Adopted 20 November 1992
OJ No. C 337

Commission proposals to the Council on:

I. a directive amending Directive 75/130/EEC on the establishment of common rules for certain types of combined carriage of goods between Member States (COM(92) 230 final - C3-399/92)

II. a regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1107/70 on the granting of aids for transit by rail, road and inland waterway (COM(92) 230 final - C3-400/92)

The proposal to amend Directive 75/130/EEC seeks chiefly to extend the definition of combined transport to include sea transport, while maintaining the requirement of Directive 91/224/EEC (with regard to combined transport by road and inland waterway) that the road legs linked to a sea journey should be limited to a radius of 150 kilometres from the port.

Parliament welcomes the inclusion of maritime transport in the definition of combined transport, given the huge strategic importance of this mode.

Parliament also proposes measures relating to tax incentives, including common rules for the reimbursement of road taxes on road vehicles using combined transport. It also proposes that the Commission submit a study together with proposals on the harmonization of regulations, technical specifications and standards relating to combined transport.

The proposal to amend Regulation 1107/70 seeks to extend the validity of the regulation to 31 December 1995 and to enlarge its scope to include aids for moveable facilities (in particular railway rolling stock) which is specifically designed for the requirements of combined transport. Parliament considers that the date of 1995 proposed by the Commission for the expiry of this regulation is too close. Investment in infrastructure projects requires large-scale funding and the planning and implementation stages take time. It therefore proposes extending this date to 31 December 2000.

DECEMBER 1992

ROAD TRANSPORT

BOURLANGES (EPP/F)
A3-421/92
Adopted 18 December 1992
OJ No. C 21

Amendment to the Commission proposal for a Council directive on the charging of transport infrastructure costs to heavy goods vehicles (COM(92) 405 final - C3-442/92)

In 1987 the Commission submitted an initial proposal seeking to enable the Council to give legal force to the measures needed to remove distortions of competition arising from differences in the charging of infrastructure costs.

Given the many political and practical objections, the Commission amended its proposal in 1990, proposing to set up a Community taxation system for heavy goods vehicles based on the principle of territoriality.

In the first BOURLANGES report the European Parliament departed substantially from the Commission's initial proposal on several points. The most interesting innovation it proposed was to allow Member States which so wished to introduce a new form of tax in the form of a subscription, which would be a sort of standing toll based not on the number of kilometres travelled but on the duration of authorized use of the equipment concerned. The subscription could be flexible in time and space. There could be daily, weekly, monthly and annual season tickets and area season tickets (each motorway network being divided into zones) in order to avoid all discrimination against occasional users, in particular foreigners.

In September 1992 the Commission submitted a second amendment to its proposal for a directive in which it took up the main points of Parliament's opinion issued in May 1992:

- the need for road transport liberalization measures to go hand in hand with harmonization of the conditions of competition;
- the introduction of particularly modest rates for the new tax on vehicles;
- the introduction of user charges, either in the form of a toll or in the form of a subscription or season ticket.

In the second BOURLANGES report the European Parliament welcomes the fact that the proposal incorporates a great many of the main points set out in its opinion. It adopted two amendments whereby (a) Member States shall organise a system of user charges in such a way that users of a small proportion of the roads subject to user charges pay less than users of the whole road network subject to such charges, and (b) Member States that collect user charges shall, in agreement with the Commission, take the measures required to enable vehicles registered in a neighbouring country to be exempted from user charges when travelling in border areas.

All this is only a transitional solution until the Council gives its position on a single overall system for the allocation of infrastructure charges, which requires unanimity.

JANUARY 1993

ROAD TRANSPORT

DENYS (PES/F)
A3-391/92
Adopted 21 January 1993
OJ No. C 42

Electric road vehicles for use in town

In its recent resolutions on 'Transport and the environment' (TOPMANN report), on 'Congestion and urban transport' (WIJSENBEK report) and on 'The Green Paper on the impact of transport on the environment' (VAN DIJK report), the European Parliament has recommended the use and the promotion of new, more ecological vehicle technology, such as electric motors, for transport in towns.

In fact, the levels of pollution in European cities, particularly in the winter months, are such that life will soon become intolerable in our historic city centres.

There should be a ban on the use of internal combustion engine vehicles in towns and at the same time the use of electric vehicles and electric motors in public transport should be encouraged.

The present report seeks to make the authorities of the Member States and manufacturers fully aware of the importance of developing and marketing electric vehicles and the need to encourage mass production.

Parliament calls on the Commission to present to the Council a ten-year framework programme for the gradual introduction on the market of electric vehicles for use in towns which would comprise the following points:

- * harmonization of technical standards for electrically driven vehicles;
- * research and development particularly into industrial equipment and components in the field of motors, batteries and power supplies;
- * the gradual introduction in towns of infrastructure to deal with electric vehicles (reserved (free) car parks and recharging facilities);
- * fiscal incentives - e.g. reduced VAT on zero-emission vehicles;
- * the provision of demonstrations, information etc.

Parliament considers it vital to reach a production level of at least 70 000 electric vehicles per year (0.5% of the present market) before large-scale industrial production can begin at a cost which makes them competitive with conventional vehicles.

POSTAL SERVICES

SIMPSON (PES/UK)
A3-393/92
Adopted 21 January 1993
OJ No. C 42

Green Paper on the development of the
single market for postal services
(COM(91) 476 - C3-269/92)

In June 1992 the Commission published its Green Paper on the development of the single market for postal services. This analyses the existing situation, discusses the Community's objectives in the postal sector and outlines the strategy which could be used to achieve these objectives.

The European Parliament welcomes publication by the Commission of the Green Paper and notes that certain parts of the postal services currently provided in the Community are of an unacceptably low standard. It calls on the Commission to draw up a package of specific proposals in this sector and insists that the legal basis for such proposals, which would all relate to the achievement of the Single Market, should be Article 100A.

Parliament stresses that it is vital that a full universal postal service, to include at least collection and delivery of letters and of parcels below a certain weight in all parts of the Community, be maintained.

It calls on the Commission to submit a proposal for a common definition of the obligatory universal service. This definition must include the services to be provided, a certain level of standardization of postal items and their weights, criteria for adequate quality and affordable charges, and proper conditions of access everywhere in the Community. It agrees with the Commission that the operation of this universal service should remain in the hands of public postal administrations. It also agrees that the efficient operation of the universal service requires that a reserved sector of postal services be maintained, to be provided only by the postal administrations. Parliament reaffirms its

view that such post office monopolies do not contravene the rules of the EEC Treaty.

Parliament calls on the Commission to draw up a common Community definition of the reserved service which, whilst being the minimum size necessary to ensure that postal administrations can operate the universal service, enables them to provide that service at a reasonable cost.

Parliament also points out that it seems likely that sufficient volume to achieve the necessary economies of scale domestically will require that direct mail be retained in this sector. The need to maintain a full international delivery capability also seems to indicate the retention of cross-border mail falling within the universal sector in the reserved service. However, the different situation in different Member States should be respected.

FEBRUARY 1993

TRANSPORT - GENERAL

LÜTTGE (PES/D)
A3-44/93
Adopted 9 February 1993
OJ No. C 72

Interim report on further steps
towards an all-European transport
policy - measures following the first
European Transport Conference (Prague
29-31 October 1991)

The first pan-European conference on transport which took place from 29 to 31 October 1991 in Prague provided substantial political impetus to achieving tangible improvements in cooperation in the field of transport policy between the European Community, intergovernmental organizations active in this field and the countries of Europe. It also affirmed to the political public the European Parliament's claim to be involved in shaping the Community's external relations in the transport sector.

The European Parliament approves the objectives laid down in the Prague Declaration and the instruments proposed as a basis for further progress towards an all-European transport policy.

It calls on the Commission together with the European Parliament and in collaboration with the Presidency-in-Office of the Council of the Community, the European Conference of Ministers of Transport, the European Civil Aviation Conference and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe to call a second European Transport Conference for the spring of 1994.

Parliament proposes that this Conference be held in Greece.

Participants should include representatives of the governments and parliaments of all European states recognized by the Community, all supranational and international governmental organizations responsible for European transport policy, the major interested non-governmental organizations, representatives of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea countries, etc.

It was planned that a pan-European transport charter would be adopted at the conclusion of the conference in Crete from 14 to 16 March 1994.

MARCH 1993

TRANSPORT - GENERAL

PRAG (EPP/UK)
A3-68/93
Adopted 9 March 1993
OJ No. C 115

Council amendments to the Commission proposal for a regulation for an action programme in the field of transport infrastructure with a view to the completion of an integrated transport market (Reconsultation) (Council 1043/92 - C3-16/93) (A3-68/93)

In the first PRAG report (A3-332/92) of 20 November 1992 Parliament supported the Commission proposal submitted in September 1992 seeking to extend for a further transitional period Regulation (EEC) No. 3359/90 for an action programme in the field of transport infrastructure, due to expire at the end of the year (pending more complete measures to be taken at a later stage on trans-European networks within the framework of the Maastricht Treaty).

While in its amendment the Commission proposed to extend not only the period of application but also the scope of the regulation (safety, environmental protection, multimodal transport, compatibility with central and eastern Europe, and in particular extension to air and maritime transport infrastructure), in December COREPER submitted a modified version which only limited the extension of the period of application and contained a reference to a figure of ECU 280 m, considered necessary to implement the action programme. Given the substantial changes to the Commission's original text, the Council decided to reconsult Parliament. References to air and maritime transport were deleted.

In the second PRAG report (A3-68/93) the European Parliament decided to re-table the amendments to the Council text on four particularly important issues:

- * maintenance of the EP's budgetary autonomy (no insertion of figures, even estimates);
- * the importance of transport safety;
- * assessment of the impact of certain projects on the environment;
- * maritime and air transport infrastructure should be covered to foster combined transport.

Furthermore, Parliament called for the conciliation procedure to be opened if the Council should intend to depart from the text adopted in Strasbourg on 9 March 1993. As this was the case, Parliament negotiated with the Council on 7 June 1993.

Following these negotiations, the EP and Council delegations agreed to introduce the following provisions into the proposal for a regulation:

- * a high level of safety must be ensured for all modes of transport covered by the regulation;
- * a project may not receive EC support unless the provisions in force on environmental impact assessment are fully complied with;
- * the present regulation will be revised in 1994 in the light of decisions pending on the financing of infrastructure (in particular the Cohesion Fund, the Structural Funds and the European Investment Fund).

Following these discussions, the Council approved the proposal for a regulation. It is estimated that ECU 325 million will be required to implement the programme.

Parliament and the Twelve also stated their wish to examine, within the framework of the budgetary procedure, the possibility of financing studies or pilot projects in maritime and air transport from 1994 onwards. The compromise reached was submitted to the parliamentary committees concerned (Transport and Budgets) so that Parliament could give its opinion at its part-session in June 1993 on the conclusion of the conciliation procedure.

ROAD TRANSPORT - SAFETY

TAURAN (DR/F)
A3-14/93
Adopted 12 March 1993
OJ No. C 115

Programme of action on road safety

According to recent statistics, each year road accidents claim 50 000 lives and leave over 1 700 000 people injured (of which 150 000 will be permanently disabled) in the Community. In view of the major disparities between the Member States on road safety, the report stresses the role the Community must play to improve the situation, especially following Maastricht decision to provide for competence in this area in the new Treaty.

The European Parliament calls on the Commission and Council to adopt legislation as soon as possible to improve road safety in the EC, in particular on:

the definition of standards and methods for periodic roadworthiness tests for all categories of vehicle; extending roadworthiness tests to two- or three-wheeled motorized vehicles; technical harmonization of vehicles. It calls for the establishment of a European Transport Safety Council. A task force should be set up within DG VII to draw up, in cooperation with specialist organizations in the Member States, action programmes targeted particularly at high-risk groups (children, the elderly, young drivers, etc.).

Parliament also calls for speed restrictions applicable to all categories of vehicle, Community rules on maximum alcohol levels for drivers, stricter controls on driving times for lorry and bus drivers, the introduction of a points system on driving licences, improvement of road signs, etc.

It also stresses the need for a Community programme of research in the field of transport safety.

The report was adopted unanimously.

MARITIME TRANSPORT

DE PICCOLI (PES/IT)
A3-67/93
Adopted 12 March 1993
OJ No. C 115

Maritime transport in the Adriatic and Ionian Seas

The Adriatic basin and the Ionian Sea, an area of regional importance, is also undoubtedly of Community interest. Consideration must be given to the particular situation of Greece, the country in the region most vulnerable to the repercussions of the crisis in former Yugoslavia in terms of economic relations and trade.

A strategy must be put in place to develop maritime transport in the Adriatic-Ionian corridor in order to rectify - at least partially - the

current imbalance in favour of the northern EC ports, which are becoming increasingly congested.

Parliament calls on the Commission, the Council and the Member States concerned to make the Adriatic-Ionian corridor a genuinely integrated shipping and port system, and considers that the Commission's 'master plan' being drawn up for Community ports must take account of the need to develop the region.

It also calls for port infrastructure to be improved as a matter of priority (including better road and motorway links). The costs of this work should be borne in the first instance by the Italian and Greek governments; the EC could also contribute using budget resources earmarked for the development of transport networks and the Cohesion Fund (Greece being one of the 4 cohesion countries). The Adriatic regions of Italy (classified as Objective 1 regions) could benefit from resources from the Structural Funds, and the EIB could also play an important role in this regard.

Parliament calls on the Commission to provide for programmes to improve several ports (Koper and Rijeka in former Yugoslavia and Bar and Durrës in Albania) in its agreements with the republics of former Yugoslavia and Albania.

The report was adopted unanimously.

APRIL 1993

AIR TRANSPORT

DE VITTO (EPP/IT)
A3-71/93
Adopted 20 April 1993
OJ No. C

Evaluation of aid schemes established
in favour of Community air carriers
(SEC(92) 431 final)

The Commission's report on the evaluation of aid schemes established in favour of Community air carriers (SEC(92) 431 final) confirms that the Commission may take a flexible attitude to certain state aids and that certain airlines, whose competitiveness suffers from the financial burden of the past, must receive aid in order to make a fresh start, provided this does not adversely affect the situation of competitors.

State aids to Community air carriers could cause specific, serious distortions of competition both within the sector and between the different modes of transport.

Parliament therefore calls for state aid to Community air carriers to be kept to a minimal level so as to avoid harmful repercussions on the delicate mechanism of freedom of competition. To this end, mechanisms should be established to clarify the Commission's powers of intervention (which are not defined in the Treaty) and render them more transparent.

It also calls on the Commission to submit to the European Parliament and the Council a proposal for a review of the basic criteria for evaluation of the systems of state aid in favour of air carriers included in Memorandum No. 2 of 1984 on the development of the common air transport policy, to enter into force before the beginning of 1994, in order to:

- (a) establish a general Community framework which requires a precise definition of the justification of such aid from the economic, social, environmental, safety, regional and industrial policy point of view;

- (b) establish a code of conduct to regulate intervention by the Commission;
- (c) draft a legislative framework stipulating the cases in which and the means by which the Commission may respond to distortion caused by action it has authorized.

Parliament demands that the Council adopt before 31 December 1993, using the co-decision procedure, appropriate regulations on state aid, in accordance with Article 94 of the EEC Treaty.

It also wishes to draw attention to a significant point which is not to be found in the Commission's communication: the question of relations with third countries. As long as no agreement on state aid and subsidy to air carriers exists at international level, the Commission should take account of the fact that Community air carriers could find themselves in an unfavourable position vis-à-vis the airlines of third countries which do enjoy such aid and subsidy.

The report was adopted unanimously.

MAY 1993

AIR TRANSPORT

JARZEMBOWSKI (EPP/D)
A3-146/93
Adopted 26 May 1993
OJ No. C

Code of conduct for computerized
reservation systems (COM(92) 404 -
C3-56/93)

It was in the United States that air carriers first developed modern, sophisticated CRSs to cope with the needs and quickly changing conditions of a free market and to hold or enlarge their competitive market positions.

Because of their extensive capabilities these CRSs became very powerful marketing tools for their owner carriers, allowing them to achieve advantages to the detriment of their competitors. In time, discrimination occurred in various forms: in the way flights were ranked in displays, in access to marketing information generated by the CRS, clauses preventing subscribers from switching to or using a competing CRS.

Air carriers which did not have their own CRS came to depend to a great extent on the CRS of their competitors for the distribution and selling of their own products which encouraged tendencies to distortions of competition and abuse of dominant positions.

The need for a regulatory framework in the field of CRSs became obvious in order to avoid such abuse and ensure fair competition between air carriers and CRSs to the benefit of both the industry and the consumer.

On 24 July 1989 the Council adopted Regulation No. 2299/89 on a code of conduct for computerized reservation systems. This came into force on 1 August 1989. The regulation stipulates that the code must be reviewed by 31 December 1992 at the latest. The Commission finds that the code is in need of some modifications.

The Commission proposal for a regulation seeks to modify the code of conduct in four respects:

- (a) experience gained with the code of conduct that entered into force on 1 August 1989 is to be translated into the amendment or clarification of existing provisions;
- (b) in accordance with the decision of principle in the Third Liberalization Package non-scheduled services are to be placed on the same footing as scheduled services in this sphere through their inclusion in the scope of the code of conduct;
- (c) to ensure fair competition among computerized reservation systems and air carriers and in the interests of travel agencies and consumers, air carriers that own a reservation system are to be required to participate in other reservation systems;
- (d) any unfair advantages which a parent carrier might derive from the fact that its internal reservation system is not separated from the reservation system it controls are to be precluded through the prescription of special protective measures.

Parliament concludes that the amendments to the code of conduct proposed by the Commission strike a reasonable balance among the interests of the various parties concerned (system vendors, air carriers, travel agencies and consumers).

It adopted this complicated and technical report unanimously.

JUNE 1993

AIR TRANSPORT

TAURAN (DR/F)
A3-165/93
Adopted 25 June 1993
OJ No. C

Commission proposal for a Council directive concerning the definition and use of compatible technical standards and specifications for the procurement of air traffic management equipment and systems (COM(92) 342 final)

The proposal is essentially intended to harmonize and integrate the ATM (Air Traffic Management) equipment of the twelve Member States in order to improve communication and technical compatibility. Provision is made for the Commission, assisted by a consultative committee comprising representatives of the Member States, to have the power to compel the Member States to adopt the technical specifications adopted by EUROCONTROL with regard to communications systems between ATC (air traffic control) centres, airspace surveillance systems, systems providing automated assistance to air control and navigation systems. The provisions of the directive also seek to incorporate EUROCONTROL standards and specifications into Community law, while pursuing the objective of achieving the highest possible level of air safety.

Parliament considers that the rational management of Community airspace, in keeping with the requirements of safety, efficiency, economy and air traffic flow entails, as a long-term objective, the establishment of a single unified ATC system covering the entire Community air space and controlled by a single Community Civil Aviation Authority. It calls on the Commission to submit a proposal to Parliament to this end by 31 December 1994 at the latest.

TRANSPORT - THIRD COUNTRIES

SARLIS (EPP/GR)
A3-149/93
Adopted 22 June 1993
OJ No. C

Conclusion of the agreement between
the EEC and the Republic of Slovenia
in the field of transport (COM(93) 57
final)

The aim of the agreement between the EEC and the Republic of Slovenia is to promote cooperation between the parties on transport, and in particular transit traffic, and to ensure for this purpose that transport between and through the territories of the contracting parties is developed in a coordinated manner.

The agreement contributes to the completion of the single market by guaranteeing free transit through Slovenia for land transport between Greece and the other Member States. It enables international trade to be conducted at the least possible cost to the public and makes it possible to reduce to a minimum the administrative and technical obstacles which affect it.

Cooperation covers transport, in particular road and rail transport and combined transport and related infrastructure.

The scope of the agreement covers:

- transport infrastructure in the territory of one or other party;
- market access, on a reciprocal basis, in the field of road transport;
- essential legal and administrative supporting measures including commercial, taxation, social and technical measures;
- cooperation in developing a transport system which meets environmental needs;
- a regular exchange of information on the development of the transport policies of both parties with particular regard to transport infrastructure.

In Parliament's view the objectives and content of the agreements fall within the scope of the common transport policy and not the common commercial policy as decided by the Commission. It therefore advocates Article 75 of the EEC Treaty instead of Article 113 as proposed by the Commission.

LÜTTGE (PES/D)
A3-229/93
Adopted 16 July 1993
OJ No. C

Commission proposal for a Council
decision amending the text of the
Agreement approved by Council
Decision 92/984/EEC concerning the
conclusion of an Agreement between
the EEC, the Kingdom of Norway and
the Kingdom of Sweden on civil
aviation (COM(93) 265 final -
C3-0000/93)

The agreement between the European Community, Norway and Sweden in the field of civil aviation, which came into force in 1992, enables a set of standards to be applied on the basis of which a uniform system of rules concerning market access, airline capacities and price setting can be established.

Since the conclusion of negotiations on the Agreement the European Community has adopted new regulations and directives - in particular what

is generally referred to as the third civil aviation package - relating to the completion of the internal market.

The purpose of the new Commission proposal is to integrate this new Community legislation into the Agreement.

As it did in 1991, the Commission is again proposing Article 113 of the EEC Treaty as the legal basis for the amended civil aviation agreement.

The European Parliament prefers Articles 84 and 228 of the EEC Treaty, and is being consulted by the Council on the basis of Article 84.

The Agreement on the European Economic Area, with the entry into force of which the Agreement on civil aviation will lapse, takes account only of the second civil aviation package.

It will be necessary to wait until the EEA Agreement has come into force before it can be extended to include new legislation.

It will therefore be necessary during a transition stage for the civil aviation agreement with Norway and Sweden to be retained in parallel with the EEA Agreement until the necessary extensions have been made to the EEA Agreement. This transition stage should in no circumstances exceed two years.

JULY 1993

MARITIME TRANSPORT

VAN DIJK (V/NL)
A3-210/93
Adopted 13 July 1993
OJ No. C

Minimum requirements for vessels
bound for or leaving Community ports
and carrying dangerous or polluting
goods (Reconsultation) (Council
4812/93 - C3-146/93)

The purpose of this directive is to impose a number of minimum requirements on vessels bound for or leaving Community ports and carrying dangerous or polluting goods, with a view to improving the safety of shipping and protecting human life and the marine environment.

The European Parliament calls on the Commission to draft new proposals as soon as possible, and at all events before the end of 1994, for:

- minimum requirements for the training of crews on board vessels carrying dangerous or polluting goods,
- minimum requirements for and supervision of the construction and state of maintenance of vessels carrying dangerous or polluting goods,
- minimum requirements concerning packaging of dangerous or polluting goods,
- a system of compulsory shipping lanes in the territorial waters and Exclusive Economic Zones of the Member States.

III. MAIN WORK IN PROGRESS

I.
TRANSPORT - INFRASTRUCTURE

McINTOSH report: Creation of a trans-European road network
COM(92) 231 final / PE 203.111

AMARAL report: Establishment of a combined transport network in
the Community COM(92) 230 final / PE 205.055
Shadow rapporteur: CORNELISSEN

TOPMANN report: Creation of a European inland waterway network
COM(92) 231 final / PE 203.397
Shadow rapporteur: JARZEMBOWSKI

I
TRANSPORT - GENERAL

I

PORRAZZINI report: White Paper on the future development of the
Common Transport Policy COM(92) 494
Shadow rapporteur: SARLIS

CHRISTENSEN report: Social aspects of the transport sector
PE 205.091

III. AIR TRANSPORT

LÜTTGE and McINTOSH reports: Commercial aviation relations
between the EEC and third countries COM(92) 434
Shadow rapporteur: McINTOSH

I
MARITIME TRANSPORT

V

STEWART report: A common policy on safe seas COM(93) 66 final
Shadow rapporteur: JARZEMBOWSKI

V
TOURISM

CORNELISSEN report: Tourism in the approach to the year 2000
PE 205.060 rev.

Romain **STRASSER**

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

(50 members, including 16 from the EPP Group)

1. Offices held by members of the EPP Group

First vice-chairman: Ursula SCHLEICHER (D)
Spokesman: José Luis VALVERDE (ES)
Deputy spokesmen: Caroline JACKSON (UK)
 Karl-Heinz FLORENZ (D)

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Sir James SCOTT-HOPKINS (UK)	OBSERVERS
Tom SPENCER (UK)	Karl HAGEMANN (D)
José Luis VALVERDE (ES)	Dieter-Lebrecht KOCH (D)
Jean-Marie VANLERENBERGHE (F) (until 4/93)	Albert KOSLER (D)

II. Activities of Parliament in the sphere of environment protection, public health and consumer protection

SEPTEMBER 1992

Report on the environmental damage caused by oil spills from ships

Rapporteur: Jan Willem BERTENS (LDR/NL)
Doc. A3-144/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 16 September 1992

Parliament expressed the view that the Commission must draw up proposals which allow the overall volume of oil discharged from ships into European waters to be drastically reduced, and in particular proposals:

- to promote the introduction of a code of conduct for oil companies banning the cleaning of oil tanks at sea,
- increasing the number of port facilities in which oil tanks can be cleaned,
- evaluating equipment for reducing operating discharges.

It is necessary to press ahead with the introduction of a safety system for shipping. A comprehensive aerial surveillance system should be set up as a matter of urgency to monitor EC coastal areas. Furthermore oil tankers should be banned from passing through sensitive or dangerous regions.

OCTOBER 1992

Recommendation on the common position established by the Council with a view to the adoption of a directive on procedures for harmonizing the programme for the reduction and eventual elimination of pollution caused by waste from the titanium dioxide industry (C3-284/92)

Rapporteur: Ursula SCHLEICHER (EPP/D)
Doc. A3-272/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 28 October 1992

Parliament adopted the common position since it considers it imperative that the new directive enter into force rapidly. The previous directive (89/428/EEC) was declared void by the European Court of Justice in 1991 owing to an inappropriate legal basis (Article 130s of the EEC Treaty). The new proposal is based on Article 100a of the EEC Treaty. However, Parliament criticized the longer implementation deadlines now provided.

Recommendation on the common position established by the Council with a view to the adoption of a directive amending Directive 70/157/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the permissible sound level and the exhaust system of motor vehicles (C3-291/92)

Rapporteur: Gianfranco AMENDOLA (V/I)
Doc. A3-273/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 28 October 1992

This document proposes a reduction in the noise levels caused by the mechanical parts and exhaust systems of motor vehicles. Parliament proposes a reduction in limit values. Furthermore, tyre noise (thread and structure of tyres) and road surfaces (noise-absorbing asphalt) also need to be addressed.

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council Directive on the landfill of waste (COM(91) 102 final)

Rapporteur: David Robert BOWE (PES/UK)
Doc. A3-176/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 28 October 1992

Draft report on the Commission proposal for a Council directive amending Directive 70/220/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to measures to be taken against air pollution by emissions from motor vehicles (C3-184/92)

Rapporteur: Kurt VITTINGHOFF (PES/D)
doc. A3-279/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 28 October 1992

The Commission proposes a reduction in the limit values of emissions from light commercial vehicles in order to cut emissions of gas and suspended particle emissions. Parliament has pointed out that the future development of traffic in the European Community will lead to an enormous increase in environmental pollution. Very stringent exhaust standards must therefore be adopted for motor vehicles. Parliament therefore proposes more stringent standards especially as the Commission has in some cases proposed values even higher than those proposed by industry.

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council directive on the hygiene of foodstuffs (COM 91/525 final)

Rapporteur: Pauline GREEN (PES/UK)
Doc. A3-275/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 28 October 1992

Food-related diseases are gaining ground in the European Community. The European Community urgently needs a framework directive on food hygiene. This proposal constitutes a change in the approach of the Commission, which hitherto brought forward vertical directives for specific product sectors. The directive's provisions should apply to all foodstuffs from the time they leave the farm to the time they are sold to the final consumer. In order to achieve both flexibility and harmonization, the proposal provides that the principles listed in the annex should be binding and be supplemented by documents on sound hygiene practice based on the Codex Alimentarius.

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 594/91 of 4 March 1991 in order to speed up the phasing-out of substances that deplete the ozone layer (COM 92/106 final)

Rapporteur: Alexandros ALAVANOS (CG/GR)
Doc. A3-278/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 30 October 1992

NOVEMBER 1992

Report on the proposal from the Commission to the Council for a resolution on a Community programme of policy and action in relation to the environment and sustainable development (COM 92/23 final)

Rapporteur: Carmen DIEZ DE RIVERA ICAZA (PES/ES)
Doc. A3-317/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 17 November 1992

By adopting this resolution the Council would approve the overall plan and strategy of the programme and call on the Commission to submit proposals for the implementation of the programme in those areas in which Community measures are necessary. The Fifth Environmental Action Programme contains a number of strategies to ensure environmentally acceptable and sustainable development in the European Community in respect of certain areas of particular importance to the environment (industry, energy, transport, agriculture and tourism) and sectoral problems (climatic changes, excessive acidification and the quality of the air, protection of nature and species, water management, the urban environment, coastal areas and waste management). The starting point is the Commission's report on the situation of the environment. The programme is based on a plan of joint responsibility, i.e. the extensive involvement of all those concerned, notably the authorities, industry and, above all, the general public.

Decision on the common position established by the Council with a view to the adoption of a directive on the manufacture and the placing on the market of certain substances used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (C3-362/92)

Rapporteur: Sir James SCOTT-HOPKINS (EPP/UK)
Doc. A3-360/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 18 November 1992

Decision on the common position established by the Council with a view to the adoption of a directive amending for the first time Directive 88/344/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the extraction of solvents used in the production of foodstuffs and food ingredients (C3-363/92)

Rapporteur: Ken COLLINS (PES/UK)
Doc. A3-362/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 18 November 1992

Decision on the common position established by the Council with a view to the adoption of a regulation on the evaluation and control of the environmental risks of existing substances (C3-364/92)

Rapporteur: Ursula SCHLEICHER (EPP/D)
Doc. A3-366/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 18 November 1992

Decision on the common position established by the Council with a view to the adoption of a directive on the sulphur content of certain liquid fuels (C3-359/92)

Rapporteur: Kurt VITTINGHOFF (PES/D)
Doc. A3-365/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 18 November 1992

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council directive concerning comparative advertising and amending Directive 84/450/EEC concerning misleading advertising (COM 91/147 final)

Rapporteur: Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN (EPP/NL)
Doc. A3-283/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 18 November 1992

In this document the Commission proposes that comparative advertising should in principle be permissible providing it is based on essential, objective, verifiable and fairly selective properties of the products concerned. According to the Commission's definition comparative advertising is any form of advertising which directly or indirectly refers to a competitor or comparative products or services provided by a trade competitor. Comparative advertising may not be misleading, lead to confusion between the advertiser and a competitor or its trade mark, trade name, goods or products, it may not be disparaging or declamatory or seek to exploit the reputation of a trade mark or trade name of a competitor. The rapporteur was in favour of voluntary controls on competition by a self-governing body. In addition to national self-governing institutions a European umbrella organization of the self-governing institutions should be set up to play a coordinating transfrontier role. Moreover, only tests carried out by recognized impartial institutes should be used as a basis for examining comparative advertising.

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council directive on the subject of additional measures concerning the official control of foodstuffs (COM 91/526 final)

Rapporteur: Caroline JACKSON (EPP/UK)
Doc. A3-361/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 18 November 1992

JANUARY 1993

Report on the proposal from the Commission to the Council for a decision approving certain amendments to the Agreement for cooperation in dealing with pollution of the North Sea by oil and other harmful substances as signed in Bonn on 13 September 1983 (COM 92/133 final)

Rapporteur: Karl PARTSCH (V/D)
doc. A3-8/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 19 January 1993

Parliament approved the Commission's proposal. The Bonn Agreement on combating North Sea pollution (1983) is due to be supplemented by preventive measures which prevent pollution arising in the first place and create a legal basis for this. Parliament is concerned purely with the Commission's proposal for a decision on approving the amended

agreement. In this way the new agreement will be made binding on the Community under international law.

Report on measures to regenerate and prevent the pollution of the Baltic

Rapporteur: Karl PARTSCH (V/D)
Doc. A3-301/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 19 January 1993

The Baltic is an eco-system which has already been seriously damaged by human intervention and it is so polluted that it poses a health threat to the citizens of states on the Baltic. Parliament calls for a reduction or - as far as possible - measures to avoid direct or indirect discharges of substances of human origin into the Baltic by taking all possible measures to avoid waste and to use the best available technology for water regeneration and pollution prevention. Discharges of fertiliser into the Baltic must be reduced by extensifying agriculture. All the amendments proposed by the EPP Group were adopted in committee.

Report on the application of the principle of subsidiarity to environment and consumer protection policy

Rapporteur: Ian WHITE (PES/GB)
Doc. A3-380/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 19 January 1993

Parliament demands that compliance with the highest level of environmental and consumer protection should be the most important criterion for Community competence in deciding on the competence of the Community or the Member States in the case of future measures. Parliament insists that national measures which represent improvement on Community standards for environmental and consumer protection should be maintained.

Report on voluntary participation by companies in the industrial sector in a Community ECO-audit scheme (COM 91/459 final)

Rapporteur: José Luis VALVERDE LOPEZ (EPP/ES)
Doc. A3-5/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 19 January 1993

The Commission's proposal for an ECO-audit scheme is an appropriate instrument to strengthen the initiative and responsibility of undertakings in the field of environmental protection. Eco-auditing is a method of analysing ecological data to eliminate identified weaknesses and shortcomings and to improve and further develop environmental protection instruments on one's own responsibility. Parliament's amendments seek to derive even more benefits from the proposal. The change in the concept 'Community ECO-audit system' clearly shows this. The rapporteur took the view that the regulation should not be limited to industrial undertakings but should apply throughout the economy. The voluntary nature of the environmental protection system should be maintained for at least ten years, regardless of the revision provision introduced by the Commission. By introducing environmental protection systems, environmental protection becomes an integral part of industrial management. This represents a qualitative leap in Community environmental policy.

Reconsultation in respect of the draft Council regulation on the supervision and control of waste within, into and out of the European Community (C3-461/92)

Rapporteur: Karl-Heinz FLORENZ (EPP/D)
Doc. A3-4/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 20 January 1993

Parliament took the view that the Council proposal must be based on Articles 100a and 113 of the EEC Treaty. Furthermore, the regulation should also apply to the transport of waste within a Member State. Parliament confirmed its opinion in first reading that the exportation of certain waste earmarked for processing should be forbidden, except where the waste was exported to other OECD states which are party to the Basle Convention; however, this exception would only apply for a period of seven years following the entry into force of the regulation.

Report on the incorporation of environmental considerations in the Structural Funds

Rapporteur: Guadalupe GUIZ-GIMENEZ AGUILAR (LDR/ES)
Doc. A3-326/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 22 January 1993

FEBRUARY 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council decision concerning the conclusion, on behalf of the Community, of the convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context

Rapporteur: Paul LANNOYE (V/B)
Doc. A3-30/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 12 February 1993

MARCH 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council directive on the incineration of hazardous waste (COM(92) 9 final)

Rapporteur: Karl-Heinz FLORENZ (EPP/D)
Doc. A3-388/92
Adopted in plenary sitting on 10 March 1993

The amount of waste to be disposed of can be substantially reduced if hazardous waste is incinerated. Following the adoption in 1989 of two directives on the incineration of domestic waste, the Commission has now submitted proposals on incineration plants for industrial waste. The aim of this directive is to prevent or reduce emissions from the incineration of dangerous waste which may pose a threat to the environment or human health. The rapporteur considers that the incineration of waste can only be a temporary solution. As long as efforts to avoid waste and recycling are insufficient and the volume of waste to be disposed of is not substantially reduced, waste must be disposed of as carefully as possible. The committee was in favour of a limit value for dioxin and furan of 0.1 nanogrammes per cubic metre of emissions instead of the limit value proposed by the Commission. Parliament pointed out that avoidance of waste was still the supreme objective of the European

Community's waste disposal policy. Only where this is impossible should waste be recycled and only if this is impossible should disposal - along environmentally friendly lines - be considered.

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council directive on colours for use in foodstuffs (COM(91) 444)

Rapporteur: Caroline JACKSON (EPP/UK)
Doc. A3-63/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 10 March 1993

The free movement of foodstuffs is being prevented by differences in national legislation on the use of colours in foodstuffs. Any rules on the use of these foodstuff additives must be aimed primarily at protecting the consumer. The rapporteur highlights one difficulty: if a high level of consumer protection is best achieved by very restrictive rules on the use of colours in foodstuffs, this may mean that certain foodstuffs disappear from the market. The rapporteur considers that the limit values set out in the proposal for a directive are of questionable value since the Commission does not have access to comprehensive information on consumer behaviour in the Member States.

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council decision for a monitoring mechanism of Community CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions (COM(92) 181 final)

Rapporteur: Anita Jean POLLACK (PES/UK)
Doc. A3-59/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 12 March 1993

The proposed decision aims at introducing a monitoring system for national programmes to stabilize greenhouse gas emissions. The proposal is in keeping with the general objectives of the Community to stabilize emissions and is necessary to assess progress in achieving this objective. Energy and environment ministers of course agreed at their meeting of 29.10.1990 that the Community as a whole should stabilize its CO₂ emissions by the year 2000 at 1990 levels. Parliament supports further measures aimed at substantially reducing emissions of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases in the Community.

APRIL 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation on shipments of radioactive substances within the European Community (COM(92) 520 final)

Rapporteur: Paul LANNOYE (V/B)
Doc. A3-70/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 21 April 1993

The Commission first adopted the proposal in July 1992 (SEC(92) 1538) but then issued a revised version (COM(92) 520). Parliament only received the proposal on 22.1.1993.

There are two basic components to this proposal:

- a reduction in border controls between the Member States

- the obligation of recipients of radioactive substances to deliver a written declaration to the owner of the substances should he intend to import radioactive substances from another Member State. The committee tightened up some aspects of the proposal which, however, did not command universal support among the EPP Group.

Decision on the common position established by the Council with a view to adopting a directive amending Directives 65/65/EEC, 75/318/EEC and 75/319/EEC in respect of medicinal substances (C3-2/93)

Rapporteur: José Luis VALVERDE LOPEZ (EPP/ES)
Doc. A3-89/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 21 April 1993

Decision on common position established by the Council with a view to the adoption of a directive repealing Directive 87/22/EEC on the approximation of national measures relating to the placing on the market of high-technology medicinal products, particularly those derived from biotechnology (C3-3/93)

Rapporteur: José Luis VALVERDE LOPEZ (EPP/ES)
Doc. A3-91/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 21 April 1993

Decision on the common position established by the Council with a view to the adoption of a directive amending for the sixth time Directive 76/768/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to cosmetic products (C3-10/93)

Rapporteur: Dagmar ROTH-BEHRENDT (PES/D)
Doc. A3-100/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 21 April 1993

Decision on the common position established by the Council with a view to the adoption of a directive on the hygiene of foodstuffs (C3-42/93)

Rapporteur: Pauline GREEN (PES/UK)
Doc. A3-126/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 21 April 1993

MAY 1993

Decision on the COMMON POSITION of the Council of 1 February 1993 with a view to adopting a directive amending Directive 70/220/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to measures to be taken against air pollution by emissions from motor vehicles (C3-41/93)

Rapporteur: Kurt VITTINGHOFF (PES/D)
Doc. A3-133/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 26 May 1993

This proposal seeks to apply the same standards as regards emission gas levels to categories of vehicles excluded from the scope of Directive 91/441/EEC, i.e. passenger vehicles for transporting more than 6 persons

and light commercial vehicles up to 3 500 kg as are applicable to other passenger vehicles. In second reading the committee proposed more stringent limit values than the Commission and Council are prepared to accept. If necessary the common position should be rejected.

Proposal for a Council directive on the protection of consumers in respect of contracts negotiated at a distance (COM(92) 11 final)

Rapporteur: Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN (EPP/NL)
Doc. A3-159/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 26 May 1993

The proposal seeks to establish a basis for the conclusion of contracts negotiated at a distance. Article 2 defines a contract negotiated at a distance as 'any contract concerning a product or service concluded after solicitation of custom by the supplier without the supplier and the customer being simultaneously present and using a means of communication at a distance to convey the contract solicitation and the order'.

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council directive on food additives other than colours and sweeteners (COM(92) 255 final)

Rapporteur: Ursula SCHLEICHER (EPP/D)
doc. A3-141/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 26 May 1993

The most important aspect of this proposal is that it contains definitions of 24 classes of additives which will be permitted under this directive. Annex I contains 109 additives which will be generally allowed. Quantities will be limited by the principle of 'quantum satis'. Annex II contains a list of foodstuffs in the production of which only a limited number of additives may be permitted. Annex III contains additives which will be permitted as preservatives and antioxidants, including lead values. The proposal introduces full harmonization in the sphere of additives. Framework Directive 89/107/EEC lays down that foodstuff additives may only be permitted if they pose no health threat to the consumer and it is established that they are technologically necessary. Parliament insists that consumers must be able to identify the presence of additives in final products so as to prevent deception. Directive 79/112/EEC on labelling must therefore be revised accordingly.

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council directive amending Directive 89/107/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning food additives intended for human consumption (COM(92) 255 final)

Rapporteur: Caroline JACKSON (EPP/GB)
Doc. A3-161/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 26 May 1993

Report on the Council proposal concerning a regulation laying down Community procedures for the authorization and supervision of medicinal products for human and veterinary use and establishing a European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products (C3-19/93)

Rapporteur: José Luis VALVERDE LOPEZ (EPP/ES)
Doc. A3-135/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 26 May 1993

The committee questioned whether the legal basis proposed by the Council (Article 235 of the EEC Treaty) was appropriate and confirmed its intention of basing the regulation on Article 100A of the EEC Treaty. Furthermore, amendments were resubmitted on the new registration procedures and increased consumer protection.

Proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion of a cooperation agreement for the protection of the coast and waters of the north-east Atlantic against pollution (COM(92) 564 final)

Rapporteur: Ken COLLINS (PES/UK)
Doc. A3-148/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 28 May 1993

Recommendation on the common position of the Council in respect of the adoption of a directive on fruit juices and some similar products (C3-165/93)

Rapporteur: Ken COLLINS (PES/UK)
Doc. A3-165/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 23 June 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council directive on packaging and packaging waste (COM(92) 278 final)

Rapporteur: Luigi VERTEMATI (PES/I)
Doc. A3-174/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 23 June 1993

Packaging waste in the European Community is estimated at 50 million tonnes, i.e. 150 kilos per capita per year for the population of the European Community. 25 million tonnes comes from household waste. Of these 50 million tonnes only 18% are recycled. It is difficult to regulate packaging waste. The environmental impact of the materials and forms used is not precisely known. In particular the incineration of packaging releases heavy metals and other dangerous substances. The proposal poses problems for a number of Member States (Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands) which already have far-reaching provisions in this area. The Commission proposes that ten years after the implementation of the directive at the latest, 90% of all packaging waste should be separated and processed. 60% could be recycled. Up to 30% of packaging waste could thus be incinerated. The Commission based the proposal for a directive covering all packaging on Article 100A of the EEC Treaty (the Council of Ministers usually prefers Article 130S of the EEC Treaty in the field of waste legislation).

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation laying down provisions with regard to possession of and trade in specimens of wild flora and fauna (COM(91) 448 final)

Rapporteur: Hemmo MUNTINGH (PES/NL)
Doc. A3-193/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 24 June 1993

The aim of the proposal for a regulation (Article 100A and Article 113 of the EEC Treaty) is to adapt regulations on the possession of and trade in specimens of species of wild fauna and flora to the requirements of the internal market. In addition, weaknesses which have emerged in implementing Regulation (EEC) No. 362/82 on the implementation of the

Washington Agreement on the Protection of Species in the Community should be eliminated.

Depending on how urgently a species needs to be protected it should be included in one of the five annexes, and documentation - graded according to the category - would have to be provided when exporting or importing the species in question and transporting it within the Community. The annexes contain lists of species in respect of which there are trade restrictions (negative lists). Conservation associations have, however, asked for positive lists, i.e. that trade should be prohibited as a matter of principle and should only be allowed in respect of those species given in the lists. The Commission proposal lists 37 840 species of fauna and even more species of flora.

The draft report supports the proposal because it covers the whole area of commercial and non-commercial trade. However, such a complex system requires a comprehensive series of financial and control instruments. The rapporteur is only in favour of trade in flora and fauna if it does not jeopardize the maintenance of the species and no positive list system is possible to achieve this end.

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council directive on the control of volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions resulting from the storage of petrol and its distribution from terminals to service stations (the so-called 'stage 1' directive)

Rapporteur: Marc GUERMEUR (RDE/F)
Doc. A3-188/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 24 June 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council decision on introducing a Community system of information on home and leisure accidents (COM(93) 18 final)

Rapporteur: Pauline GREEN
Doc. A3-173/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 25 June 1993

The proposal to set up a Community information system on domestic and leisure accidents is a direct response to a similar pilot project promoted by the Community between 1986 and 1992. Parliament noted earlier that it would not support any further financial ties for EHLASS until steps were taken to ensure that EHLASS data were more effectively coordinated, analysed and disseminated. The committee considers that this revised EHLASS proposal is a useful project for improved management in respect of consumer protection in the Member States and for the development of a Community policy in respect of product safety.

Report on the urban environment

Rapporteur: Anita POLLACK (PES/UK)
Doc. A3-194/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 25 June 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council directive laying down minimum standards for the keeping of animals in zoos (COM(91) 177 final)

Rapporteur: Sir James SCOTT-HOPKINS (EPP/UK)
Doc. A3-140/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 25 June 1993

It is no longer justified to keep wild animals in prison-like conditions purely for the benefit of spectators. Many Community zoos do not, however, even respect minimum standards regarding animal care, information and the preservation of stocks. The committee therefore considered that the proposal for a directive should have been submitted a long time ago.

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council decision concerning the conclusion of the Convention on Biological Diversity (COM(92) 509 final)

Rapporteur: Hemmo MUNTINGH (PES/NL)
Doc. A3-200/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 25 June 1993

The diversity of species is the biological diversity of plants and animals on earth and the ecosystems in which they live. Man has identified and described some 1.4 million species of plants and animals, but some estimates put the number at at least 5 million and possibly as many as 100 million different species of plant and animal. At the beginning of the century one species became extinct every year; by 1980 it was one species every day; it is now believed that one species becomes extinct every hour.

On 14 June 1992 the Convention on Biological Diversity was signed at the UNCED in Rio by 153 states. This convention is the point of departure for developing a policy which provides sufficient protection of natural resources and hence facilitates sustainable development.

The Commission proposal for a Council decision provides for the necessary procedures for the ratification of the Convention. Under this procedure the Member States and the Community should ratify the Convention by 30 June 1993. At present nothing can be changed in the Convention. The committee points out that it is particularly important to conserve and restore biological diversity in the Community.

JULY 1993

Report on the Commission proposal for a Council directive concerning the protection of purchasers in contracts relating to the utilization of immovable property on a timeshare basis (COM(92) 220 final)

Rapporteur: Annemarie KUHN (PES/D)
Doc. A3-155/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 14 July 1993

Report on the environmental and public health aspects of the storage, transport and reprocessing of spent nuclear fuels

Rapporteur: Llewellyn SMITH (PES/UK)
Doc. A3-220/93
Adopted in plenary sitting on 16 July 1993

Martin KAMP

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, YOUTH, EDUCATION AND THE MEDIA

I. Functions of members of the EPP Group

Vice-chairman: Mary BANOTTI (IRL)

Spokeswoman: Doris PACK (D)

Deputy spokesman: Arie OOSTLANDER (NL)

Deputy spokeswoman: Patricia E. RAWLINGS (UK)

Members:

José Antonio ESCUDERO (ES)
Nicole FONTAINE (F)
Francesco GUIDOLIN (I)
Anna HERMANS (B)
Sir Jack STEWART-CLARK (UK)

Substitutes:

Aldo DE MATTEO (I)
Nicolas ESTGEN (L)
Karsten F. HOPPENSTEDT (D)
Marie JEPSEN (DK)
Panayotis LAMBRIAS (GR)
Carmen LLORCA VILAPLANA (ES)
Alberto MICHELINI (I)
Gerd MÜLLER (D)
Lord PLUMB (UK)

Observer:

Rolf BEREND (D)

II. Survey of work undertaken during the period under consideration

Much of the Committee's work in the field of education and youth during the period in question was devoted to the role of higher education establishments in the process of European integration and their possible contribution to cultural, social and economic progress in the Community and the need to give further emphasis to the European dimension in higher education. This debate was based on the Memorandum of the Commission of the European Communities on higher education in the European Community¹. EPP members successfully imposed their view - which Anna Hermans (EPP/B)² had previously set out in a report - namely that it was wrong to seek a purely economic justification for measures taken in the educational sphere. Instead, it was important to recognize the primary character of education in the process of European integration, while strictly respecting the principle of subsidiarity. As far as higher education establishments are concerned, this means that their activities cannot be exclusively dictated by the requirements of the labour market. The European educational area must also take into account freedom of teaching and research, the desire of individuals to achieve self-realisation through education and the importance of the humanities.

As regards the development of distance learning in the Community - which is enshrined as a Community objective in the Maastricht Treaty - Doris Pack (D) drew up a report on this matter on behalf of the EPP Group. The report states that distance learning cannot be a substitute for mobility in the educational sphere but can represent an alternative to allow particularly disadvantaged groups to participate fully in education and training.

Arie Oostlander (EPP/NL) was again appointed rapporteur in respect of the TEMPUS programme. In its second phase the European programme for cooperation in the field of higher education is to be extended to the republics of the former USSR. Once again the EPP members were concerned to make clear that TEMPUS was not primarily an economic, but rather an educational programme aimed at forging closer social ties between the Community and countries of Eastern and Central Europe.

Patricia Rawlings (EPP/UK) drew up an own-initiative report on cooperation between the European Community and the USA in the sphere of education, training and culture. The objective is to extend and intensify existing activities - and in particular the exchange programmes - as a contribution to strengthening ties between the Community and the United States. The Commission of the European Communities is expected to submit proposals for appropriate Community action in the autumn.

The EPP Group successfully resisted unrealistic, Socialist demands connected with the report on the schooling of children of immigrants from third countries in the European Community. It imposed its point of view that the integration of these children in the training and education systems of the host country, and therefore teaching in the language of this country must be given priority.

The Council of Educational Ministers met under the UK and Danish Presidencies on 27.11.1992 and 11.6.1993 respectively. The most important item on the agenda was the Commission's proposals for rationalizing existing action programmes in the field of education and training. In accordance with the field of application of the new Articles 126 and 127 of the Treaty on European Union, they should be grouped together into different programmes: one for actions related to higher educational institutes and schools and another for vocational

¹ COM(91) 349 final.

² Educational policy and training against the background of 1993: Doc. A3-139/92, OJ No. C 150/366 of 15.6.1992.

training and vocational qualifications. As a result of the inclusion of general education in the Maastricht Treaty, the Commission has announced a Green Paper on Community action in the field of schooling.

The Committee's work in the field of culture concentrated on the new cultural concept of the Community put forward by the Commission¹. A new frame of reference for cultural actions is due to be established on the basis of Article 128 of the Maastricht Treaty which sets out the Community's powers in this area. This will cover the inclusion of the cultural dimension in all Community policies and programmes, support for cultural networks, the promotion of artistic and cultural activity, the preservation and optimal use of the cultural heritage and measures in favour of books and reading. The Committee has drawn up separate reports on the last two aspects.

The Council of Ministers of Culture met on 12.11.1992 and 17.5.1993. It considered the European campaign for books and reading launched in April 1993 in accordance with the European Parliament's proposals and the priorities for future Community actions in this field. In drawing up a European Community programme for exchanges of artists the Council was meeting a demand made by Doris Pack (EPP/D) in her report on the situation of artists in the European Community². The decision to promote the theatre and, in particular, the translation of contemporary European plays, is in line with the proposals made in the report by Patricia Rawlings (EPP/UK) on this subject³.

As regards the media the Committee focused on the concentration of the media and measures to ensure diversity of opinion. Parliament advocated Community measures to control and restrict media concentration, if necessary through an anti-concentration directive. The Commission responded by submitting a Green Paper⁴. The objective of this Green Paper is to establish the need for Community action and to propose three possible options (1: no action, 2: proposal for a recommendation in the field of transparency and 3: proposal for the harmonization of individual restrictions on the property of media undertakings in the form of a directive or regulation). The committee and Parliament will assess this Green Paper in the autumn.

Karsten Hoppenstedt (EPP/D) was appointed rapporteur on the promotion of audio-visual production in connection with the high-definition television strategy. He called for greater support in producing programmes, since consumers could only benefit from new technologies if sufficient programmes were available.

The cultural aspects of the GATT negotiations were discussed in July.

In its resolution⁵ Parliament welcomed the proposals put forward by the Commission aimed at introducing a special cultural clause in the text of the Treaty and exempting the MEDIA and EURIMAGE programmes from the most favoured clause. It was firmly opposed to any amendments to the television without frontiers directive which would limit its scope.

The public discussions and referenda in connection with the Maastricht Treaty have shown the importance of a targeted and efficient information

¹ COM(92) 149 final.

² Doc. A3-389/91, OJ No. C 94/213, 13.4.1992.

³ Doc. A3-262/91, OJ No. C 305/519, 25.11.1991.

⁴ Pluralism and media concentration in the internal market COM(92) 480 final.

⁵ PE 173.840/RC 1

policy in the Community attuned to the needs of its citizens. Arie Oostlander (EPP/NL) gave a critical assessment of this policy in his draft report¹ and formulated a series of improvements which the Parliament will vote on in September.

III. Summary of the resolutions adopted by Parliament

FAYOT/SCHINZEL (PES)

Media concentration and diversity of opinion

Doc. A3-153/92
OJ No. C 284/44, 2.11.1992
Vote: 16.9.1992

In order to ensure the diversity of the media and opinion in the Community as a whole, the Commission of the European Communities is urged in this report to draw up a series of proposals for directives with the following objectives:

- to ensure that all journalists have access to information held by Community and national authorities, to guarantee them the right to maintain professional secrecy and to protect journalists' sources of information on criminal and anti-social activities by public and private bodies from all kinds of discrimination;
- to ensure journalistic independence in all the media;
- to lay down rules on the right of reply in the printed press and radio as well.

Furthermore, proposals should be made after consultations with the parties concerned for measures to control and restrict media concentration, if necessary within the framework of an anti-concentration directive so as (a) to harmonize national provisions on the concentration of ownership of the media and (b) to ensure freedom of opinion in concentration processes with a European dimension.

Finally the Commission of the European Communities should set up an independent European media council.

The motion for a resolution was adopted by a large majority.

Group spokesmen: Panayotis LAMBRIAS (GR), Arie OOSTLANDER (NL), Patricia RAWLINGS (UK), Astrid LULLING (L).

BARZANTI (PES)

Doc. A3-396/92

OJ No. C 42/173, 15.2.1993
Vote: 21.1.1993

Commission communication to the Council, the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee entitled 'New prospects for Community cultural action' (COM(92) 149 final)

In April 1992 the Commission submitted a comprehensive communication on new prospects for Community cultural action. This plan was aimed at promoting culture in the internal market by completing and supporting cultural policy measures by the Member States and by taking into account the cultural dimension in all Community policies and programmes. Another objective was to highlight the common heritage by promotion measures in

¹ PE 203.960.

certain areas (cultural heritage, books and reading and audio-visual sphere). Finally, cooperation with third countries and international organizations, and in particular the Council of Europe, should be intensified.

The report endorses most of the measures submitted by the Commission and analyses individual proposals in detail.

The motion for a resolution was adopted by a large majority.

Group spokesman in the joint discussion on the BARZANTI and LARIVE reports: Arie OOSTLANDER (NL), Anna HERMANS (B), Patricia RAWLINGS (UK), Mary BANOTTI (IRL)

LARIVE (LDR)
Doc. A3-159/92
OJ No. C 42/182, 15.2.1993
Vote: 21.1.1993

Promotion of books and reading in
in Europe

Following the adoption of a first package of measures at Community level in favour of books, the report calls for a coherent programme to be adopted for the next five years. The programme should contain measures which improve and promote access to books and reading, notably through the linguistic, social, economic and technical aspects. It is also intended to promote cooperation with third countries in this sphere.

The motion for a resolution was adopted by a large majority.

Group spokesman: see BARZANTI report.

DÜHRKOP DÜHRKOP (PES)
Doc. A3-399/92
OJ No. C 42/187, 15.2.1993
Vote: 21.1.1993

Cultural plurality and the problems
of school education for children of
immigrants in the European
Community

Basing itself on the Maastricht Treaty, the own-initiative report seeks to broaden the sphere of application of Directive 77/486/EEC beyond schooling for children of EC migrant workers to include children from third states.

The report calls on the Commission to examine whether the Treaty on European Union creates the preconditions for introducing a legal obligation for the host country to provide instruction in the mother tongue of the children concerned. However, it also stresses that for practical reasons it is impossible to give mother tongue instruction to all children of citizens of third countries legally resident in the Community. The report demands that priority should be given to providing instruction in the language of the host country for children from third countries, because this is a precondition of their integration in the schooling and vocational training system of the host country. The report urges the host countries, in so far as their domestic conditions and legal systems allow, to offer instruction to the children of immigrants in the language of the host countries as an integral part of the curriculum, taking into account the need to provide supplementary instruction in the language of the country of origin.

The motion for a resolution was adopted by 188 votes in favour, 8 votes against and 12 abstentions.

Group spokesmen: Arie OOSTLANDER (NL), Ferruccio PISONI (I), Viviane REDING (L).

HOPPENSTEDT (EPP)
Doc. A3-389/92
OJ No. C 42/209, 15.2.1993
Vote: 22.1.1993

Encouraging audiovisual production
in the context of the strategy for
high-definition television
(SEC(91) 1470 final)

The success of new television technologies depends on the availability of programmes for broadcasting with the new television standards. The report therefore welcomes the Commission's proposal for promoting audiovisual production in connection with the high-definition television strategy. Community measures should cover both the additional costs for the production of programmes for the new services and the reformatting of existing programmes. Within the framework of a European programme policy particular importance is attached to production of supply programmes. These can only be used in the long term if they are produced in a format of 16:9 and if image and sound are high quality, but regardless of existing and future standards. In view of the extra costs involved the report asks for Community resources to be made available to promote production of programmes of this kind.

The motion for a resolution was adopted by a large majority.

Group spokesman: Karsten F. HOPPENSTEDT (D).

GALLE (PES)

Doc. A3-26/93
OJ No. C 72/72, 15.3.1993

Common position of the Council with
a view to adopting a directive on
the return of cultural objects un-
lawfully removed from the territory
of a Member State
(C3-467/92 - SYN 382)

The purpose of this directive is to ensure the return of national cultural treasures which have been unlawfully removed from the territory of a Member State. To this end a system of cooperation between the relevant authorities of the Member States and a legal procedure for returning cultural objects is set up.

The common position adopted on 9 December 1992 by the Council by a qualified majority (Greece voted against and Germany abstained) is - in the Parliament's view - essentially in line with the opinion it delivered at first reading. This is why there were no amendments to this compromise which had been achieved after lengthy negotiations in the Council.

The common position was declared approved by the European Parliament on 10.2.1993.

Group spokesmen: Manuel GARCIA AMIGO (ES), Doris PACK (D), Patricia RAWLINGS (UK).

LARONI (PES)

Doc. A3-36/93
OJ No. C 72/160, 15.3.1993
Vote: 12.2.1993

Preserving the architectural
heritage
and protecting cultural assets

In order better to coordinate EC measures to maintain the cultural heritage the report calls on the Council to examine the advisability of the following measures:

- the drawing up of European lists of monuments and sites on the basis of common definitions and criteria to enable them to be identified;

- the approximation of methods of stock-taking, taking into account the work already done in this sphere by the Council of Europe;
- the drawing up of a list of stolen and damaged parts of buildings to facilitate efforts to re-acquire or restore them.

It has been proposed that a network of cultural institutes should be set up, coordinated at European level by a European monitoring authority for the cultural heritage with the following objectives:

- to gather available information and documentation so as to facilitate exchanges of information and the pooling of experience and to identify possible gaps or the duplication of effort;
- to provide legal advice in respect of the legal treatment of the heritage of the countries of Eastern Europe;
- to enable preventive measures, in particular related to environmental pollution, to be assessed and improved.

The Member States and all bodies which receive Community funding should agree on common criteria for the restoration and preservation of the cultural heritage in accordance with the Charter of Venice or the Granada Convention.

The motion for a resolution was adopted by a large majority.

Group spokespersons: Mary BANOTTI (IRL), Patricia RAWLINGS (UK).

OOSTLANDER (EPP)
Doc. A3-65/93
OJ No. C 115/51, 26.4.1993
Vote: 9.3.1993

Proposal for a Council decision
adopting the second phase of the
Trans-European Cooperation Scheme
for Higher Education (TEMPUS II)
(COM(92) 407 - C3-417/92)

The objectives of TEMPUS II are as follows :

- to facilitate the structural development and adjustment of higher education in the countries of Eastern and Central Europe and the former USSR by cooperation with partners in the EC Member States,
- to help overcome specific deficits in respect of the workforce and qualifications,
- to promote youth exchange measures.

In the first year of implementation (1990) Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia were involved in the TEMPUS programme. The number of countries in Central and Eastern Europe which are classified as entitled to aid under the PHARE programme has now risen to ten and Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, Slovenia and the three Baltic States are also involved in the programme.

In its second phase (1994-1998) TEMPUS is due to be extended to the republics of the former Soviet Union which are classified as entitled to aid in the framework of the TACIS programme (Technical Assistance to the Commonwealth of Independent States and Georgia).

The Commission proposal and the legislative resolution were adopted by a large majority.

Group spokespersons: Arie OOSTLANDER (NL), Doris PACK (D), José A. ESCUDERO (ES)

The Council of Ministers approved the programme on 29.4.1993 (OJ No. L 112/34, 6.5.1993)

MEBRAK-ZAIDI (PES)

Doc. A3-400/92

OJ No. C

Vote: 21.4.1993

Eradication of illiteracy in the
Member States of the European
Community

The report contains a series of recommendations to the Commission, the Council and the Member States on combating illiteracy among young people and adults in the Community. For instance, it calls on the Commission to order a comparative study to be drawn up on the nature and extent of illiteracy and methods of combating it and to strengthen cooperation between the Member States with the help of the data network Eurydice. The Commission is urged to draw up an action programme to support experimental literacy programmes carried out in disadvantaged urban areas and in backward rural areas. The Council and Member States are called on to take suitable measures to combat illiteracy at school and in adult education (teacher training, use of school psychologists and social workers, compulsory preventive school health care, use of audio-visual means).

The resolution was adopted by a large majority.

Group spokespersons: Anna HERMANS (B), Carmen LLORCA VILAPLANA (ES).

RAWLINGS (EPP)

Doc. A3-145/93

OJ No. C

Vote: 13.7.1993

Development of EC-US cultural
cooperation
(SEC(92) 1023 final)

On the basis of a proposal by the Commission of the European Communities the report contains a series of proposals to strengthen cooperation between the European Community and the USA in the field of education and culture, notably through common study programmes, exchange programmes, partnerships, etc. Owing to amendments tabled by the Socialist Group which were adopted in the committee and in the plenary sitting of Parliament in the face of opposition by the EPP Group, this bilateral cooperation has been extended to all interested third states.

The motion for a resolution was adopted by a large majority.

Group spokespersons: Patricia RAWLINGS (UK), José A. ESCUDERO (ES).

PACK (EPP)

Doc. A3-217/93

OJ. No. C

Vote: 15.7.1993

Distance learning and its future
in the European Community

The report stresses that, owing to the flexibility it offers for teaching, distance learning is a valuable extra dimension for education, training and further education; in particular it allows disadvantaged groups to participate fully in training and education but it can never replace teaching based on personal interaction. In view of the complementary character of distance learning the inclusion of distance learning in action programmes aimed at promoting student mobility is only considered useful as a preparation for studies abroad. The report calls on the Commission to submit proposals to improve the quality of distance learning, to support its European dimension, to promote the development of European educational software and to encourage existing distance learning networks to acquire a European dimension.

The motion for a resolution was adopted by a large majority.

Group spokespersons: Doris PACK (D), Anna HERMANS (B), Patricia RAWLINGS (UK).

ELLIOTT (PES)

further

Doc. A3-147/93

OJ No. C

Vote: 15.7.1993

Memorandum of the Commission on

education in the European Community

(COM(91) 349 final)

The Commission memorandum seeks to make a contribution on the discussion on the tasks and development of education establishments in the process of European integration. It considers the following areas of future development of further education:

- participation in and access to further education,
- partnership with industry
- further education,
- distance learning,
- the European dimension in higher education (mobility of students, cooperation between higher education establishments, Europe in the curricula, the central importance of language, teacher training, recognition of qualifications and periods of study.

The report originally endorsed all points of the memorandum. However, with the adoption of the EPP amendments a more critical attitude was adopted in some areas, in particular as regards the tasks of higher education establishments and their relationship to the economy.

The motion for a resolution was adopted by a large majority.

Group spokespersons: Anna HERMANS (B), Arie OOSTLANDER (NL).

Ute ZURMAHR

COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION

I. Positions held by members of the EPP Group

First vice-chairman: CHIABRANDO (I) to 31.12.1992
MANTOVANI (I) from 5.1.1993

Coordinator: BRAUN-MOSER (DE)

Deputy coordinators: VERHAGEN (NL)
DALY (GB)

MEMBERS	SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS
Ursula BRAUN-MOSER (D)	Artur Juan ESCUDER CROFT (ES) until 27.11.1992
Maria Louisa CASSANMAGNAGO-CERRETTI (I) replacing BINDI from 1.1.1993	Gerardo FERNANDEZ ALBOR (ES)
Mauro CHIABRANDO (I)	An HERMANS (B)
Margaret DALY (GB)	Christopher JACKSON (GB)
Michel DEBATISSE (F) replacing HERSANT from May 1992	Jeannou LACAZE (F)
José Antonio ESCUDERO (ES) replacing OREJA AGUIRE from 1.1.1993	Francisco Antonio LUCAS PIRES (P)
Edward T. KELLETT-BOWMAN (GB)	Kurt MALANGRE (DE)
Agostino MANTOVANI (I)	Inigo MENDEZ DE VIGO (ES) replacing ESCUDER CROFT from 1.12.1992
Domenec ROMERA I ALCAZAR (ES)	Lord O'HAGAN (GB)
Leo TINDEMANS (B)	Fritz PIRKL (D)
Amédée E. TURNER (GB) replacing NEWTON DUNN from 23.4.1993	Carlos ROBLES PIQUER (ES)
Maxime VERHAGEN (NL)	Anthony M. H. SIMPSON (GB)
OBSERVER	
Anne-Karin GLASE	

II. Principal developments

1. The Committee for Development and Cooperation has once again been much concerned with Africa. The process of democratization has been closely monitored, as has been apparent not only in parliamentary debates, but also in many urgent resolutions and a series of fact-finding missions to several African states. At the ACP-EC Assembly and subsequently also in the European Parliament issues of democracy, human rights and development have been thoroughly debated. (Pons Grau and Musso reports).

It is clear that substantial progress has been made on a number of very difficult issues, such as South Africa and Ethiopia/Eritrea. On the other hand the attempt to bring peace to Angola under the UN flag failed, casting doubt on similar action in Mozambique. There was further escalation in the civil wars in Sudan and Somalia; in the case of Somalia finally resulting in armed intervention by the UN. Once again the situation in Zaire proved too complex for any progress to be made beyond maintaining an uneasy status quo between the President and changing opposition elements, while the church in the person of Monsignor Monsegno was able to keep a dialogue going. From the socio-economic point of view the people of Africa are no better off. Food production per capita continues to fall, prices of exportable commodities generally remain low and there is a marked decline in areas such as health care and education.

It will not be easy in the coming years to stabilize and reverse these trends. Policies at local level to stimulate the rural sector, basic health care and vocational training will probably be needed. Apart from financial and technical help, contributions from external donors to this process should take the form of a trade policy which is supportive rather than obstructive.

2. Three important matters occupied a central position in discussions, although not so much in the plenary but more during the many debates in committee and in the context of the ACP-EEC:
 - implementation of Lomé IV, including preliminary exchanges of views on possible changes for the second five-year period,
 - the continuing deadlock GATT negotiations, on which no progress was made until the Tokyo G-7 summit in July 1993,
 - the World Environment Conference in Brazil, which although it produced significant political initiatives, left many problems of implementation in its wake, not least in the financial area.
3. The policy on the Mediterranean remained a central preoccupation. The shift from simple financial and technical assistance towards broader cooperation which includes trade aspects and regional issues such as water management is becoming ever more apparent. EC participation in the Middle East peace process is also significant.

III. Principal reports

SABY

Own-initiative report on Afghan refugees
A3-0308/92
Without debate
Adopted: Friday, 18 December 1992

BRAUN-MOSER (EPP-DE)

on the proposal from the Commission to the Council for a regulation (EEC) extending into 1993 the application of Council regulations applying generalized tariff preferences for 1991 in respect of certain products originating in developing countries and adding to the list of beneficiaries of such preferences
A3-0395/92
Adopted: Tuesday, 19 January 1993

The system of generalized tariff preferences (SGP) is extended into 1993 and the list of less-developed countries is also extended.

The rapporteur agrees with the Commission proposal to include some countries of the former Soviet Union in the system provided that this is on a purely temporary basis, for no longer than three years. An amendment by the Committee on Development and Cooperation deleted the Ukraine and Russia from the Commission's proposed list.

BINDI (EPP-I)

Cooperation with Syria
A3-0356/91
Without debate
Adopted: 10 March 1993

Financial protocol

DALY (EPP-GB)

on the Commission proposal for a Council regulation establishing a special system of assistance to traditional ACP suppliers of bananas
A3-0049/93
Adopted: Friday, 12 March 1993
Group spokesman: HERMANS (B)

The Council regulation on the organization of the banana market was approved last December (to the end of 1996).

This regulation aims to:

- provide technical and financial assistance to traditional banana producers from ACP countries to make it easier for them to adapt to the new market conditions following the adoption of Regulation COM(92) 0359, principally by attempting to improve quality, marketing and competitiveness; this support is in addition to the existing facilities under the Lomé Convention;
- to provide income support to traditional banana suppliers from ACP countries in cases where the market is temporarily disrupted; this support is also in addition to the existing STABEX transfers.

MENDES BOTA

on the outcome of the meetings of the ACP-EEC Joint Assembly in 1992 in Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) and Luxembourg
A3-0062/93

Adopted: Friday, 12 March 1993
Group spokesman: BRAUN-MOSER (DE)

The ACP-EEC Joint Assembly is the only parliament in the world which brings several continents together and forms a bridge between North and South.

The report focuses on the resolutions adopted during the Joint Assembly's meetings in Luxembourg and Santo Domingo and calls for progress in respect for human rights to be supported by Parliament by positive actions. The rapporteur shares the Commission's view that the question should be the subject of constant and open dialogue. He also advocates a more strongly political role for the Joint Assembly.

CASSANMAGNAGO-CERRETTI

on relations between the European Community and the Maghreb
A3-0158/93

Adopted: 26 May 1993
Group spokesman: BRAUN-MOSER (D)

The rapporteur considers that, in reviewing its development policy, the Community should have as one of its priorities the countries in the Mediterranean region, particularly the Maghreb countries.

She also welcomes the establishment of the Arab-Maghreb Union and believes that greater regional integration is an essential dimension of the development objectives of the Maghreb countries.

The rapporteur also emphasizes the importance of cultural and social relations, of political dialogue, including a meeting of Heads of State of the Twelve and of the Maghreb, of a Community strategy on reducing or converting the external debt, and of the idea of a free trade area between the European Community and the Maghreb.

MUSSO

on human rights, democracy and development
A3-0222/93

Adopted: Tuesday, 13 July 1993
Group spokesman: BRAUN-MOSER (DE)

Arthur HILDEBRANDT

ACP-EEC JOINT ASSEMBLY

I. Posts held by members of the EPP Group

At 1 September 1992:

Maria Luisa CASSANMAGNAGO CERRETTI	Co-President
Maxime J.M. VERHAGEN (NL)	Vice-President
Henry CHABERT (F)	Vice-President
Margaret E. DALY (GB)	Vice-President
Siegbert ALBER (DE)	Member
Rosaria BINDI (I)	"
Ursula BRAUN-MOSER (DE)	"
Mauro CHIABRANDO (I)	"
Michel DEBATISSEE (F)	" (from June 1993)
Philippe J.G. DOUSTE BLAZY (F)	" (to end May 1993)
Arturo ESCUDER CROFT (ES)	" (to 27.11.92)
Gerardo FERNANDEZ ALBOR (ES)	" " (from 27.11.92)
Mario FORTE (I)	"
An HERMANS (B)	"
Christopher JACKSON (GB)	"
Marie JEPSEN (DK)	"
Jeannou LACAZE (F)	"
Francisco Antonio LUCAS PIRES (P)	"
Agostino MANTOVANI (I)	"
Gerd MÜLLER (DE)	" (to end May 1993)
Fritz PIRKL (DE)	" (from June 1993)
Marc REYMANN (F)	"
Domenec ROMERA I. ALCAZAR (ES)	"
Amédée E. TURNER (GB)	"
Observer	
Rolf BEREND (DE)	

II. The ACP-EEC Joint Assembly is a unique parliament. It consists of members of the EP together with representatives of each of the ACP States. The following gives an idea of its organization and activities.

1. The privileged links between the European countries and their former colonies in Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific were codified in a Convention from the very beginning of the EEC's existence. Today, 70 ACP States are signatories to the Fourth Convention of Lomé, which came into force on 1 March 1990 and lasts for ten years. Its overall budget (fixed unilaterally by the Member States of the EC and not included in the EEC budget) for the first-five year period is approximately ECU 12 billion; for the second five-year period, new negotiations are to be held, as on any amendment to the Convention sought by either side.

2. The Convention covers EEC-ACP trade (privileged access to the EEC market), including technical and financial cooperation, support for structural adjustment, mechanisms to stabilize export earnings and thematic projects (environment, cultural cooperation etc.,) while stressing respect for human rights (Article 5).

A highly political question: how far can Article 5 justify challenging the (partial) application of the Convention if human rights are not respected?

3. Institutions (Articles 350 + 351 of the Fourth Convention of Lomé)

- Council of Ministers (70 ACP + 12 EEC)
- the Committee of Ambassadors (idem)
- the Joint Assembly (70 ACP representatives + 70 MEPs, of whom 24 EPP)

The Commission manages the implementation of the Convention. The Assembly has limited powers, mainly of supervision and suggestion. (But it is the European Parliament which gives the discharge to the Commission for its management of the Lomé funds, and the Assembly's budget is part of the EP budget - which leads to sharp disputes between the EP's Bureau, which considers that it alone has the power to decide on the utilization of this budget, and the Bureau of the ACP-EEC Assembly, which considers that it can take decisions within the limits of the appropriations approved by the EP.

Initiatives taken by the ACP-EEC Assembly have contributed to the successive amendments of the Lomé Conventions, in particular the chapters on STABEX, cultural cooperation, the environment and respect for human rights.

There is also a tendency, in particular of the ACP ambassadors, to influence the EC's decision-making process through the positions adopted by the ACP-EEC Assembly.

4. Internal organization of the ACP-EEC Assembly

The plenary meets twice a year for one week in an ACP State and for one week in an EEC State. A rota has been observed between ACP regions and EEC capitals. Parliament's Bureau considered that this Assembly should meet only in Parliament's three places of work.

The Bureau consists of two Co-Presidents, ten Vice-Presidents for each of its two components. Of the ten European Vice-Presidents, three are from the EPP.

The Bureau prepares the plenary meeting, monitor human rights matters (which have been referred to plenary but which it has delegated to its Bureau pursuant to Article 18-(7) of its Rules of Procedure) and it monitors the action taken on decisions. From time to time the Bureau meets outside the framework of preparations for the plenary sitting in order to study one of the topics (e.g., meetings in Samoa on the situation in the Pacific and in Dakar on the situation in West Africa).

Three working parties may exist at any one time. Their mandates are usually for eighteen months. Their reports are put to the vote in plenary sitting. The working parties may also meet in an ACP State. The number of meetings (of two half-days generally) is usually four, five or six.

The membership consists of twice ten members; the chairman and rapporteur come from the different component parts: ACP and EEC.

Consequently there are working parties on:

- fisheries
- environment, demography and development
- the second five years of Lomé IV

Under Article 26, fact-finding committees may be set up. No committee of this type has been set up in recent years.

There are of course, the various missions by the two Co-Presidents, accompanied by Vice-Presidents, e.g., to Haiti, Uganda, Angola, etc., Finally, the Assembly has sent some of its members as observers of elections, e.g., to Namibia.

5. Agenda for the general session

According to the Convention, the Assembly considers the annual report by the Council of Ministers.

To this end, the general rapporteur gives his views in his motion for a resolution submitted to the Assembly.

The general rapporteur is appointed by the Assembly, which also defines the main topic of his report. He is selected alternately from the ACP and EEC members on a proposal from the members concerned. The implementation of the Convention is the subject of an annual report drawn up by two co-rapporteurs.

Any reports drawn up by the working parties are considered and put to the vote.

Specific subjects are discussed, such as the situation in Southern Africa, Sudan or Haiti, followed by a resolution.

There is a Question Time to the Council and Commission.

Finally, individual motions for resolutions on topics other than those already on the agenda are grouped together by the Bureau so that a list of no more than five topics is established; the authors are asked to seek agreement on a compromise text. Resolutions not falling within such compromise texts are put to the vote after the compromise (NB at the European Parliament such texts automatically fall).

- Motions for resolutions concerning human rights are automatically referred to the Bureau, which reports to the Assembly on the action taken on them.
- 6. Every year, a meeting is organized by the Economic and Social Committee between the ACP-EEC social and economic partners and is attended by members of the ACP-EEC Assembly.

Plenary meetings

1. In Luxembourg

From 28 September to 2 October 1992

Motion for a resolution by the general rapporteur, Mr Pons Grau, on democracy, human rights and development in the ACP States. Doc. AP/EEC 687/92

In their contributions to the discussions on the adoption of the general report on democracy, human rights and development, the EPP Members said that the ACP may benefit from the ACP-EC development cooperation policy, provided that human rights and democratization were monitored and incorporated into the framework of the national development policies of individual countries.

The Joint Assembly was unable to adopt the motion for a resolution in the general report as a result of differences of opinion over specific matters such as the conditionality of development aid and the right to democratic interference. This led to long and intensive discussions and agreements between the general rapporteur, the representatives of the ACP States and MEPs before the resolution could finally be adopted in March 1993 at the meeting in Gaborone (Botswana).

The following spoke on behalf of the EPP Group: Daly (UK), Mantovani (I), and Verhagen (NL).

Submission of the report on the social and economic implication of AIDS for the people living in the ACP States.

Doc. AP/684/A/fin.

Adopted: 1 October 1992

The following EPP members spoke:

Marie JEPSEN (DK) argued that the resources of Lomé IV should be used to good purpose and that additional funds should be provided to fight AIDS in the ACP States. She also called on the ACP States to change their behaviour and culture so as to ensure the effective prevention of AIDS.

Agostino MANTOVANI (I) found that technical assistance consisting of the supply of contraceptives took account of only one single cultural pattern; he proposed that the most appropriate and effective means of restricting the spread of AIDS be sought by reviewing each regional cultural pattern.

The Commission said that the appropriations catered for in Lomé IV were merely indicative and could be exceeded.

Hearing on peace and development in the ACP States

Representatives of various international organizations attended this hearing; there were contributions from:

the Secretary-General of the UN

The High Commissioner for Refugees

Representatives of the OAU.

Mr ESCUDER CROFT (PPE-ES) called on the ACP States to establish and support democratic regimes for peace via regional organizations.

Individual motions for resolutions

In addition, the EPP members paid particular attention to the following questions, which were adopted via their motions for resolutions:

- hunger, rehabilitation and restoration of African States;
- importance of preferential relations between the ACP and the EEC;
- the right to democratic interference;
- the role and situation of women in the development process;
- trade conditions for consumer goods from the ACP;
- sustainable development with emphasis on regional cooperation;
- AIDS and its implications for the development of the ACP States;
- the humanitarian situation in various African countries including, in particular, Sudan, Somalia, Liberia, Togo and South Africa;
- official and informal education in the ACP States.

WORKING PARTY

A new ACP-EEC joint working party was constituted- the proposal by EPP members for a working party for the second phase of the implementation of Lomé IV was adopted in October 1992 in Luxembourg by the Joint Assembly; Mrs DALY (EPP-GB) was appointed rapporteur, while Mr VERHAGEN (EPP-NL) would continue with his report on sustainable development in the ACP States.

2. In Botswana

From 29 March to 2 April 1993

The Consultative Assembly of the ACP-EEC Lomé Convention met for its spring session in Gaborone the capital of Botswana. The opening ceremony was attended by HE Dr MASIRE, President of Botswana, Mr RANTAU, Mayor of Gaborone, and other Botswana national leaders.

Opening speeches concentrated on the continued need for placing man at the centre of ACP-EEC development cooperation despite the recent global developments.

The President of Botswana and the Mayor of Gaborone referred to the regional initiatives, activities and efforts of man-centred development in Southern Africa, despite the climatic problems, internal conflicts and apartheid in South Africa.

The two Co-Presidents of the Joint Assembly, Dr Simmons and Mrs Cassanmagnago Cerretti, referred to the governments' reforms in Africa to respond to the legitimate demands and aspirations of the people; the resumption of civil war in Angola and the slow process of deploying UN personnel to press ahead with the peace process in Mozambique; the environmental policies in the region; the urgent support of reconstruction programmes in the region and the prospects of seeing a non-racial democratic South Africa delivering new impetus to the regional integration spirit embedded in the Southern Africa Development Community treaty. The chapters describing North-South cooperation against human injustices, disease, ignorance and the betterment of man in the ACP States, well on the EC agenda towards the year 2000, were clearly reiterated by the Co-Presidents in the opening addresses.

Body of debate

The debate centred on the following issues :

1. General Report

- The controversial issues in the general report on democracy, human rights and development in the ACP States were reviewed and outlined once again. They included conditionality of aid, the right to democratic interference and the idea of a new development cooperation policy in the East-West-South context. The general rapporteur, Mr Pons Grau (Soc. ES), having ironed out the controversial point in his report, presented a motion for a resolution that was amended accordingly and then unanimously adopted.

A new general rapporteur, Mr SOTUTU (Fiji), advanced three issues for the exchange of views in his introductory remarks, namely : coordination of all aid packages for maximum utilization; the problems of conditionality of aid, ACP attitude; the future hopes for ACP-EEC relations. After an exchange of views with the Assembly, Mr Sotutu promised to come up with a detailed report next time.

2. Working Parties

A new joint working party on the second phase of the implementation of the Lomé IV Convention was constituted. Mrs DALY (EPP, UK) was elected rapporteur, and Burkina Faso took the chairmanship. EPP members in this party: Mrs DALY (UK), HERMANS (B) and Mr MANTOVANI (I) .

The co-rapporteurs of the economic and social partners exchanged views on their report of the conclusions of the 16th annual meeting that concentrated on democratization, its social and economic basis and the role of the economic and social environment.

The Assembly decided on decentralized cooperation and the role of the social partners as the next theme of this annual meeting of the social partners, which is to take place in Brussels on 6, 7 and 8 December 1993.

3. Address from the Council and the Commission

Mrs Helle DEGN, the Danish Minister of Development Cooperation as President-in-Office of the Council, stressed the priorities of the Danish Presidency: to combat poverty in the consolidation of democracy and to improve the quality of aid by rendering it more operational. She asked the EC Member States that had not raised their development aid to 0.7% of GNP to do so.

For his part, Commissioner MARIN, after reviewing the different situations prevailing in the ACP States, stressed the importance of reviewing the development cooperation policy in the light of the Maastricht Treaty. He answered questions put to him by members, reconfirming the Community's attachment to the Lomé Convention principles.

4. Hearing

The ACP-EEC Joint Assembly met in Gaborone at a time when the region of Southern Africa, including South Africa, was undergoing profound political, economic and social changes, which would have a profound impact on its future. Though violence still persisted in some of the countries of the region, and although South Africa's transition to a democratic non-racial regime was still experiencing a painful and violent birth, dramatic changes were taking place in most of the States. In the political arena, one-party systems of government were being replaced by multi-party systems, State-controlled economies were being liberalized, destabilization policies pursued by the South African government had been stopped, and economic integration was in view.

Underscoring these factors, it was fitting to organize a round table on future relations between the ACP States, particularly those in Southern Africa and a democratic South Africa.

The following invited speakers participated in the hearing:

Dr Simba Makoni, Executive Director of SADC, who balanced economic growth and development, political stability and security in the region through equity, said that balance and mutual benefit were a common vision of SADC leaders that provided the only viable basis for regional development through integration.

Mr Trevor Manuel, Member of the ANC Executive Committee, portrayed the South African situation as viewed from the eyes of the ANC. He analysed the various stages experienced in transforming the country into a non-racial and democratic society, the challenges that might face the incoming government, such as economic restructuring, wealth distribution and the legacy of apartheid, and the commitment to regional development strategies and preferences, Mr Bobby Godsell, Executive Director of the Anglo-American Corporation, looked at the nature of the challenges confronting any new administration in South Africa. In his view there would be an urgent need to achieve a sustainable democratic order. This might require a mature approach to promoting an integrated sustainable economy within the Southern African network.

Mr Peter Pooley, Deputy Director-General for Development, speaking for the Commission, outlined the possible scenarios that could be envisaged between a future South Africa and European Community he compared the country's actual economic status vis-à-vis other countries in the democratic South Africa with all its problems and challenges should it be linked to the EEC under the development cooperation policy of the Lomé Convention, or should other ways and means be examined?

The intense debate left a general impression that the future South Africa should not be a signatory to the Lomé Convention; it should have preferential trade arrangements with the EEC.

5. Resolutions

The Joint Assembly considered and adopted a large number of motions for resolutions tabled by individual members on various topics connected with the operation of the Lomé Convention, prevailing situations in the various ACP States, migration in Europe, education, the environment, women, the GATT negotiations, preferential relations between the ACP and the EEC, bananas, sugar, Southern Africa, regional cooperation, recovery of Africa and special assistance to Africa; the two Co-Presidents tabled resolutions on the missions to Uganda, Haiti and South Africa.

The persistent violation of basic human rights in Sudan by the government itself caused some controversy in the House; some members even requested Sudan's expulsion from Lomé Convention membership.

Next Joint Assembly venue

For the autumn session of this year's Joint Assembly, Brussels was unanimously approved as the venue, to coincide with the Belgian Presidency of the European Community. The meeting would take place in the new building of the International Conference Centre next to the European Parliament. On this item the Assembly closed its 16th session.

Remarks

This Joint Assembly saw an increase in the number of members representing the ACP States, African countries in particular. Out of 45 African Lomé Convention countries, 34 were represented by elected parliamentary members.

It was regrettable that President de Klerk and Nelson Mandela could not contribute to the debate; invitations had been withdrawn when the ACP went back on its decision to approve President de Klerk's invitation.

Arthur HILDEBRANDT

Suzanne DERUYVER and Joseph LUKYAMUZI

THE GROUP'S POLICY ON AFRICA

Active support was given to allied parties and movements in Africa, in cooperation between the Group, the CDI, the Africa Foundation chaired by Ria Oomen-Ruijten (EPP/NL) and the CD Cooperation Foundation chaired by Horst Langes (EPP/DE).

This sometimes took the form of participation in colloquia in Africa (Antananarivo, Madagascar: Debatisse (EPP/F) and former Members Bersani (I) and De Backer-Van Ocken (B); Kampala, Uganda: Braun Moser (EPP/DE), Debatisse (EPP/F), Mantovani (EPP/I), Oomen-Ruijten (EPP/NL)); sometimes of a more extensive fact-finding mission (Kigali, Rwanda: former Member De Backer-Van Ocken (B); South Africa: Debatisse (EPP/F), A. Simpson (EPP/UK), Tindemans (EPP/B)); and observers are sent to elections (Angola: Cassanmagnago Cerretti (EPP/I), Escuder Croft (EPP/ES), Merz (EPP/DE), Oomen-Ruijten (EPP/NL); Bujumbura, Burundi: Hermans (EPP/B)).

Support was also given sometimes through assistance to local initiatives in Central Africa, the Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Zaïre.

A second 'Euro-African dialogue' was held in Brussels, attended by many NGOs as well as ACP representatives.

The 'Euro-Africa Dialogue' was published regularly and is steadily increasing its readership, as shown by the increasing amount of feedback from Africa.

It appears that the establishment of a regional organization in Africa, under the auspices of the CDI, is within the realms of possibility.

Arthur HILDEBRANDT

**COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES
AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

POSTS HELD BY MEMBERS OF THE EPP GROUP

President : TURNER Amédée (UK)

Vice President : BEIROCO Luis Filipe Pais (P)

Coordinator : LAFUENTE LOPEZ José Marie (Es)

Deputy Coordinator : BEAZLEY Christopher (UK)

<u>Members</u> :	<u>Substitutes</u> :
COONEY Patrick (IRL)	BETHELL Lord (UK)
LAMANNA Francesco (I)	BINDI Rosy (I)
FROMENT-MEURICE François (F)	INGLEWOOD Lord (UK)
JARZEMBOWSKI Georg (D)	MÜLLER Gerd (D)
LAMBRIAS Panayotis (GR)	ROBLES PIQUER Carlos (Es)
	POETTERING Hans-Gert (D)
	SARLIS Pavlos (GR)
	VERHAGEN Maxime (NL)
	von WOGAU Karl (D)

Observer from former GDR : KLEIN Lothar (D)

* * * * *

II Introduction

The Committee on Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs, under the Chairmanship of EPP Member Amédée Turner, was established in January 1992, following the agreement at the Maastricht European Council of December 1991 on the draft Treaty on European Union. The Committee is charged with covering the justice and home affairs "pillar" of this new Treaty, together with matters such as human rights problems in the Community, the fight against racism and xenophobia, and against drugs.

Since the Maastricht Treaty had still not come into force during the period under review, the Committee continued to have no formal standing in the justice and home affairs matters being dealt with by Ministers intergovernmentally.

The Committee therefore sought to influence governments by tabling a series of reports on its own initiative. The first wave of these reports reached the plenary towards the end of 1992.

In the run-up to the Single Act deadline of 31 December 1992 for the free movement of persons within the Community, the Committee expressed concern that internal border controls would continue. When this proved to be the case, the Commissioner responsible, Mr. Vanni d'Archirafi, responded to the Committee's requests by reporting, in plenary and in Committee on the latest situation. In this way, the Committee kept up the political pressure for action. On the legal front, on 15 July, 1993, the President of the European Parliament was given the go-ahead by the Enlarged Bureau, and by the plenary, to open the initial stages of an EEC Article 175 procedure against the Commission, for failure to act. This course had been foreseen in earlier resolutions from the Civil Liberties Committee.

Group Members emphasised that the removal of internal border controls had to be backed up by other (more effective) measures to meet the worries of citizens over their security. On the other hand, the Socialist, Green and Left Unity Groups demonstrated a particular lack of concern over security and the need for better police cooperation. Indeed, in July 1993, the other Groups refused to support any reference to these important issues in the vote on the above-mentioned Court action. The EPP made its distinctive position clear, by maintaining its own resolution on free movement and internal security (which was voted down by the other Groups), before voting with the other Groups on the Court action.

The Committee also followed the work of the Schengen Group, bringing together nine Member States (not the United Kingdom, Denmark and Ireland). The President-in-Office, Mr. Carlos Westendorp, came to the Committee in November, and returned on 1 July to report on the Schengen Group meeting of 30 June. The Committee visited the Schengen Information System on 15 July in Strasbourg, at the invitation of the French Presidency.

The proposed European Police Office (Europol) and its precursor, the Europol Drugs Unit, was the subject of a report to plenary in January 1993. By way of follow-up, the Committee visited the Europol project team, headed by Mr. Jorgen Storbeck, in their premises on the outskirts of Strasbourg in May. The Committee had been invited by the Danish President-in-Office of the TREVI Ministers with responsibility for police and security, Mr. Erling Olsen.

The British Home Secretary, Mr. Kenneth Clarke, attended the Committee on 24 November, 1992. The Danish Ministers for the Interior and for Justice, Mrs. Brite Weiss and Mrs. Pia Gjellerup attended on 17 January 1993. The Committee had to rely on a report from a Commission official on the 2 June 1993 meeting of TREVI Ministers, as had also been the case with the previous TREVI meeting on 2 December 1992.

The Committee held an exchange of views on 7 June with Mr. Luciano Violante, the Chairman of the Anti-Mafia Committee of the Italian Parliament, who advocated more cooperation between national parliaments and the European Parliament, in order to raise awareness of the threats, throughout Europe, from the Mafia.

At a hearing in March, the evidence of experts from Bari, Brussels, Marseilles and Liverpool highlighted how drugs and their misuse was a common factor in urban criminality.

The rising incidence of racism and xenophobia was addressed throughout the period. Parliament's annual debate was held in October, and a new report adopted in March 1993 which, at the

instigation of the EPP, called for anti-discrimination laws in all Member States. The violent killings of foreign citizens resident in the Community were condemned in urgent resolutions in July 1992 and June 1993.

The Committee's first annual report, by Mr. Karl de Gucht (LIB/B), on the observance of human rights in the Community presented the Group with an acute problem. While there were many serious points in the final resolution with which the Group agreed, paragraphs voted by the Socialists, Greens and Communists made for a seriously-unbalanced resolution which appeared to call into question the Member States' commitments to human rights. The Socialists and Greens also called for examples of alleged human rights abuses in Member States to be debated in plenary session each month, a move which could seriously damage the impartiality of Member States' judicial systems. The Group were therefore obliged to vote against the resolution. As President Tindemans explained, "*le mélange du vrai et du faux est plus faux que le faux.*"

Two important reports, on a European Immigration Policy and on Asylum, were debated in plenary in November 1992. While the Group supported the more general resolution on immigration, the Group officially abstained on the resolution on asylum seekers. EPP Members from those Member States experiencing severe problems over refugees found the resolution politically impossible to support. In July 1993, the EPP Group unsuccessfully opposed the left-wing majority which exploited the occasion of a debate on free movement of persons and immigration to promote their policies on citizenship and rights for non-Community nationals residing in the Community.

The Committee held a meeting on 18 - 19 March 1993 with representatives of national parliaments, which concentrated on the ways in which national parliaments, together with the European Parliament, would monitor the work of the internal affairs pillar of Maastricht. The need to open up to democratic scrutiny the activities of Ministers for Immigration and TREVI Ministers was one of the main themes of a report by Mr. ROBLES PIQUER (EPP/Es) on the operation of the Maastricht internal affairs pillar, adopted in July.

Work in Progress

Further reports on aspects of immigration are underway, including reports by Christopher BEAZLEY (EPP/UK) on the External Frontiers Convention and Panayotis LAMBRIAS (EPP/GR) on refugees. Other aspects of immigration (visa policy, immigration from east and central Europe, family reunion) will be treated in a subsequent report, for which François FROMENT-MEURICE (EPP/F) is one of the rapporteurs.

Reports on various aspects of organised crime, including the Mafia, are in preparation, together with a follow-up report on police and data confidentiality. A further attempt will be made by others to promote drug legalisation; EPP Members have spoken strongly against the favourable attitude of the rapporteur, Mr. Marco Taradash (V/I).

Reports on aspects of human rights which are underway include freedom of expression, on which a hearing was held under the rapporteur Jose-Marie LAFUENTE LOPEZ (EPP/Es). Conscientious objection is to be the subject of a report by Rosy BINDI (EPP/I) and Juan Maria BANDRES MOLET (V/Es); this topic received particular attention when the Committee met in Greece in April. The treatment of prisoners is also to be the topic of a hearing, prior to a

report being adopted. The rights of various groups, such as homosexuals, are the subject of draft reports put on the agenda by the Socialists and Greens; EPP Members will focus on individuals as European citizens, rather than as members of special categories, in other forthcoming reports.

III Resolutions adopted by the EP

Racism, Xenophobia and Anti-Semitism¹, Vote : 30.10.1992.

This resolution, based on the EPP's draft resolution, was adopted at the conclusion of Parliament's annual debate on racism and xenophobia. It reaffirmed Parliament's opposition to all forms of racism and xenophobia, and called upon the Community Institutions and Member States to combat it as effectively as possible.

The resolution was overwhelmingly supported.

Group Spokesman : Mr. Jose Maria Lafuente Lopez

European Immigration Policy², (i) Vote : 18.11.1992. (ii) Vote : 15.07.1993.

- i) Rapporteur : Mme. Mathilde van den Brink (PSE/NL)
- ii) Oral questions with debate

The first resolution set out the considerations requiring a Community approach. It separated out asylum policy and refugee policy, where it called for a European Fund for refugees and an emergency plan for their evenly-distributed reception. Emphasis was laid on tackling illegal immigration through employment law, backed up by information campaigns and agreements with countries of origin. Various aspects of the integration of legally-resident immigrants were mentioned. In conclusion, the Commission was asked to draw up a framework directive on immigration and various follow-up proposals. A European Charter on Immigration was called for. The report was adopted by a large majority.

The second resolution was particularly critical of the working methods of the Immigration Ministers, and of their civil servants in the "Ad Hoc Group on Immigration". It expressed concern at the possible implications for human rights of some of the agreements reached by Ministers on 1 June 1993. However, the resolution went on to ask all Member States to provide third-country nationals resident in the Community with unimpeded access to citizenship and to a wide range of rights. As noted in the introduction, the Group therefore voted against the resolution in the final vote.

Group Spokesman : Mr. Georg Jarzembowski

¹ B3-1386/92 and B3-1393/92
OJ No. C 305/23.11.1992

² i) A3-0280/92
OJ No. C 337/21.12.1992

ii) OJ No. C

Harmonisation within the European Community of Asylum Law and Policies³, Vote : 18.11.1992.

Rapporteur : Mr. Patrick Cooney (EPP/IRL)

This own-initiative report called on all Member States to adopt a common approach based on the Geneva Convention. Member States were asked to recognise genuine asylum seekers, as defined by the Geneva Convention, and to confront the problem of other kinds of refugees on a Community basis.

Although the rapporteur supported the resolution, the Group officially abstained.

By July 1993, six Member States had ratified the Dublin Convention on Asylum, which had been signed by the Twelve in order to combat the twin problems of "refugees in orbit" and "asylum shopping".

Entry into Force of the Schengen Agreement⁴, Vote : 19.11.1992.

Rapporteur : Mr. Lode van Outrive (PES/B)

This report had been referred back to Committee in October 1992 by the EPP Group because of its overly-critical nature. In the second report, supported by the EPP, various lines of action were proposed to rectify alleged shortcomings in the workings of Schengen, including improved parliamentary and judicial control. The Commission was requested to bring forward proposals to replace Schengen with Community law, taking account of the lessons of the Schengen test-bed. The resolution pointed out that the Schengen agreement would result in discrimination against travellers from the three other Member States of the Community.

Group Spokesman : Mr. Georg Jarzembowski

Abolition of Controls at Internal Borders and Free Movement of Persons within the Community⁵, Vote : 19.11.1992.

Rapporteur : Mr. Konstantinos Tsimas (PES/GR)

The report expressed concern that the commitment, under EEC 8A, for the abolition of controls at internal frontiers by 1.1.93. would not be fulfilled. It consequently called upon the Commission to act, under EEC 169, against Member States who would fail to meet their obligations. There was also reference to Parliament being ready to act against the Council and Commission under EEC 175.

³ A3-0337/92
OJ No. C 337/21.12.1992

⁴ A3-0336/92
OJ No. C 337/21.12.1992

⁵ A3-0284/92
OJ No. C 337/21.12.1992

The resolution urged the implementation of the various arrangements which should desirably accompany the abolition of internal border controls. These were to cover both measures at the external frontier and internal measures, such as better police cooperation. Concern was nonetheless expressed that internal border controls would simply be replaced by checks which transportation companies carried out, under carriers' liability and passenger security legislation. The resolution warned against the stepping-up of compensatory internal police controls, and suggested that police identity checks should have a justification in each individual case.

Group Spokesman : Mr. Christopher Beazley

The Setting Up of Europol⁶, Vote : 22.01.1993

Rapporteur : Mr. Lode van Outrive (PES/B)

This report called for Europol, and its forerunner the European Drugs Unit (EDU), to be regulated exclusively by Community legislation, initially based on EEC 235, and subject to safeguards concerning e.g. the protection of privacy. Europol's initial functions were to be limited to coordination, advice and support for national police forces (and for other officials with police powers), and to the provision of information to any Community institution for supervisory purposes. Beyond drugs, Europol's remit was to include other internationally-organised crime, starting with financial and tax crimes. Greater participation for the Commission was sought, together with ECJ jurisdiction to give preliminary rulings under EEC 177. For Europol to have operational responsibilities a new treaty would be required.

The resolution called for a complaints authority against Europol, a Community data-protection officer, and for better legal assistance. The resolution also called for full consultation across a wide spectrum and stated that the Parliament had a right to hear and question officials from Europol and other police forces.

Group Spokesman : Mr. Georg Jarzembowski

**Freedom of Movement for Persons⁷, (i) Vote : 11.02.1993
(ii) Vote : 25.05.1993
(iii) Vote : 15.07.1993**

The first resolution stated that if the Parliament found that the replies required by the Council and Commission on the free movement of persons by April 1993 were not satisfactory, it would not

⁶ A3-0382/92
OJ No. C 42/15.02.1993

⁷ i) B3-162/92 etc.
OJ No. C 72/15.03.1993
ii) B3-662/92 etc.
OJ No. C
iii) OJ No. C

hesitate to act. The second resolution declared that the replies received were not satisfactory and instructed its Committees responsible to urgently conclude deliberations on a possible action against the Commission. The third resolution called upon the President of the Parliament to institute the proceedings provided for in Article 175 of the EEC Treaty against the Commission.

Respect for Human Rights in the European Community (Annual Report of the European Parliament)⁸, Vote : 11.03.1993

Rapporteur : Mr. Karel de Gucht (LDR/B)

This was the first annual report, adopted after an initial referral back to Committee in February.

The resolution expressed concern that the exercise of the four freedoms of the Single Act, and the intergovernmental character of cooperation in the fields of justice and home affairs in the Maastricht Treaty, should have been accompanied by the development of a Community system of protection for human rights. To this end, the resolution called upon the Commission to draw up a White Paper and for Member States to create a political cooperation-type structure to take joint action against Member States. Within the Parliament, a "slot" in the urgency procedure was to be sought, and the relevant Committee was instructed to take up important issues with individual governments.

The report also covered poverty and "exclusion", trades unions' rights, and issues which had already been the subject of other resolutions. Particular attention was given to the concerns of Amnesty International: conscientious objectors, political prisoners, abolition of the death penalty, torture and cruel treatment of prisoners, extradition and police racism.

As noted in the introduction, the Group was obliged to vote against this resolution in the final vote.

Group Spokesman : Mr. Christopher Beazley

The Resurgence of Racism and Xenophobia in Europe and the Danger of Right-Wing Extremist Violence⁹, Vote : 21.04.1992

Rapporteur : Mr. Cesare de Piccoli (PES/I)

The central message of the resolution was to condemn extremist violence and incitement to racism, anti-Semitism and religious intolerance. The resolution went on to postulate the factors which may have led to this state of affairs, and deplored the failure to act on previous exhortations by the European Parliament.

The Council was called upon to adopt a Directive, under EEC 235, providing for the introduction in the Member States of legislation designed to combat racism etc.

⁸ A3-0225/92
OJ No. C

⁹ A3-0127/93
OJ No. C

The resolution concluded with further calls for actions to be undertaken by the Member States and the Commission, including references to the granting of national citizenship to legally-resident non-EC nationals, and of full rights for all resident EC and non-EC nationals alike.

Group Spokesman : Mr. Christopher Beazley

Cooperation in the Field of Justice and Home Affairs under the Treaty on European Union¹⁰, Vote : 15.07.93.

Rapporteur : Mr. Carlos Robles Piquer (EPP/Es)

The resolution opened by regretting that, in the third pillar of the Maastricht Treaty, cooperation in the field of justice and home affairs was largely kept outside the EC, resulting in a lack of effective parliamentary and judicial procedures for decision-making in a field where the rights of the citizen were directly concerned.

The resolution went on to outline ways of facilitating the desired "communitarization" of the third pillar in the period up to the next intergovernmental conference. In particular, the Council was asked to make use of the bridge provided for in K.9 of the Union Treaty.

The resolution laid particular emphasis on securing proper parliamentary supervision of Council decision-making, by both national parliaments and the European Parliament. In this connection, reference was made to annual meetings of the committees concerned and to the need for the revised EP rules to spell out the European Parliament's procedures under the third pillar of Maastricht. Contents of inter-institutional agreements were also suggested.

ALAN REID

¹⁰ A3-0215/1993
OJ No. C

COMMITTEE ON BUDGETARY CONTROL

OFFICES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE EPP GROUP

Chairman : BOURLANGES Jean-Louis (F)

Coordinator : THEATO Diemut (D)

Members : Substitutes :

CORNELISSEN Petrus (NL)	DALSASS Joachim (I)
KELLETT-BOWMAN Edward (UK)	ELLES James (UK)
LANGES Horst (D)	FUNK Honor (D)
LO GIUDICE Calogero (I)	von HABSBERG Otto (D)
MARCK Pol (B)	LAMANNA Francesco (I)
PRICE Peter (UK)	PRONK Bartho (NL)
SARLIS Pavlos (GR)	SIMMONDS Richard (UK)
	ZAVVOS Georgios (GR)

* * * * *

II Introduction

Mr. Jean-Louis Bourlanges became Chairman of the Committee in April 1993 on Mr. Alain Lamassoure's appointment to a post within the French Government, following the General Election in France.

The work of the Committee has centred on the annual discharge procedure. With the completion of the previous year's discharge in November, the Committee embarked on the detailed consideration of the 1991 discharge. Parliament's power over the Commission had been enhanced with the Commission's recognition of its obligation to respond positively to Parliament's earlier criticisms and Parliament's acceptance of the undertakings given by the Commission. As usual, EPP Members were responsible for a number of the detailed reports notably the Theato report on the European Parliament and the Kellett-Bowman reports on the European Foundation for the improvement of Living and Working Conditions and the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training.

The key report in the discharge procedure was the Nielsen (LDR/DK) report on the discharge for the Commission on the execution of the Community Budget for 1991. This report looked particularly at the application of the Community budget in the context of subsidiarity. As usual, the discharge focused on the main sectors of Community expenditure, with particular criticism being focused on the Commission's management of the Joule programme. With increased exposure to Central and Eastern Europe, the report also focused on the Phare, Tempus and Tacis programmes.

Other important reports included the Lo Giudice report on the management of the budget of the structural funds which paved the

way for the Committee's input to Parliament's opinion on the reform of the structural funds. Reports by the Committee's chairman on the procedure for consulting the Parliament on the appointment of Members of the Court of Auditors increased Parliament's influence in this area. In the field of agriculture, the Wynn (PSE/UK) report on the Commission proposal for an integrated administration and control system underlined Parliament's determination to see the reformed CAP applied correctly throughout the Community.

A feature of the Committee's work has been the holding of hearings focusing on major policy areas. In cooperation with other responsible committees, hearings have been held on aid to Central and Eastern Europe, the protection of the Community's financial interests and the impact of Community finance on the competitiveness of Community industry. The Committee Chairman, Bourlanges, the Group Coordinator, Theato, and Members such as Marck and Price have played a particularly important part in the organisation and management of these hearings.

III Summary of Resolutions Adopted by EP

TITLE : Report on the operation of the common organisation of the market in the sugar and isoglucose sector¹

RAPPORTEUR : MR. PASTY (RDA/F)
ADOPTION : 10-3-2
DATE OF ADOPTION : 19 May 1992
PLENARY : 9 June 1992

CONTENTS : This report was the Budgetary Control Committee's response to the Court of Auditors' critical report on the sugar industry. While the Rapporteur shared the Court's concern on technical matters, such as monitoring and control, production refunds for the use of sugar in the chemical industry, the practice of mixed prices and the calculation of levies, his report concentrated on measures which he believed should be taken up in the coming review of the sugar regime.

In particular, the report took the view that the system of national quotas prevented the concentration of production in the most appropriate areas. The report recommended the gradual introduction of mobile and non-national sugar quotas, a reduction in intervention prices and the reimbursement of the agricultural budget for the Community's development commitments, although not at the expense of development expenditure.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : -
SHADOW RAPPORTEUR : MR. MARCK (B)

TITLE : Report on the management of the budget of the structural funds within the framework of the reform²

RAPPORTEUR : MR. LO GIUDICE (I)
ADOPTION : Unanimously adopted
ADOPTION : 20 May 1992
PLENARY : 16 September, 1992

CONTENTS : The aim of this own-initiative report was to ascertain how management of the structural funds had contributed to achieving the Treaty objectives of cohesion and the reduction of regional disparities.

The report noted that a doubling of the funds was proposed for the period 1987-1993 without the establishment of specific target figures for growth. The Commission should have indicated a projection for the period to 1997. The report also questioned whether the sums allotted could achieve the objectives set.

The report called for a legal definition of the concept of additionality for each fund. It also wanted to see Community investment playing a greater role in encouraging additional private investment.

The report concluded with a number of precise recommendations for improvement in the management of the funds, particularly with regard to coordination, complementarity and partnership. It also wanted to see an improvement in implementation and on-the-spot checks.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : +

TITLE : Report on the procedure for consulting the European Parliament on the appointment of Members of the Court of Auditors³

RAPPORTEUR : MR. LAMASSOURE (F)
ADOPTION : Adopted unanimously
ADOPTION : 4 November, 1992
PLENARY : 17 November, 1992

CONTENTS : This was an own-initiative report seeking to establish procedures, principles and criteria which would ensure that Parliament's opinion on nominations to the Court of Auditors would receive the broadest possible support. The proposed criteria covered professional experience and management record, freedom from political office from the time of appointment, an upper age limit, and a desire to ensure a sensible balance in the composition of the Court as a whole.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : +

² A3-0191/92

³ A3-03345/92

TITLE : Report embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the appointment of three Members of the Court of Auditors⁴

RAPPORTEUR : MR. LAMASSOURE (F)
ADOPTION : Adopted unanimously
ADOPTION : 1 December, 1992
PLENARY : 16 December, 1992

CONTENTS : The report welcomed the fact that the Council had taken account of Parliament's assessment criteria. In giving a favourable opinion on the appointments, it noted that one candidate would not satisfy the age criteria to carry out a further term of office from October 1993.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : +

TITLE : Report giving discharge to the Commission in respect of implementation of the 1990 budget⁵

RAPPORTEUR : MR. TOMLINSON (PES/UK)
ADOPTION : Adopted unanimously
ADOPTION : 4 November, 1992
PLENARY : 17 November, 1992

CONTENTS : The discharge of the 1990 budget had been postponed in April on three points :

- withholding of approval by the Financial Controller of Operations which breached the financial regulation;
- implementation of the rules relating to own resources;
- strict fulfilment by the Commission of its obligation on budgetary discipline.

In the light of a detailed report by Commissioner Schmidhuber on the action taken by the Commission on the points raised by Parliament, the Budgetary Control Committee proposed that discharge should then be given.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : +
SHADOW RAPPORTEUR : MR. SARLIS (GR)

TITLE : Report on the Commission proposal for a Council Regulation establishing an integrated Administration and Control System for certain Community aid schemes⁶

RAPPORTEUR : MR. WYNN (PES/UK)
ADOPTION : 16-0-2
ADOPTION : 4 November, 1992
PLENARY : 17 November, 1992

⁴ A3-0406/92

⁵ A3-0109/92

⁶ A3-0357/92

CONTENTS : As part of the reform of the Common Agriculture Policy, the Commission presented a proposal to establish an integrated control and management system. In the context of the move from guaranteed prices to direct payments to farmers, the purpose of the proposal was to know who was growing what and where in order to provide proper controls on applications for aid. The report adopted by the Committee contained a number of amendments to improve the system such as encouraging Member States to establish comprehensive land registers and calling for this to receive Community support.

The EPP was partially successful in the Committee with amendments to prevent unnecessary bureaucracy. Further amendments were to be presented for the plenary session.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : +
SHADOW RAPPORTEUR : MR. FUNK (D)

TITLE : Report on the operation of the common organisation of the market in the sugar and isoglucose sector⁷

RAPPORTEUR : MR. PASTY (RDA/F)
ADOPTION : Adopted unanimously
ADOPTION : 26 November 1992
PLENARY : 22 January 1993

CONTENTS : This was the second report by Mr. Pasty on the Court of Auditors' critical report on the operation of the common organisation of the market in sugar.

Mr. Pasty's first report, which had recommended the replacement of national quotas with a system of mobile quotas, was rejected by plenary in July 1992.

A new report, which took account of various objections and called on the Commission to review the options for the replacement of the current system with a more flexible system was adopted unanimously by the Budgetary Control Committee.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : +
SHADOW RAPPORTEUR : MR. DALSSASS (I)

TITLE : On the audit of export refunds paid to selected major traders in the milk products sector⁸

RAPPORTEUR : MR. TOMLINSON (PES/UK)
ADOPTION : 6-1-0
ADOPTION : 28 January 1993
PLENARY : 12 February 1993

CONTENTS : The report dealt with Special Report 2/92 adopted by the Court in October 1991. The delay in producing the report was due to the initial refusal of the Court to provide Parliament with the information supplied to the Commission. The Court had investigated prominent dairy companies in two Member States and uncovered various irregularities such

⁷ A3-0387/92

⁸ A3-0037/93

as misdescription of cheeses and milk powders, the failure of national controls and the sale of substandard products.

The report called on the Court to keep the cases under review and report back if the measures taken by the Commission and Member States were considered inadequate. It also called on the Commission to tighten up the rules on export refunds.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : +
SHADOW RAPPORTEUR : MR. MARCK (B)

TITLE : Report on the closure of Parliament's accounts for the 1992 financial year⁹

RAPPORTEUR : MR. TOMLINSON (PES/UK)
ADOPTION : Adopted unanimously
ADOPTION : 17 February, 1993
PLENARY : 9 March, 1993

CONTENTS : This was a formal report connected with the submission of Parliament's accounts enabling the preparation of revenue and expenditure accounts for 1992. Inevitably, however, examination of the accounts threw up a number of points of concern. These points connected with buildings, the screening process, carryovers and the "Budg" computer system were highlighted in the report and, along with revelations concerning previously unrecorded accounts in the catering and shop sector of the accounts, were to be examined both in special reports and the discharge process.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : +
SHADOW RAPPORTEUR : MRS. THEATO (D)

TITLE : Report on the Discharge of the General Budget for 1991¹⁰

RAPPORTEUR : MRS. NIELSEN (LDR/DK)
ADOPTION : 10-1-0
ADOPTION : 30 March 1993
PLENARY : 21 April, 1993

CONTENTS : The report recommended discharge. The 1991 report dealt with the budget both thematically and on a sectoral basis. At the thematic level, the report focused on the problems of controlling a budget implemented at many different levels throughout the Community. It called for greater transparency in the allocation of funds and in the use of outside contractors and better evaluation of expenditure.

The report drew attention to the lack of control over own resources; it stressed the need for continued budgetary discipline in agriculture; it called, too, for greater control over structural spending. With regard to internal policies, the report was critical of the management of the Joule programme (although only a minority of Socialists believed that this was a basis for rejection or postponement of discharge). It drew attention to the failure to integrate environmental considerations into

⁹ A3-0053/93

¹⁰ A3-0121/93

other policies and noted the lack of coordination in transport policy. With regard to external policy, attention was focused on East and Central Europe especially the Phare, Tempus and Tacis programmes. Finally the report dealt with administrative expenditure and called on the Commission to make improvements in the disbursement of subsidies.

The Group was successful in Committee in obtaining a significant number of improvements and clarifications to the text.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : +
SHADOW RAPPORTEUR : MR. LO GIUDICE (I)

TITLE : Report on postponement of the Discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the management of the ECSC for the 1991 Financial year¹¹

RAPPORTEUR : MR. BLAK (PES/DK)
ADOPTION : Adopted unanimously
ADOPTION : 18 March, 1993
PLENARY : 22 April, 1993

CONTENTS : The report recommended the deferral of discharge for 1991. The draft report had recommended the granting of discharge. However, the replies given by the Commission with regard to information on loans which could be at risk and on the ECSC's property policy with regard to premises in Paris proved unsatisfactory and it was, therefore, agreed that discharge should be deferred until such time as the Commission produced a full and satisfactory report on the outstanding points.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : +
SHADOW RAPPORTEUR : MR. ZAVVOS (GR)

TITLE : Report on the Discharge for the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh European Development Funds for 1991¹²

RAPPORTEUR : MRS. SIMONS (PES/D)
ADOPTION : Adopted unanimously
ADOPTION : 18 March, 1993
PLENARY : 22 April, 1993

CONTENTS : The report recommended discharge for the funds under review. As in the past, the report drew attention to the problem of monitoring funds which were not yet budgetized. It called for a follow-up report on action taken to implement the recommendations contained in the 1989 and 1990 reports.

In particular, the report drew attention to the need to strengthen delegations in order to improve the verification of contract performance and project evaluation. It also drew attention to the problems of monitoring remuneration to the EIB for EDF related activities.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : +
SHADOW RAPPORTEUR : MR. SARLIS (GR)

¹¹ A3-0101/93

¹² A3-0094/93

TITLE : Report on the Discharge for the European Parliament for 1991¹³

RAPPORTEUR : MRS. THEATO (D)
ADOPTION : Adopted unanimously
ADOPTION : 30 March, 1993
PLENARY : 22 April, 1993

CONTENTS : The report recommended discharge. It focused on the need for all aspects of the implementation of the budget to be strictly in line with the financial regulation. The report drew attention to a number of problem areas such as the inventory, canteens, bars and restaurants, STOA and research management and the BUDG system.

The report also asked the Bureau to clarify the position regarding Members' travel allowances and asked the Enlarged Bureau to decide on the application of its rules on expenditure under item 3708.

Finally, the report called for improvements in the utilisation of funds to avoid the cancellations which had taken place in the past.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : +

TITLE : Reports granting discharge to the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions and to the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training of their budgets for the 1991 financial year¹⁴

RAPPORTEUR : MR. KELLETT-BOWMAN (UK)
ADOPTION : Adopted unanimously
ADOPTION : 30 March, 1993
PLENARY : 22 April, 1993

CONTENTS : These reports, which recommended discharge, gave a generally favourable report on the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Berlin) and the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Dublin).

The report called for a comprehensive study to be carried out in 1993 on the extent to which the Berlin Foundation fulfils its statutory goals. The report called on the Dublin Foundation to harmonise its management and accounting procedures with those of Community institutions and to provide a report on its management of contracts with external consultants over the last few years.

OPINION OF THE GROUP : +

DAVID STEEL

¹³ A3-0120/93

¹⁴ A3-0118/93 and A3-0119/93

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

I. TABLE SHOWING FULL AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

CHAIRMAN: OREJA AGUIRRE (ES)		[until 28 June 1993]
CHAIRMAN: PRAG (UK)		[from 29 June 1993]
CHAIRMAN: GIL-ROBLES GIL-DELGADO (ES)		[from 14 July 1993]
COORDINATOR: BOURLANGES		(until 21 April 1993)
COORDINATOR: FROMENT-MEURICE		(from 23 April 1993)
FULL MEMBERS	SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS	
BEIRÔCO (P)	BINDI	(I)
BOURLANGES (until 21 April 1993) (F) (replaced by FROMENT-MEURICE (F))	BOCKLET (until 16 June 1993) (replaced by de BREMOND D'ARS)	(D)
CASSANMAGNAGO-CERRETTI (I)	BROK (D)	
COLOMBO until 1 August 1992 (I) (replaced by LAMANNA from 7 September 1993) (I)	FERRER	(ES)
HERMAN (B)	GAIBISSO	(I)
LAGAKOS (GR)	GISCARD d'ESTAING (replaced by BOURLANGES from 9 June 1993)	(F) (F)
LUSTER (D)	NEWTON DUNN	(UK)
OREJA AGUIRRE until 28 June 1993 (ES) (replaced by GIL-ROBLES GIL-DELGADO) (ES)	PENDERS	(NL)
PRAG (UK)	PESMAZOGLOU	(GR)
SPENCER (UK)	STAUFFENBERG (replaced by Günter MULLER from 4 December 1992)	(D) (D)
VALVERDE LOPEZ (ES)	PROUT	UK)

II. INTRODUCTION

The year that we are considering in this report opened with a moment of serious crisis in the Community. In June 1992 the Danish people voted no in the referendum calling on them to endorse the Treaty of Maastricht. Pessimism about Europe began to spread and the Community institutions - likened as a result of their bureaucracy, to dangers which had to be carefully avoided - needed to be changed; their operations needed to be opened up and they had to draw closer to the ordinary people of Europe. In short, they had to cease allying themselves with behemoths that were depriving the Community's states of their identities and power.

However, the French yes vote on 20 September provided a moment of respite, prevented the complete paralysis of Community activity and allowed the Community institutions to get their breath back. Thus began the difficult search for a solution to the Danish question.

In December at the Edinburgh summit which, in view of the complexity of the situation and the seriousness of the problems did not seem likely to find a solution, the heads of state and government found an answer to the Danish demands, confirming the need for solidarity and bearing in mind the special features of each state. In addition, European public opinion was made aware that the governments considered it important to avoid a crisis and to continue to proceed together along the road to European unity. The resolution adopted by Parliament urged that the ratification procedures be concluded by 30 June 1993 and criticized the derogation clauses granted indefinitely to Denmark, although these did not require a renegotiation of the Treaty¹.

But did not Edinburgh also in some sense create a two-speed Europe in which first the British, who are not involved in the social aspects of Europe, and now the Danes are taking part? What will happen tomorrow if, in the wake of demands by a public experiencing a very serious economic crisis involving recession and unemployment, other states were to renegotiate their participation in the European Community?

During the first part of the 1993, however, Member States ratified the Treaty of Maastricht one after another up to mid-May, when the Danes too accepted it. In its comments on the European Council of Copenhagen² Parliament thanked the Danish people for agreeing to go on with European integration by ratifying the Treaty of Maastricht and expressed a hope that Denmark would not have to use the derogations which had been granted to it in Edinburgh.

To date only the FRG, pending the outcome of an appeal which is before the Constitutional Court, and the United Kingdom, where a timetable has not yet been fixed, have failed to ratify the Treaty. However, the Belgian Presidency which has just started hopes to be able to begin to implement the Treaty.

Much of the activity of the Committee on Institutional Affairs in the period under consideration has involved the adoption of resolutions on implementation of the Treaty on European Union. In addition, on the occasion of the European Council meeting in Birmingham³, Parliament meeting on 14 October in a special part-session, expressed itself

¹ Resolution on the conclusions of the European Council meeting in Edinburgh on 11 and 12 December 1992 (OJ C 21,25.1.1993, p. 105).

² Resolution on the outcome of the European Council of 21 and 22 June in Copenhagen adopted on 24 June 1993.

³ Resolution on the European Council of 16 October in Birmingham (OJ No. C 305, 23.11.1992, p. 57).

decisively in the light of confirmation of the Twelve's determination to ratify the Treaty on European Union as soon as possible and without changes.

In November Parliament gave its opinion on the principle of subsidiarity which had been included in the Treaties and in December on the principles of the conciliation procedure, the committees of inquiry and the regulations governing the performance of the Ombudsman's duties, which are based on Articles 3b, 189b, 138c and 138e of the Treaty of Maastricht. In the case of all these subjects, Parliament has requested that each institution's remit be defined in interinstitutional agreements - an arrangement that would make it possible to settle three-sided disputes without one or other of the parties having to become involved in exhausting exercises to gain an advantage. For this reason, two Interinstitutional Conferences took place, on 26 November 1992 and on 7 June 1993. The main items on the agenda were the proposed interinstitutional agreements on subsidiarity, openness and democracy, and the regulations concerning the Ombudsman. Because of the general situation and the ratification difficulties it was not possible to reach agreement during the Danish Presidency, which has just ended, although Parliament had done its best to achieve this.

The appointment of the Commission in February led to a resolution in which Parliament registered its disapproval of the action taken by the governments of the Member States when appointing the new Commission because of their failure to consult the President designate on the Commissioners. In its resolution, Parliament referred to the importance which the Commission said it attached to relations between both institutions and maintained that increased efforts in the field of information, dialogue and cooperation were needed. In particular, the Commission would have to do its best to revise the 'code of conduct' and it reserved the right to verify the Commission's commitment in the months following the entry into force of the Treaty of Maastricht⁴.

Another major topic which has been much discussed in recent months has been the size of the future European Union. A report already adopted on the strategy for European Union in the run-up to enlargement and the preparation of opinions on the accession of Austria, Norway, Sweden and Finland have been widely discussed, arousing much interest, and have restored Parliament's natural role in determining the direction of the debate on the Community's future. While it is true that the identity of each individual state must be protected, this does not have to be done by encouraging coalitions of small or large states.

It is unimaginable that the representational system should remain the same in a Europe of Sixteen. This would cause paralysis in the institutions to which the sixteen countries belonged and would mean an even greater number of languages, which would not result in effective joint action. Various solutions must therefore be considered which will allow everyone to feel that they are taking part on the same basis and enable the tasks for which the European Union is responsible to be carried out effectively. It is greatly to Parliament's credit therefore that it has launched the lively debate which has just begun and which must persuade the four states applying for membership to accept the 'acquis communautaire' unconditionally in the knowledge that if the Union does not have a strong and homogenous institutional structure it will be unable to meet global challenges and will not survive.

The members of the PPE Group have taken a very active part in the proceedings of the Committee on Institutional Affairs by preparing or by having recently prepared reports of particular interest and by influencing strategy and debate within the committee. The change in the

⁴ Resolution on the presentation of the new Commission and the statement by its President on the its work guidelines
(OJ No. C 72, 15.3.1993, p. 85)

presidency and in the person of the rapporteur on the constitution has not hampered Parliamentary proceedings. It has simply caused some slight slippage in the timetable for the committee's adoption of the report on the European Constitution.

III. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY PARLIAMENT BETWEEN JULY 1992 AND JULY 1993

1. NOVEMBER 1992 PART-SESSION

* Resolution on the implementation of the principle of subsidiarity⁵

Debate : 18.11.1992
Vote : 18.11.1992

Contents of the resolution: This resolution sanctions the procedure for adopting an interinstitutional agreement on subsidiarity to be negotiated by Parliament, the Commission and the Council. It also mandates Parliament's delegation to the Interinstitutional Conference to negotiate a draft agreement based on the principles listed.

2. DECEMBER 1992 PART-SESSION

* BRU PURON [PES, Es] report (A3-0285/92) on the conciliation procedure⁶

Debate : 16.12.1992
Vote : 17.12.1992

Contents of the report: The report calls for the legislative co-decision procedure to be applied generally and improved and proposes that all the opportunities of the new procedure be exploited, particular stress being placed on the dialogue between Parliament and the Council. While what is known as the conciliation procedure, which was introduced in Article 189b of the Treaty of Maastricht, does not fully satisfy Parliament's expectations, it is a step forward nevertheless. The proposal for a resolution calls on the Council and Commission to open negotiations for an interinstitutional agreement on the conciliation procedure and lays down the principles for the satisfactory operation of the new procedure. Since the co-decision procedure does not satisfy Parliament as it does not meet its natural claim for democratic legitimacy, the aim of the new procedure is to base the process of legislative decision-making on dialogue and negotiations between Parliament, the Council and the Commission. The new procedure laid down in Article 189b lays down very tight deadlines; if these are not observed, Parliament is excluded from the procedure. An interinstitutional agreement is desirable therefore to ensure the effective implementation of Parliament's powers. Such a procedure must ensure that an agreement can be reached between Parliament and the Council as soon as possible in the course of the procedure.

⁵ OJ No. C 337, 21.12.1992, p. 116

⁶ OJ No. C 21, 25.1.1993, p. 138

*BINDI [PPE, I] report (A3-0298/92) on the European Ombudsman: regulations and general conditions governing the performance of the European Ombudsman's duties⁷.

Debate : 16.12.1992
Vote : 17.12.1992

Contents of the report: The report by Mrs Bindi includes the proposal for a resolution and the draft decision on the regulations governing the European Ombudsman and the performance of his duties.

This draft decision was drawn up on the basis of Article 138e of the Treaty, which defined Parliament's power to appoint an ombudsman. Article 138e gives Parliament the power to lay down the regulations and general conditions governing the performance of the ombudsman's duties after it has sought the Commission's opinion and has received the Council's approval.

The draft decision drawn up by the rapporteur has been considered at two seminars attended by professors, experts and national ombudsmen from all the Member States. This is Parliament's first legislative initiative pursuant to the Treaty of Maastricht. It lays down the conditions for approving the appointment of the ombudsman, his powers, his obligations, his appointment, his term of office, his privileges and the administrative structure which is to assist him.

* MUSSO [RDE, F] report (A3-0302/92) on parliamentary committees of inquiry⁸

Debate : 16.12.1992
Vote : 17.12.1992

Contents of the report: Article 138c of the Maastricht Treaty gives Parliament the right to set up temporary committees of inquiry. The procedures for exercising this right of inquiry must be the subject of an interinstitutional accord (Parliament, Council and Commission). It is to be hoped that the arrangements chosen will bring together the most worthwhile features of the committees which exist in the national parliaments.

3. JANUARY 1993 PART-SESSION

* BOISSSIERE [V, F] report (A3-0414/92) on the setting up and operation of specialized bodies and agencies⁹.

Debate : 19.1.1993
Vote : 19.1.1993

Contents of the report: The resolution reaffirms support for the delegation of specific executive, research, or supervisory work to specialist Community bodies or agencies. Naturally, such delegation should cover specific clearly defined areas, as is current practice in

⁷ OJ No. C 21, 25.1.1993, P. 141

⁸ OJ No. C 21, 25.1.1993, p. 147

⁹ OJ No. C 42, 15.2.1993, p. 63

the Community's institutional system pursuant to the Treaties (EAEC Article 8 setting up the Joint Research Centre). Naturally, the resolution stresses the importance of standard provisions for the implementation and the operation of specialist bodies and agencies and lays down principles which it calls on the Commission to respect when any proposal to set up specialist bodies is put forward.

***HÄNSCH [PES, D] report (A3-0189/92) on the structure and strategy for the European Union with regard to its enlargement and the creation of a Europe-wide order¹⁰.**

Debate : 20.1.1993
Vote : 20.1.1993

Contents of the report: The report submitted by Klaus HÄNSCH takes the view that it is not possible or necessary for all the nations of Europe to be gathered together at some future point into a Union. Rather, an external strategy should be adopted which ensures increasingly closer cooperation between all the peoples of Europe. In the first instance, accession negotiations should commence with Austria, Sweden, Norway and Finland as the European Economic Area will facilitate subsequent membership for states belonging to EFTA.

The opportunities afforded under Article 238 of the EEC Treaty for closer ties with the Community have not yet been exploited to the full in the association agreements. The report also calls on the Union to establish a system of 'confederative cooperation in Europe' which could provide a framework for resolving certain problems, such as security, migratory movements, security of energy supply, dealing with certain environmental tasks. health and the fight against crime.

The report takes the view that the US, Canada, other states on the territory of the former USSR, Turkey and Mediterranean states could join the system of confederative operation in Europe.

But since the Treaty on European Union is not sufficient, the report calls for an Intergovernmental Conference to be convened before 1996 and before any decisions are taken on enlargement. It would have the brief of starting this process of cooperation with Parliament on the basis of a draft constitution for the Union.

The report suggests that the Council of Europe and the CSCE must form part of the system of confederative cooperation. With regard to the use of languages in an enlarged European Union, the report - starting with the principle of respect for cultural diversity, which requires that the languages of the Member States be given the status of official languages - provides that every citizen and every Member of Parliament has the right to be heard in his own language in the institutions and to be informed in this language on Union policies and legislation. In view of the increase in the number of official languages, agreements will be made to limit the number of working languages in the institutions.

*** DE GIOVANNI [PES, I] report (A3-0190/92) on the institutional role of the Council¹¹.**

Debate : 20.1.1993
Vote : 20.1.1993

¹⁰ OJ No. C 42, 15.2.1993. p.124

¹¹ OJ No. C 42, 15.2.1993, p. 130

Contents of the report: The report expresses the hope that the Member States shall be represented in the Council of Ministers by permanent delegations, chaired by a minister responsible, whose members shall be appointed by the Member States. The unitary and the permanent nature of the delegation of each Member State is designed to guarantee - in full observance of the principle of subsidiarity - the possibility of representation expressing the constitutional structures of each Member State, and, for example, of the regions. As a rule, the Council shall act by a qualified majority or by a two-thirds majority in the case of politically sensitive issues, but each delegation to the Council shall have a single (weighted) vote.

For decisions of a constitutional nature, the principles of unanimity and a reinforced majority shall apply. When the Council is acting in its legislative role, it shall sit in public. The Presidency of the Council of Ministers, particularly in view of enlargement of the Union, shall have a coordinating role in as much as the Council represents equal sovereignties. In view of the enlargement of the Union, it will be necessary to adjust the definition of the qualified majority to ensure that votes continue to be weighted for all legislative decisions. It will also be necessary to maintain equality of votes among the large founding Member States and the qualified majority should be set so that it cannot be reached by the five large Member States of the Community of Twelve by themselves. In addition, the minority required to block legislation should be maintained so that three large Member States of the Community of Twelve cannot reach it by themselves.

* PRAG [PPE, UK] report (A3-0384/92) on the cooperation procedure¹².

Debate : 20.1.1993
Vote : 20.1.1993

Contents of the report: The resolution calls for Community legislation not of a constitutional nature to be adopted by a process of co-decision which gives Parliament and the Council equal weight and equal rights.

Parliament recognizes, all the same, that the cooperation procedure may be regarded as a preparatory stage for the introduction of co-decision.

The Treaty on European Union extends the scope of the cooperation procedure. It becomes applicable to 11 new sectors, including the European Social Fund, vocational training, transport policy and aid to developing countries.

Parliament reiterates its intention to improve democratic control of legislation by seeking to establish genuine and appropriate cooperation with the parliaments of the Member States.

5. MARCH 1993 PART-SESSION

* DE GUCHT [LDR, B] report (A3-0381/92) on the draft electoral procedure for the election of Members of the European Parliament¹³.

Debate : 10.3.1993
Vote : 10.3.1993

¹² OJ No. C 42, 15.2.1993, p. 134

¹³ OJ No. C 115, 26.04.1993, p. 121

Contents of the report: The resolution adopted by Parliament confirms the guidelines adopted on 10 October 1991 noting that Members of the European Parliament should be elected in accordance with a uniform electoral procedure based on the principle of proportional representation. Member States must grant voting rights in European elections to citizens of third countries to whom they have also granted such rights in national elections. The uniform election legislation must reflect the following principles:

- the distribution of seats for the election of Members of the European Parliament shall be determined in accordance with a system of proportional representation;
- voting shall be based on lists drawn up either for the whole territory of a Member State or for regions or multi-member constituencies;
- if a Member States uses a single-member constituency system, not more than two-thirds of the seats assigned to this Member State may be distributed in these constituencies; the remainder of the seats shall be distributed on the basis of lists in such a way as to ensure that the distribution of all the seats corresponds to the total votes cast;
- the Member States may provide for one or more preferential votes to be cast where elections are based on lists;
- the Member States may institute a minimum threshold of between 3% and 5% of the votes cast;
- the Member States may make special arrangements in order to take account of regional features.

* **VALVERDE LOPEZ [PPE, ES] report (A3-0041/93) on the European Council report for 1991 on progress towards European Union**¹⁴

Debate : 9.3.1993
Vote : 11.3.1993

Contents of the report: This is the annual report for 1991 on the European Council report on the progress made in respect of the activities carried out. It emphasises the importance of the signing of the Maastricht Treaty and requests that it be implemented soon. The proposal for a resolution focuses on the major shortcomings of the Treaty and proposes a whole series of improvements, which may be introduced without amending the text of the Treaty, as regards the institutions and the policies to be followed.

* **ROUMELIOTIS [PES, GR] report (A3-0043/93) on the conclusion and adaptation of interinstitutional agreements**¹⁵

Debate : 11.3.1993
Vote : 12.3.1993

Contents of the report: The report emphasises the need to adapt the existing interinstitutional agreements in anticipation of the entry into force of the Treaty on European Union and to conclude new agreements to take account of the *acquis* of the Treaty. In particular, it calls on the Council and Commission to negotiate and conclude interinstitutional agreements in the following areas: Economic and Monetary Union, the Common Foreign and Security Policy, the Community's international

¹⁴ OJ No. C 115, 26.4.1993, p. 172

¹⁵ OJ No. C 115, 26.4.1993, p. 253

agreements and the Community legislative process. The resolution mandates Parliament's delegation to the Interinstitutional Conference to negotiate these agreements with the Council and the Commission.

* HERMAN [PPE, B] report (A3-0066/93) embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on holding a conference of representatives of the governments of the Member States with a view to the adoption of an addition to the Protocol on the Statute of the European Investment Bank¹⁶

Debate : 9.3.1993
Vote : 12.3.1993

Contents of the report: This Parliamentary resolution contains the mandatory opinion of the Community's Parliament on holding the Intergovernmental Conference to adopt a protocol on the Statute of the EIB. A favourable opinion was given subject to the reservation that the two amendments proposed be considered and that an Interinstitutional Conference be held to allow the adoption of a text drawn up jointly by the three institutions.

REPORTS ADOPTED IN COMMITTEE BUT NOT YET DEBATED IN THE HOUSE

ROTHLEY [PES, D] report (PE 155.441/rev./corr.) on the role of the Court of Justice in the development of the Community's constitutional system.

Vote in committee: 9.6.1993

BOISSIERE [V, F] opinion (PE 204.534) on participation by the regions in building a united Europe - Committee of the Regions (MELIS Report)

Vote in committee: 10.6.1993

Maria Beatrice **SCARASCIA MUGNOZZA**

¹⁶ OJ No. C 115, 26.4.1993, p. 239

**COMMITTEE ON THE RULES OF PROCEDURE, THE VERIFICATION
OF CREDENTIALS AND IMMUNITIES**

I. POSITIONS HELD BY MEMBERS OF THE PPE GROUP

Vice-chairman: Marc REYMANN (F)

Coordinator: Kurt MALANGRE (D)

Full Members:

- Gerardo GAIBISSO (I)
- José Maria GIL-ROBLES GIL-DELGADO (ES)
- James L. JANSSEN van RAAY (NL)
- Anne Caroline B. McINTOSH (UK)
- Kurt MALANGRE (D)
- Filippou PIERROS (GR)
- Sir Christopher J. PROUT (UK)
- Marc REYMANN (F)

Substitute Members:

- Fernand H.J. HERMAN (B)
- George Benjamin PATTERSON (UK)
- Günter RINSCHKE (D)
- Bernhard SÄLZER (D)
- Gabriele SBOARINA (I)
- Anthony M.H. SIMPSON (UK)
- Konstantinos STAVROU (GR)

II. INTRODUCTION

In a parliamentary year characterized by the lively Europe-wide debate on ratification of the Maastricht Treaty, the Committee on the Rules of Procedure, the Verification of Credentials and Immunities was asked to play a particularly important role by making the necessary amendments to the Rules of Procedure with a view to the entry into force of the new Treaty.

The Group of the European People's Party is aware of the great importance of Parliament's legislative powers in the process of European integration and so this aspect has also been a priority so far as the Rules of Procedure are concerned.

The purpose of the Group's contribution to the work of amending and interpreting the Rules of Procedure was to increase Parliament's effectiveness, to ensure that the powers granted to Parliament, firstly, by the Single Act and, secondly, by the Maastricht Treaty were used in the best possible way, and to increase public awareness of the proceedings and make them more open.

The work carried out by the Committee on the Verification of Credentials and Parliamentary Immunities, which represent an essential feature of parliamentary democracy, was no less important.

III. REPORTS ADOPTED BY PARLIAMENT

A.C. McINTOSH (UK, EPP)
A3-0195/92

Amendment to Rule 29a
Annual Legislative Programme

Vote 10/6/92

The purpose of the report was to incorporate 'Green Papers'¹, pre-legislative consultation documents, within the annual legislative programme and, to that end, to formalize the way they were submitted to Parliament by the Commission.

Following the adoption of the report by the EP, the committee responsible is entitled to draw up a report on the Green Papers.

In this connection it may be worth mentioning COM(73)999 of 30.5.1973 in which, even then, the Commission was committed to consulting Parliament on this type of document.

D. ROGALLA (D, PES)
A3-0200/92

Amendment to Rule 77 of the Rules
of Procedure on the time limits for
tabling and distributing texts

Vote 8.7.92

The subject of the report was the amendment of the 12-day time-limit laid down in Rule 77 as the criterion which determined whether a text could be placed on the agenda.

¹ In general terms, Green Papers are communications from the Commission which are aimed at all parties with an interest in a given topic. Following a comprehensive study thereof, the Commission suggests improvements or different approaches from existing ones with the aim of generating discussion among all the interested parties as a prior step to the possible proposal of actual laws and regulations.

Following the adoption of the amendment by the House, a check should be made only on whether a text can be distributed at least 24 hours before the start of the debate or the vote; it will then be up to Parliament's services to organize the progress of internal work in such a way that the texts can be made available without delay in accordance with the criteria laid down in the annual legislative programme or by the Enlarged Bureau.

L. HARRISON ((UK, PES)
A3-0411/92

**Amendment to Rule 128 of the Rules
of Procedure on the submission of
petitions**

Vote 20.1.93

The original text of Rule 128 was highly restrictive, stipulating that only Community citizens had the right to submit petitions.

Following the adoption of the amendments tabled by Mr GIL-ROBLES GIL-DEGLADO, Rule 128 was amended so that not only any citizen of the Union but also any natural or legal person residing or having their head office in a Member State had the right to submit petitions. This was on the basis of legal considerations and Parliamentary law.

Petitions sent to the EP by natural or legal persons who are not citizens of the Union and do not reside or have their head office in a Member State will be treated and filed separately.

IMMUNITY

As far as immunity is concerned, the committee was frequently asked to take a decision on requests by the authorities in some Member States in connection with specific situations or inquiries.

As regards the inquiries being made by the Italian legal authorities in connection with the bribery scandal, the EPP Group was the first parliamentary group to decide and to announce publicly that it would formally request to waive parliamentary immunity in the case of certain types of crime, such as corruption, bribery or the receipt of stolen goods.

IV. WORK IN PROGRESS

AMENDMENT TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE (PROUT, ROTHLEY AND VECCHI REPORTS)

The Treaty of Maastricht signed on 7 February 1992 (whose ratification procedure is currently in its final stages) gave the EP major new powers of co-decision in accordance with respect for the principle of subsidiarity and new powers of democratic supervision and guidance in the areas of foreign policy, security and internal affairs.

It involved, in particular, legislative co-decision, the appointment of the President and the approval of the new Commission, the appointment of the ombudsman and the procedure for drawing up recommendations on foreign policy and security as well as internal affairs and justice.

The Group of the European People's Party, aware of the historical, albeit limited, significance of these innovations, is obviously working to produce regulations that will incorporate the new powers granted to the EP, which will ensure greater participation and increased democratic supervision by citizens in the European Union.

In order to implement the Maastricht provisions in a number of areas, such as subsidiarity, transparency and the ombudsman, interinstitutional

agreements are needed between Parliament, the Commission and the Council. These are to be drawn up at an inter-institutional conference which is currently under way.

The legislative procedure, in the light of the establishment of the EP's power of co-decision, is the subject of Sir Christopher PROUT's report.

In that report the rapporteur proposes that the EP's position be strengthened at all stages of the legislative procedure.

Very interestingly, the PROUT report regulates the European Parliament's power to take legislative initiatives.

The establishment of the annual legislative programme, which is governed by a timetable that is binding on the Commission, Parliament and the Council, represents the basis for the whole decision-making process and is the factor which increases parliamentary control and the openness of legislative activity in the Community.

The Maastricht Treaty extends the EP's ratification powers to all international agreements of importance. The Prout report also stipulates that the EP should exercise the right to be consulted before negotiations begin on any kind of agreement. In the case of international agreements, assent will be given by an absolute majority of Members.

The new Treaty also increases significantly the EP's power to approve the Commission and supervise it politically. The Commission's term of office will coincide with that of the EP from 1 January 1995 onwards.

The new amendments to the Rules of Procedure (introduced in the Vecchi report with a constructive input from the EPP) propose that the new Commission and its President be subject collectively to a vote of approval in Parliament before being appointed by the governments.

However, the democratic deficit must not be made up simply by granting wider powers of co-decision to the EP but also by establishing bodies to increase people's involvement in Community activities and their control over the institutions. To this end, the Maastricht Treaty provides for the establishment of a European civic defender, an ombudsman, to whom any natural or legal person may turn to protest at maladministration which they have suffered at the hands of a Community institution or body.

The character and role of the ombudsman, whose statute Parliament has to define, have been comprehensively defined in the Bindi report for the Committee on Institutional Affairs and have been discussed at the Interinstitutional Conference.

The Committee on the Rules of Procedure has been asked to determine the relationship between the ombudsman and the EP (the Vecchi report) as well as his activity.

The ombudsman's access to secret or confidential information was the area where the differences between Parliament and the Council at the Inter-institutional Conference were greatest. It was also the subject of debate when the new Rules of Procedure were being drafted.

In the interinstitutional talks, the Council of Ministers requested that Community institutions or bodies should have right to refuse to allow the ombudsman to have access to secret or confidential documents.

Parliament drew the Council's attention to the fact that only the concept of secrecy and not that of confidentiality was covered by the EC Treaties.

The Maastricht Treaty gave Parliament the right to set up committees of inquiry. Accordingly, under the new Rules of Procedure, the functions of the committees of inquiry will be extended. They will be instructed

to consider complaints that Community legislation has been infringed or cases of maladministration in areas for which the Community is responsible.

The arrangements for exercising the right to carry out inquiries, however, have still to be covered in an interinstitutional agreement between the EP, the Council and the Commission. This will be annexed to the Rules of Procedure.

The Committee on the Rules of Procedure is also considering proposals for changes to parliamentary bodies in order to rationalize and redefine their task.

PRESSURE GROUPS IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT (GALLE report)

Parliament has taken the view that the activities of special interest groups or lobbyists accredited to the EP should be regulated by drawing up proposals aimed at establishing a code of conduct and a public register.

The report by Mr GALLE (PES, B), which was adopted by the Committee on the Rules of Procedure, defines as a lobbyist any person who acts on the instructions of a third party, seeks to defend the interests of the latter to Members of the European Parliament, regularly provides information and makes the necessary contacts. The EP is requested, on a proposal from the Enlarged Bureau, to draw up a code of conduct which the representatives of interest groups must observe.

It was also proposed to establish a public register of the representatives of interest groups in Parliament. This would result in the accreditation of lobbyists.

For its part, the Commission has decided to draw up a list of non-profit-making organizations which are regularly involved in talks with the Commission.

In order to develop close cooperation in this area, the Commission and Parliament have also decided to establish a common database.

While the Group of the European People's Party shares the wish for greater openness in the activities of those representing interest groups and also the wish for a clearer definition of the relations which exist between them and the institution, it has so far opposed too rigid a regulation of this activity.

The final regulations on interest groups are currently being considered by the Bureau which, on a proposal by the College of Quaestors, has also expressed the wish for a less restrictive definition of the character of those representing special interests.

In this instance as well, the Committee on the Rules of Procedure is a direct witness to the great vitality of, and the continuing progress that is being made in, the European Parliament's activities and to its growing economic and social influence in the European Community.

Mariangela **FONTANINI**
Officer responsible for the committee
with effect from 1.10.1992

COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS

VICE-CHAIRMAN: C. LLORCA-VILAPLANA (Es)

COORDINATOR: A. HERMANS (B)

MEMBERS	SUBSTITUTES
FERRER i CASALS (Es)	BANOTTI (IRL)
LENZ (D)	BROK (D)
LULLING (L)	DALY (UK)
	FONTAINE (F)
O'HAGAN (UK)	KEPPELHOFF-WIECHERT (D)
PACK (D)	MENRAD (D)
PEIJS (NL)	OOMEN-RUIJTEN (NL)
	PRONK (NL)

I. Brief summary of the committee's work

As the policy of equal rights and opportunities for men and women should be an integral part of policies in all sectors, during the period in question the committee has attempted to ensure that this principle is respected when Community policies and activities in the economic, social and cultural fields are drawn up and implemented.

II. Summary of the resolutions adopted by the European Parliament

Oral question with debate on the health and safety of pregnant workers and joint resolution on the protection of pregnant women at work¹

In view of the extension, at Parliament's request, of the validity of the legislation, and despite the negative attitude of the Council, Parliament in a joint resolution by the Socialist, EPP, LDR, GUE, Green and CG groups repeated its call for an improvement in the working conditions and safety of pregnant women. It advocated:

- refusal to equate the maternity allowance with sickness benefits but rather that they be regarded as an element of wages;
- a ban on dismissal and work harmful to the health of pregnant women and their babies;
- reversal of the burden of proof.

It also called on each Member State to make arrangements to fund guaranteed income for pregnant women at work and called for the directive to lay down a specific obligation for the Member States to maintain established national rights in this area.

Group spokesman: Mrs HERMANS (B), Mrs LENZ (D), Mrs BANOTTI (IRL)

Joint Resolution on the rape of women in former Yugoslavia²

Parliament called for the immediate dismantling of rape camps and the release of women held in them. It demanded that systematic abuse of women be considered a war crime and a crime against humanity. It called for the establishment of a special tribunal to bring to trial and punish those who had committed or ordered such atrocities. It called for the reversal of the burden of proof in rape cases and compensation for the victims. It noted the UN Security Council's intention to include rape suffered by women in former Yugoslavia among the crimes to be judged by this tribunal.

Parliament demanded that funding be made available to establish centres specifically geared for women victims and their children, appropriate long-term accommodation, proper medical support and counselling for rape victims.

¹ Minutes of 17 September 1992

² Minutes of 11 March 1993

Finally, it called for support for women who had decided to keep the children resulting from rape so that international adoption could be viewed as a last resort, and emphasized that the best interests of the child should be paramount at all times.

Group spokesman: Mrs PACK (D)

Sergio RIBEIRO (CG/PT)¹

Creation of jobs for women

It was essential to strengthen local initiatives designed to bring about job creation for and by women, in certain cases by means of setting up new businesses; it was also necessary to integrate means and policies, studying and correcting earlier practices, and avoiding those errors and instances of waste which had already been publicly highlighted, whether within the initiatives themselves, or resulting from the inadequate or faulty use of the various means of funding.

The rapporteur underlined the essential role played by local authorities and local government in the context of local employment initiatives for women and the importance of making such authorities aware of this fact, which should be reflected in the drawing-up of Community support frameworks.

Funding of LEIs for women could be stepped up and made viable by associating the EIB with these initiatives.

Finally, the success of LEIs for women was dependent on other factors such as:

- widespread dissemination of information on the initiatives, particularly among women's organizations and both sides of industry;
- improved training provision as an essential factor both at the pre-project stage and as part of the project itself;
- social infrastructures, such as childcare facilities, should be considered an integral part of measures intended to bring about economic and social development at regional level;
- the LEI programme should complement the NOW programme.

Group spokesman: Mrs HERMANS (B)

Hedwig KEPPELHOFF-WIECHERT
(EPP/D)²

Assessment of women's unwaged work
(Rule 37 of the Rules of Procedure)

The rapporteur recognized that people carrying out unwaged work (such as women at home) required genuine recognition of their work from the legal, social and economic points of view.

This requirement implied changes in areas such as statute of employment or social security protection.

¹ Doc. A3-0112/93
Minutes of 25 May 1993

² A3-0197/93
Minutes of 25 June 1993

It was important to fill the existing gaps in areas such as old age pensions, maternity leave, child-rearing allowance and recognition of time spent caring for children, when calculating social security entitlements, etc., to ensure that people carrying out unwaged work had a proper legal and social security status. The rapporteur called for:

- unpaid work by women to be included in GNP;
- a Commission recommendation promoting individual social security entitlements (after carrying out feasibility studies on the legal, economic, financial and social impact of such a reform of the social security system);
- reintegration into the labour market for those who had given up work in order to devote themselves to child-rearing or the care of elderly or handicapped members of the family, by means of training or retraining policies commensurate with the demands of the market. Such a policy would ensure that there would be no discrimination with regard to careers or acquired rights.

Marlène LENZ¹

The situation of women in
Central and Eastern
Europe

The rapporteur considered that the European Community had an obligation to contribute to the development of democratic and legitimate state structures based on the maintenance of equal rights for men and women and a social market economy.

The transition from a centrally-planned socialist economy to a market economy represented a two-fold challenge for women in Central and Eastern Europe. The family was still an important factor in the social life of these countries and most women wished to combine family responsibilities and paid work. The high level of unemployment which affected women in particular should not lead to measures which restricted women's freedom to choose between the family and/or paid work or force women to return to their traditional, purely domestic role.

The rapporteur therefore called on the governments of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and on the Commission to take positive measures in the areas of politics, employment and vocational training, social security and health, and information, in order to ensure full participation and integration of women in accordance with the requirements of a pluralistic, democratic society.

Finally, the rapporteur called on Parliament to organize a conference with women representatives from Central and Eastern Europe to discuss the following matters:

- the political involvement of women,
- continuing training,
- an assessment of the impact of EC programmes on women in Central and Eastern Europe.

Group spokesman: Mrs LENZ (D)

¹ A3-0198/93
Minutes of 25 June 1993

Raymonde **DURY** (PES/B)¹

The IRIS network and
vocational training for
women

The report evaluating the activities of the IRIS network was very positive and advocated the extension of the programme and an increase in its budget.

The rapporteur therefore called on the Commission and the Member States to:

- provide a better balance between men and women in the various committees on vocational training and strengthen the links between the committees and the IRIS working party on vocational training for women;
- ensure funding and back-up for specific vocational training activities for women particularly in the context of funding from the ESF;
- undertake systematic monitoring in the context of the Structural Funds, in keeping with the commitments made in the third medium-term action programme, to ensure that the equal opportunities factor was taken into account. Not only the amount of training offered to women but also the quality of this training should be monitored in order to avoid increasing or even reproducing the existing segregation in the job market.

Group spokesman: Mrs PACK (D)

¹ A3-0199/93
Minutes of 25 June 1993

III - Opinions by the committee for other committees

- VAYSSADE (PES/F)
Budgets
Minutes 23 November 1992
1993 Draft budget¹
Section III Commission
- VAYSSADE (PES/F)
Budgets
1994 Draft budget
Section III
- VAYSSADE (PES/F)
Budgetary Control
Discharge for the 1991
General budget
- RANDZIO-PLATH (PES/D)
Social Affairs and Employment
Minutes 26 April 1993
European Parliament's approach to
the revision of the Social Fund
- PEIJS (EPP/NL)
Political Affairs
Minutes of 23 November 1992
Agreement on the (EEC/EFTA)
European Economic Area
- PACK (EPP/D)
Social Affairs and Employment
Minutes of 21 April 1993
Vocational training in the 1990s²
- van den BRINK (PES/NL)
Social Affairs and Employment
Minutes of 25 January 1993
Protection of young people at
work³
- BREYER (V/D)
Energy
PE 202.452
Medical research on congenital
defects, new technologies and
ethical considerations
- RANDZIO-PLATH (PES/D)
Regional Policy
PE 204.142
Regulation amending the basic
'framework' Regulation
EEC/2052/88⁴
- RANDZIO-PLATH (PES/D)
Agriculture
PE 204.889
European Agricultural Guidance and
Guarantee Fund EAGGF
(amending Regulation EEC/4256/88)
- RANDZIO-PLATH (PES/D)
Regional Policy
Regulation amending the
'coordinating' Regulation
EEC/4253/88
- RANDZIO-PLATH (PES/D)
Social Affairs and Employment
PE 204.892
European Social Fund (amending
Regulation EEC 4255/88
- RANDZIO-PLATH (PES/D)
Regional Policy
PE 204.886
Regulation amending Regulation
EEC/4254/88 (ERDF)
- OOMEN-RUIJTEN (EPP/NL)
Social Affairs and Employment
PE 204.878
The new social dimension of the
Maastricht Treaty

¹ (COM(92) 0140)

² (COM(91) 0397)

³ (COM(91) 0543)

⁴ (COM(93) 0067)

- HERMANS (EPP/B)
Social Affairs and Employment
PE 204.881
- GRÖNER (PES/D)
Civil liberties
PE 204.888

Problems for women in an ageing population

Pornography

IV - Reports currently in progress

BELO (PES/PT)	<u>Human rights violations against women¹</u>
DOMINGO-SEGARRA (NI/Es)	<u>Appointment of a counsellor at the workplace and the role of arbitrator²</u>
CATASTA (PES/I)	<u>Pension rights for divorced or separated women³</u>
FERRER i CASALS (EPP/Es)	<u>Involving the elderly in the development process</u>
LULLING (EPP/L)	<u>Sex discrimination in Community recruitment procedures⁴</u>
GRÖNER (PES/D)	<u>Poverty among women in Europe⁵</u>
DOMINGO-SEGARRA (NI/Es)	<u>Situation of women employed in agriculture</u>
NORDMANN (LDR/F)	<u>Women and parental co-responsibility⁶</u> <u>Adopted in committee on 23 March 1993</u>
GARCIA-ARIAS (PES/Es))	<u>Women's rights in the workplace</u>
DALY (EPP/UK)	<u>Situation of women in small businesses</u>
VAN HEMELDONCK (PES/B)	<u>Research and development staff in Europe</u>
LARIVE (LDR/NL)	<u>Women in decision-making centres</u>
HERMANS (EPP/B) LENZ (EPP/D)	<u>Improvement of the status of care workers</u>

¹ (B3-1479/91)

² (B3-1735/91)
(B3-1736/91)

³ (B3-1046/91)
PE 203.756/A
PE 203.756/B

⁴ PE 204.880

⁵ PE 204.140

⁶ PE 203.146

V - Committee activities

- Public hearing on vocational training for women - IRIS network - 27 November 1992.
- Public hearing on the rape of women in former Yugoslavia, 18 February 1993.

Véronique **DONCK**

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

I. Functions of the members of the EPP Group

President: Rosaria BINDI (I)
Vice-President: Ingo FRIEDRICH (D)
Coordinator: José María GIL-ROBLES (Es)

Members:

Ben PATTERSON (UK)
Maria Teresa COPPO GAVAZZI (I) ¹
Georgios SARIDAKIS (GR)
Francisco A. LUCAS PIRES (PT)
William NEWTON-DUNN (UK)
Albert KOSLER (German observer)

Substitutes:

Bryan CASSIDY (UK)
Raphael CHANTERIE (B)
Panayotis LAMBRIAS (GR)
Rudolf LUSTER (D)
Edward McMILLAN-SCOTT (UK)
Kurt MALANGRE (D)
Winfried MENRAD (D)
Viviane REDING (L)

¹ Maria Teresa Coppo Gavazzi replaced Mario Forte with effect from June 7, 1993

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- I. Functions of the members of the EPP Group
- II. Introduction
- III. The Activities of the Committee on Petitions:
General Information and Statistics
- IV. Approach adopted, Results achieved and some Recommendations
for the Future
- V. Summary of the Reports approved by the Committee on
Petitions

II. INTRODUCTION

This report is based on the annual report of the Committee on Petitions (Doc. A3-0147/93, rapporteur M. Gil-Robles Gil-Delgado) which covers the period between 10 March 1992 and 8 March 1993 fulfilling the requirement under the Rules of Procedure (cf. Rule 129(5)) that the Committee on Petitions must inform Parliament of the outcome of its deliberations.

The parliamentary year covered by this report is a transitional one, between the signing of the Maastricht Treaty on European Union, which enshrines the right of petition in the Community Treaties for the first time and establishes the office of the Ombudsman, and the entry into force of the Treaty. It is therefore a year of preparation for the changes which will result from the entry into force of the Maastricht Treaty.

In accordance with the Union Treaty, the European Parliament 'shall, after seeking an opinion from the Commission and with the approval of the Council acting by a qualified majority, lay down the regulations and general conditions governing the performance of the Ombudsman's duties'. Parliament has already set the necessary process in motion, by adopting the proposal for a resolution contained in Mrs Bindi's report, on behalf of the Committee on Institutional Affairs, on the regulations and conditions governing the performance of the European Ombudsman's duties (A3-0298/92) on which the Committee on Petitions delivered an opinion drafted by Mr Gutierrez Díaz on 17 December 1992 (Doc. A3-0298/93)

The proposal, strictly based on Article 138e of the Union Treaty, contains appropriate criteria for establishing the respective areas of competence of the Committee on Petitions and the Ombudsman, whose field of action is not limited to instances of maladministration in the activities of the Community institutions or bodies, but is much wider.

We should highlight the overwhelming role played by the Committee on Petitions as a link between the Ombudsman and Parliament as a result of the aforesaid resolution and the appropriate amendment of the Rules of Procedure, which will mean the appointment of the Ombudsman by Parliament on the basis of a proposal from the Committee on Petitions; the consideration of the specific reports and the annual report drafted by the Ombudsman, and an assessment of the political action to be taken thereon; and responsibility, should the case arise, for proposing that the Ombudsman be dismissed from office.

Related to the need to prepare for the entry into force of the Union Treaty is Parliament's preemptive reform of its Rules of Procedure with a view to adapting them to the Treaty, which grants the right of petition, hitherto exclusively enjoyed by Community citizens, to non-Community citizens, whether physical or legal persons, providing that they reside or have their head office in the Community and that the petition falls within the sphere of application of Community law. The motion for a resolution contained in Mr Harrison's report (Doc. A3-411/92) on behalf of the Committee on the Rules of Procedure, Verification of Credentials and Immunities (the Committee on Petitions delivered an opinion drafted by Mrs Ernst de la Graete) on amendment of Rule 128 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament was adopted on 20 January 1993.

In the parliamentary year 1992-1993, a further point which has been pending since 1989 has been clarified: Members of the European Parliament are not excluded as a result of their office from the right of petition. The Committee on Petitions, having affirmed its unique capability to decide about petitionis admissibility, asked the opinion of the Committee on the Rules of Procedure, Verification of Credentials and Immunities - rapporteur, Mr Stamoulis (S, GR) who affirmed that "... the right of petition will be open to any citizen of the Community without discrimination of any kind whatever, including members of the European

Parliament." This decision has been adopted by the European Parliament (cf. minutes of 15 December 1992).

III. THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS: GENERAL INFORMATION AND STATISTICS

The number of persons petitioning the European Parliament is constantly rising. Although during the previous parliamentary year the number of petitions fell, the number of petitions has increased remarkably during the parliamentary year 1992-1993 until reaching the figure of 900; the number of mass petitions has also increased. Greater media coverage of Community matters as a result of the Maastricht Treaty debate has probably affected the number of petitions, as has the inclusion of the right of petition in the Treaty on European Union.

The meeting of 23-25 September 1992 took place in Lisbon. The meeting was widely covered in the local press and the number of petitions submitted by Portuguese citizens rose as a result. Among them a large number of petitions were submitted by Portuguese customs officials, who were afraid of losing their jobs after the achievement of the Internal Market. The Commission considered this problem affected not only the citizens of Portugal but also the Community and thus approved an important aid to help the reconversion of this sector. The Council adopted a series of measures in favour of these officials on December 1992.

During the parliamentary year 1992-1993, the Committee on Petitions decided to deal with specific petitions publicly, if the issues were of general interest and provided that the petitioner had agreed to such a proceeding.

During the period under consideration, the Committee declared 606 petitions admissible, as against 482 in 1991-1992; it declared 230 inadmissible (1991-1992: 177) and in 80 instances, it recommended that the petitioners address themselves to a national authority (generally the Ombudsman or the national parliament committee on petitions). If the petitioners themselves had so requested, the committee forwarded the complaints directly to the authorities in question.

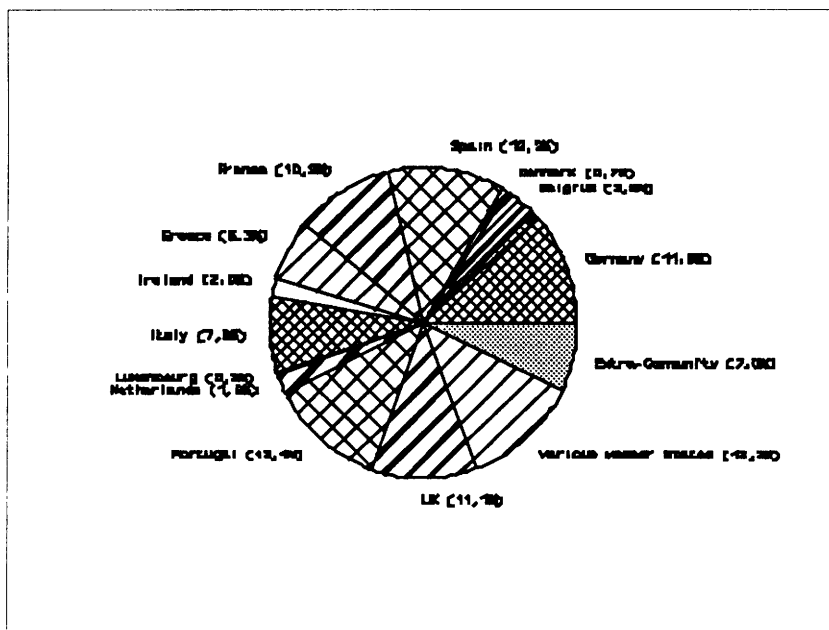
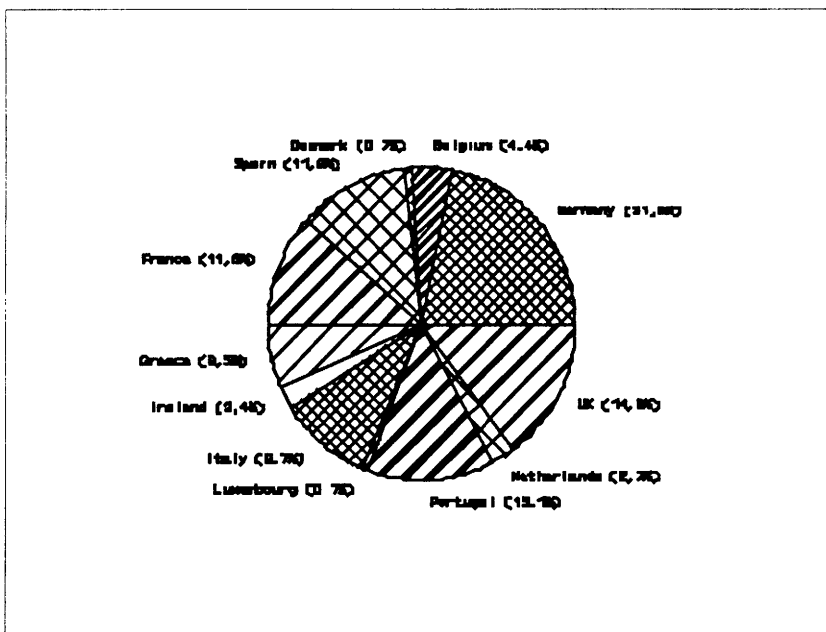
Amongst the subjects which particularly concern petitioners are: environmental and animal protection issues; taxation; social issues concerning pensions and the elderly; expulsion from a given country of persons who had completed a prison sentence in that country; conscientious objection; victims of violent crimes; discrimination by reason of transexuality; or problems caused in the field of international timeshare property. A number of petitions dating back several years are still under consideration within the committee because it is awaiting, for example, a ruling from the Court of Justice or a national court, an opinion from another committee or a reply from the national authorities.

The committee tabled two oral questions with debate pursuant to Rule 58 during the period in question, to the Commission and to the Council respectively. These questions concerned:

- the fatal accident at the 'Petrola Hellas' refinery (Greece) and failure to apply, and monitor compliance with, Community law (adopted at the meeting of 8 and 9 October 1992; 0-0259/92 and 0-0260/92);
- failure by Greece to comply with judgments of the Court of Justice concerning the Greek legislation which prevents citizens of other Member States from setting up foreign language schools or teaching foreign languages in Greece under the same conditions as those applying to Greek citizens (adopted at the meeting of 15 and 16 February 1993; 0-0041 and 0-0042/93).

Neither of these questions has yet been debated in plenary. Despite the insistence of the Committee on Petitions, the Enlarged Bureau has decided to convert one of them into a written question. The committee has decided to include these cases in the annual report on the application of Community law.

Classification of petitions by nationality and by country is shown in the following graphics:



IV. APPROACH ADOPTED, RESULTS ACHIEVED AND SOME RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

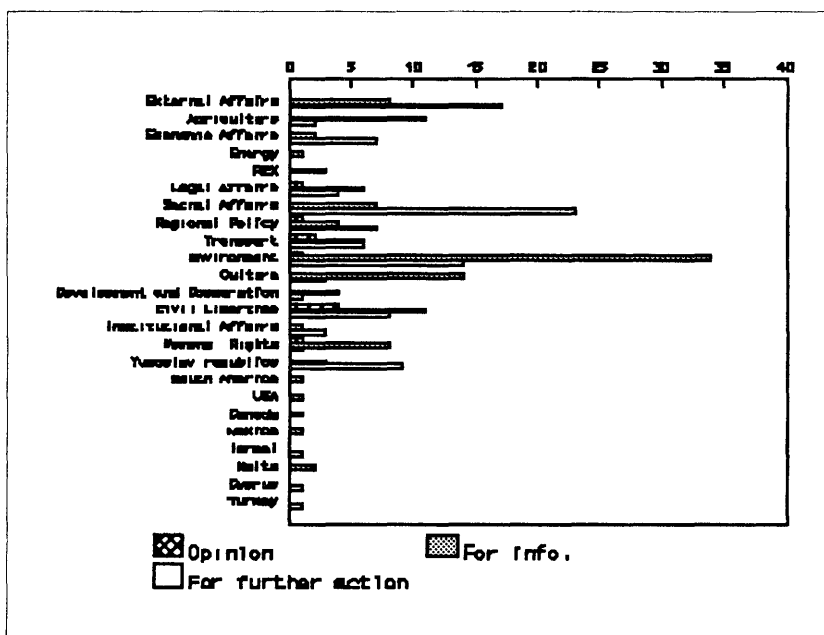
Admissibility continues to reflect criteria established by the Committee on Petitions which have not changed during the last parliamentary year,

and the extent to which the issues raised fall within the sphere of Community activities, broadly interpreted. Petitions are declared admissible where: (a) they concern the contents of the Treaties and of secondary Community legislation; (b) they concern subjects which, although not connected with the letter of individual provisions of Community law, are of relevance to the process of building the Community in the light of its probable development; (c) the subject is connected with action by a Community institution or body.

The committee has continued to refer petitions to other parliamentary committees, whether for information, for opinion, or for further action, i.e. the Committee on Petitions suggests that the appropriate committee should consider the issue raised.

There is more follow-up than hitherto on the part of the various parliamentary committees to which petitions are forwarded for further action. Nonetheless, there is still room for improvement with regard to cooperation with other parliamentary committees. Often no reply is received after a petition has been forwarded for further action, even in cases where the petition bears one and a half million signatures.

The following graphic shows the activity of the committee on petition in relation to the rest of parliamentary committees:



Cooperation with Parliament's Legal Service operates satisfactorily, and there should be increased cooperation with other internal parliamentary services so that the Committee on Petitions can be provided with information and documentation on petitions which require no specific action; this applies particularly to the services of the Directorate-General for Research.

However, Parliament's own resolutions on the work of the Committee on Petitions during the parliamentary years 1990-1991 and 1991-1992 stating that it was essential to adopt the appropriate measures to ensure that the Committee on Petitions had the staff necessary to deal appropriately, promptly and effectively with petitions, have not been implemented by the competent parliamentary bodies.

It is unacceptable that whilst the number of petitions has risen by over 200% since the parliamentary year 1986-1987 (from 279 petitions to 900),

the committee secretariat's staff has not increased, and that the rapid and adequate processing of petitions to the European Parliament by Community citizens does not even figure as one of the priorities established in the report of Parliament's Secretariat on the assessment and organization of its services. For this purpose, and as proposed by Mr. Gil-Robles (EPP, Es), two meetings have been held on March and June 1993 with the Secretary General of the European Parliament, Mr. Enrico Vinci. The main purpose of such meetings was to obtain information about a service newly created at the General Secretariat of the European Parliament, which has been called "citizens' mail" with a staff of nine people. In both meetings the Secretary General has insisted upon the fact that this new service does not interfere at all in the habitual functioning of the committee on petitions. Its only task is to receive the bulky mail addressed to the European Parliament and make a more rational distribution of it. Regarding staff matters Mr. Vinci remarked that the political authorities of the Parliament have blocked 119 posts at the administration and that only 19 posts out of these 119 will unblocked in 1994.

Cooperation with the Commission is efficient. However, there are certain points which should be borne in mind. Firstly, it should be stressed to the Commission that, as far as possible, it should respect the established goal of providing replies within three or four months to petitions forwarded to it. There is still a need to stress the clear distinction which should be drawn between cases in which the Commission is merely required to forward information already available (which should not take long) and cases in which the Commission needs to approach national authorities, where its reply is dependent on external circumstances.

Secondly, attention should be drawn to the practical difficulty encountered in cases where specific replies received from the Commission merely state that on the basis of the incomplete data supplied by the petitioners, it is impossible to consider the issue raised. Unfortunately, on certain occasions such replies arrive 6, 9 or even 12 months after information has been requested and an enormous amount of time is wasted. This is a recent and infrequent phenomenon, and it has to be said that the bulk of the Commission's services deal correctly with supplying replies of a general type applicable to the specific case under consideration, or indicate that it is necessary for direct contact to be established with the petitioners in order to obtain additional information.

Nonetheless, it should be stressed that this practice is to be avoided: the most appropriate procedure is for the Commission, which is in possession of the complete file and has the necessary information to provide the appropriate response, to contact the petitioner directly and request the additional information deemed necessary.

One particular problem, linked to some extent with the content of this year's report, is that of the application of Community law insofar as infringements thereof come to light and are monitored as a result of petitions. When drawing up report on the deliberations of the committee on petitions, the rapporteur Mr. Gil-Robles wrote, on 10 March 1993, to Commissioner Pinheiro asking him for the information referred to above. In his reply, Mr Pinheiro said that he had forwarded the letter requesting the information to the Commission's Secretariat-General. The rapporteur welcomes this cooperative attitude, which contrasts with the Commission's reply of 8 March 1993 to Written Question No. 2804/92, in which Mr Gil-Robles Gil-Delgado asked how many formal notices and reasoned opinions had not yet been answered by each of the Member States, and on what dates they had been sent.

In a first answer to this question, the Commission felt free to say that the data-processing facilities at its disposal meant that it could not supply this information, and that copying the information out by hand would be disproportionately time-consuming. When we consider that in 1991 the number of formal notices was 877 and the number of reasoned opinions was 412, this reply can only reflect an incredible degree of administrative inefficiency or a resolute determination to avoid parliamentary

control. The requested information was finally forwarded at the discussion of the abovementioned report on plenary session the 23rd of June 1993. Such reply will be included on the next report on the application of Community law. For the first time, the Parliament will be able to know how many infringement dossiers are still awaiting resolution at the Commission. It is possible to conclude that, among the dossiers of 1988, there are 11 which have not passed the stage of "lettre de mise en demeure" and 29 are still on the "avis motive" step.

Another special issue is that of the environment, referred to in many petitions, particularly in connection with the Directive on environmental impact assessment (85/337/EEC) and the Directive on wild birds (91/244/EEC), two areas in which the Community's powers are very limited. Given the importance of environmental policy in the Community (it has been enshrined in the Treaty since the adoption of the Single Act), and the growing concern of Community citizens in this area, as reflected in the petitions received, the Commission should be reminded that in its fifth environmental action programme, it advocates - amongst other guidelines - that the environmental aspect be integrated into all Community policies and that the Community environmental impact assessment directive should be extended to all Community action plans and programmes. The strict application of this principle would allow better coordinated action to be taken in the spheres of regional, social and environmental policy so that when the Commission believes that environmental legislation has been infringed in the case of specific projects, Community aid to these projects can be suspended.

V. SUMMARY OF REPORTS APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Report on the deliberations of the Committee on Petition during the parliamentary year 1992-1993 (A3-0147/93)

Rapporteur: Mr. Gil-Robles Gil Delgado
Adopted in plenary session, 25th June, 1993

The report, which covers the period between March 1992 and March 1993, fulfills the requirement under the Rules of Procedure that the Committee on Petitions must inform the Parliament of the outcome of its deliberations.

The structure of this year's report is similar to that of previous years. The main difference resides in its political approach. The committee on petitions has received almost 900 petitions during the present year and it is obliged to resolve as many of them as possible. It is necessary, therefore, to improve the collaboration with the rest of the Community's institutions, most especially with the Commission, so that the necessary cooperation turns out to be as close and efficient as possible. Consequently, and to obtain an efficient, rapid and adequate processing of petitions it will be necessary to reinforce the committee's staff. Finally, the report especially refers to the European Ombudsman. The committee on petitions is the committee required to adopt the necessary measures in order to prepare the Parliament stance with respect to the Ombudsman.

Sandra GAMBOA

TOPICAL AND URGENT SUBJECTS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE

September 1992

Resolutions adopted on Thursday, 17 September 1992

Rostock: xenophobia

Compromise resolution

Verhagen (NL), Florenz (DE), Prag (UK), Chanterie (B), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: E. BROK (DE)

calling for effective political and social measures to be taken to counteract racist extremism and for a campaign against xenophobia.

South Africa

Compromise resolution

Cassanmagnago Cerretti (I), Habsburg (DE), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesmen: M. VERHAGEN (NL), P. PRICE (UK)

welcoming the decision of the President of the ANC to accept the invitation of President De Klerk to talks aimed at securing the resumption of negotiations within the framework of CODESA, which must lead to the holding of free elections.

Abolition of Interrail cards

Compromise resolution

Sarlis (GR)

Group spokesman: P. SARLIS (GR)

calling on the competent authorities to maintain the Interrail system until an alternative system which also benefits young people has been introduced.

- Disasters

Tragic consequences of a tidal wave in Nicaragua

Suárez González (ES), Habsburg (DE), Robles Piquer (ES), Chanterie (B), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesmen: O. von HABSBERG (DE), F. SUAREZ GONZALEZ (ES)

Recent serious forest fires in Greece, particularly in Attica

Saridakis, Lambrias, Anastassopoulos, Lagakos, Pasmazoglou, Pierros, Stavrou, Sarlis, Zavvos and Hadjigeorgiou (GR)

Group spokesmen: G. SARIDAKIS (GR), J.L. VALVERDE LOPEZ (ES)

Assessment of this summer's forest fires and urgent measures to be taken under existing provisions for combating them

Valverde López (ES), Borgo (I), Carvalho Cardoso (P), Saridakis (GR), Chanterie (B), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

- **Human rights**

Ex-Soviet soldiers detained in Afghanistan

Lord Bethell (UK)

Group spokesman: Lord BETHELL (UK)

Continued human rights abuses in Malawi and the expulsion of the Irish priest, Fr Leahy

Banotti (IRL), Oomen-Ruijten (NL), Chanterie (B)

Group spokesman: M. BANOTTI (IRL)

October 1992

Resolutions adopted on Thursday, 29 October 1992

Situation in Angola

Compromise resolution

Oomen-Ruijten (NL), Lucas Pires (P)

Group spokesmen: R. OOMEN-RUIJTEN (NL), CARVALHO CARDOSO (P)

calling on the UN to ensure that the second round of the presidential elections is conducted in compliance with the Bicesse peace agreement and urging the Member States of the EC to be ready to send observers to scrutinize the elections.

Situation in the European steel industry

Compromise resolution

Tindemans (B), Herman (B), Ch. Jackson (UK), Ferrer I Casals (ES), Lulling (L)

Group spokesmen: A. LULLING (L), C. FERRER (ES)

calling on the European Community, the Member States and the two sides of industry to formulate a clear, coordinated and collective action plan.

Illegal trade in and the use of prohibited synthetic hormones in cattle breeding in the Community

Tindemans (B), Lulling (L), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: H. FUNK (DE)

calling for a public debate to be held before 1 January 1993 with the Commission on the findings of its investigation and urging it to produce concrete proposals as soon as possible for improving monitoring on the use of prohibited substances

- **Disasters**

Danube dam

The Gabčíkovo-Nagymaros power station construction project

Jackson (UK), Habsburg (DE), Schleicher (DE), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Disastrous forest fires in Rhodes

Bindi (I), Marck (B)

Natural disasters caused by bad weather in Liguria, southern France and north-east Spain

Parodi (I), Tindemans (B)

Floods in Spain

Ferrer I Casals (ES), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

- **Human rights**

Group spokesmen: G. ROBLES PIQUER (ES), A. OOSTLANDER (NL), O. von HABSBERG (DE), M.L. CASSANMAGNAGO CERRETTI (I), M. LENZ (DE)

Violation of human rights in former Yugoslavia

Compromise resolution

Oostlander (NL)

Violation of human rights in Sudan

Compromise resolution

Jarzemowski (DE), Simpson (UK), Sonneveld (NL), Penders (NL), Sarlis (GR)

November 1992

Resolutions adopted on Thursday, 19 November 1992

Conflict in former Yugoslavia

Compromise resolution

Oostlander (NL), Habsburg (DE), Pack (DE), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: A. OOSTLANDER (NL)

1. Bosnia-Herzegovina:
condemning the acts of murder committed against the civilian population and the raping of women carried out principally by Serbian forces, and rejecting the policy of ethnic cleansing.
welcoming the decision to strengthen the embargo against Serbia and Montenegro.
2. Kosovo:
condemning the suppression by the Serbian authorities of the institutions of the autonomous region of Kosovo.
3. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:
expressing fear that the armed conflict will soon spread to the territory of this former republic of Yugoslavia.

Unemployment in the coal and steel industry

Compromise resolution

Pronk (NL), Brok (DE), Pack (DE), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: B. PRONK (NL)

urging the Commission to use its powers to ensure that the plan to close 31 coal mines in the UK is abandoned;
calling on the Commission to set up an in-depth investigation into complaints of dumping of coal by third countries.

Civil war in Angola

Compromise resolution

Robles Piquer (ES), Verhagen (NL), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: G. ROBLES PIQUER (ES)

condemning the violation of the peace agreements, conflicts and killings; calling for an aid programme to help the newly-elected government.

- **Human rights**

Situation of the Shias in Iraq

Habsburg (DE), Verhagen (NL), Reding (L), Herman (B), Chanterie (B), Catherwood (UK), Malangré (DE), Langes (DE), Theato (DE), von Wogau (DE), Daly (UK), Pesmazoglou (GR), Bernard-Reymond (F), Kellett-Bowman (UK)

Group spokesman: A. SIMPSON (UK)

Islamic law - death sentences on Gill Masih and Salman Rushdie

McMillan-Scott (UK), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: McMILLAN-SCOTT (UK)

Human rights situation in Sudan

Lenz (DE), Verhagen (NL), Mantovani (I), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: CARVALHO CARDOSO (P)

December 1992

Resolutions adopted on Thursday, 17 December 1992

on the decision by the US to impose import restrictions on a number of European iron and steel products

Compromise resolution

von Wogau (DE)

Group spokesman: von WOGAU (DE)

calling on the Commission to respond as soon as possible to the weakening of the position of European industry on international markets and to inform the European Parliament of its position in the international negotiations concerning telecommunications and the steel industry.

- **Disasters**

on the environmental disaster on the coast of Galicia

Compromise resolution

Fernandez Albor (ES), Valverde López (ES), Arias Canete (ES), Robles Piquer (ES), Lambrias (GR), Hadjigeorgiou (GR), Scott-Hopkins (UK), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

calling for the maritime transport safety standards currently in force to be observed to the letter by users and operators and calling on the European authorities to ensure that all preventive measures are taken to avoid similar incidents.

on emergency aid for potato farmers in Northern Ireland

Nicholson (UK), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

on the earthquake in Indonesia

Verhagen (NL), Janssen van Raay (NL), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)
Group spokesmen: FERNANDEZ ALBOR (ES), NICHOLSON (UK), McCARTIN (IRL),
JANSSEN VAN RAAAY (NL)

on the Cuban democracy act

Suarez Gonzalez (ES), Garcia Amigo (ES), Fernandez Albor (ES), Robles
Piquer (ES), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)
Group spokesman: SUAREZ GONZALEZ (ES)

- **Human rights**

Systematic rape in Bosnia Herzegovina

Habsburg (DE), Lenz (DE), Oostlander (NL), Pack (DE), Reding (L),
Oomen-Ruijten (NL)
Group spokesman: von HABSBUURG (DE), OOSTLANDER (NL)

Guatemala

Suárez González (ES), Garcia Amigo (ES), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)
Group spokesman: SUAREZ GONZALEZ (ES)

Political situation in East Timor

Lucas Pires (P), Carvalho Cardoso (P)
Group spokesman: CARVALHO CARDOSO (P)

on the fate of Raoul Wallenberg

Tindemans (B), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)
Group spokesman: TINDEMANS (B)

Zaire

Hermans (B), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)
Group spokesman: A. HERMANS (B)

on the violent repercussions of the demolition of the Babri mosque in
Ayodhya (India)

McMillan-Scott (UK), Habsburg (DE)
Group spokesman: McMILLAN-SCOTT (UK), von HABSBUURG (DE)

January 1993

Resolutions adopted on Thursday, 21 January 1993

on the situation in Angola

Compromise resolution
Lucas Pires (P) et al

The European Parliament calls for an immediate cease-fire by all parties to the conflict and the resumption of the peace process. The responsibility for the breaking of the peace accords lies with UNITA, since it has disputed the outcome of the elections. Parliament hopes that the second round of the presidential elections can take place as soon as possible and that an emergency aid programme will be implemented.

Group spokesman: CARVALHO CARDOSO (P)

on the situation in Iraq
Compromise resolution

The European Parliament condemns the Iraqi refusal to implement the United Nations resolutions and urges that no new move be made to take reprisals against the Iraqi regime outside the framework of the United Nations.

Group spokesman: McMILLAN-SCOTT (UK)

on Cyprus
Compromise resolution

calling on the Turkish Government to withdraw its occupation troops from Cyprus in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions.

Group spokesman: SCOTT-HOPKINS (UK)

- **Human rights**

on the situation in Malawi
Compromise resolution
Group spokesman: DALY (UK)

on the situation in Somalia
Compromise resolution

Parliament urges the international aid donors to organize a conference, in collaboration with the African countries directly affected, on the economic and democratic reconstruction of Somalia.

Group spokesman: VERHAGEN (NL)

on Equatorial Guinea
Compromise resolution
Group spokesman: MENDEZ de VIGO (ES)

February 1993

Resolutions adopted on Thursday, 11 February 1993

- **Democratization in Africa**

Zaire
Compromise resolution

In this joint resolution, Parliament condemns President Mobutu's policies and calls on the Council, the Commission and the Member States to exert pressure on President Mobutu to comply with the decisions taken by the government of Mr Tshisekedi.

Group spokesman: TINDEMANS (B)

Togo

Compromise resolution

condemning the violent actions of General Eyadema, who is using the army to retain his dictatorial power; the European Community and the Member States are called upon to isolate the Togolese regime.

Group spokesman: VERHAGEN (NL)

Kenya

Compromise resolution

Verhagen (NL)

Parliament condemns President Daniel Arap Moi for suspending the first session of parliament; it calls on him to ensure that there is no further violation of human rights and that the democratic process is respected.

Group spokesman: KELLETT-BOWMAN (UK)

Social dumping

Compromise resolution by the Socialist and EPP Groups

In this resolution Parliament condemns governments which, by focusing on economic competition without the necessary social rules, are willing to make workers the victims of current developments; it also asks the United Kingdom to accede to the social protocol of the Maastricht Treaty as soon as possible.

Group spokesman: PRONK (NL)

Concentration camps

Compromise resolution

Fontaine (F), Verhagen (NL)

This resolution calls on the Community to place the sites of Nazi concentration camps under international protection as historical monuments and to use all possible means to combat all manifestations of neo-Nazism in the Community and any denial of the fact that extermination took place in the camps.

Group spokesman: FROMENT-MAURICE (F)

- **Disasters**

Drought in Spain

Compromise resolution

Gil-Robles (ES)

Epidemic in Sudan

Compromise resolution

Verhagen (NL)

Group spokesman: CHIABRANDO (I)

Patent on animals

Compromise resolution

Banotti (IRL)

Group spokesman: BANOTTI (IRL)

- **Human rights**

Burma and Burmese refugees in Bangladesh

Lenz (DE), Verhagen (NL)
Group spokesman: LENZ (DE)

Haiti

Cassanmagnago Cerretti (I), Verhagen (NL)
Group spokesman: HERMANS (B)

The people of Haiti still hope for a return to democracy; the Commission is called on to draw up a plan for wide-ranging support; President Clinton is urged to adopt 'a more human, more generous attitude towards Haitian emigrants.'

Situation in Turkey

Cushnahan (IRL), Verhagen (NL)
Group spokesman: CUSHNAHAN (IRL)

- **Democratization in Africa**

Zaire

Tindemans (B), Verhagen (NL)
Group spokesman: TINDEMANS (B)

Parliament supports the continued suspension of all Community development aid, except humanitarian aid, as a protest against President Mobutu's blockage of the efforts by the National Conference to promote democracy.

Togo

Verhagen (NL), Cassanmagnago Cerretti (I)
Group spokesman: VERHAGEN (NL)

Kenya

Verhagen (NL)
Group spokesman: KELLETT-BOWMAN (UK)

March 1993

Resolutions adopted on Thursday, 11 March 1993

South Africa

Compromise resolution

Robles Piquer (ES), Tindemans (B), Banotti (IRL), Fernandez Albor (ES), Fontaine (F), Peijs (NL), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Parliament welcomes the prospect within the near future of South Africa's first one-person-one-vote elections and calls on the Community to make proposals to contribute to a programme of reconstruction in South Africa.

Group spokesman: ROBLES PIQUER (ES)

Nuclear tests

Compromise resolution

Poettering (DE), Penders (NL), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Parliament welcomes the moratoria proclaimed by France, Russia and the US until 1 July 1993 and calls on other nuclear states to join these moratoria.

Group spokesman: POETTERING (DE)

Situation in the former Soviet Union

Compromise resolution

Penders (NL), Robles Piquer (ES)

The Twelve are called upon to develop a common foreign and security policy towards the Russian Federation and to assist in the dismantling of weapons of mass destruction on the territory of the former Soviet Union.

Group spokesman: ROBLES PIQUER (ES)

- **Human rights**

Rape of women in former Yugoslavia

Compromise resolution

PACK (DE)

Rwanda

Daly (UK), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: DALY (UK)

Cuba

Robles Piquer (ES), Fernandez Albor (ES), Mendez de Vigo (ES), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: ROBLES PIQUER (ES)

Brazil

Compromise resolution

Verhagen (NL), Robles Piquer (ES)

April 1993

Resolutions adopted on Thursday, 22 April 1993

South Africa

Compromise resolution

Cassanmagnago Cerretti (I) et al

In this resolution Parliament expresses its shock at the assassination of Chris Hani, who was known throughout the world for his role in the struggle against apartheid, and urges the South African Government to fix as soon as possible a date for free elections based on the 'one-person-one-vote' principle.

Group spokesman: VERHAGEN (NL)

Nuclear policy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Compromise resolution

Seligman (UK)

Parliament expresses its serious concern at the North Korean Government's announcement that it intends to withdraw from the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT); Parliament condemns this decision and calls on the authorities to reconsider it, so that peace in the region is not threatened.

Group spokesman: HOWELL (UK)

- **Human rights**

Political situation in El Salvador

Suarez Gonzalez (ES), Robles Piquer (ES), Arias Canete (ES), Tindemans (B)

Group spokesman: SUAREZ GONZALEZ (ES)

Continuing persecution of the Baha'is in Iran

Compromise resolution

Cooney (IRL), Robles Piquer (ES), McCartin (IRL), Oomen-Ruijten (NL), Habsburg (DE), Banotti (IRL), Lenz (DE), Cushnahan (IRL), Poettering (DE)

Group spokesman: LENZ (DE), COONEY (IRL)

Human rights violations and civil war in Sudan

Compromise resolution

Verhagen and Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: VERHAGEN (NL)

calling on the Commission to do its utmost to bring pressure to bear on Sudan to honour its commitments under the Lomé Convention.

Peru

Compromise resolution

Fernandez Albor (ES), Mendes de Vigo (ES)

Group spokesman: MENDES DE VIGO (ES)

- **Disasters**

Damage caused by the earthquakes in Pyrgos

Compromise resolution

Pierros (GR), Verhagen (NL), Sarlis (GR), Pasmazoglou (GR), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: PIERROS (GR)

Nuclear accident in Tomsk

Compromise resolution

Robles Piquer (ES), Seligman (UK)

Parliament is deeply concerned at the conditions governing the use of nuclear energy in Russia and the precarious safety standards at its nuclear plants; it reminds the Community and other Western countries of their promise to send financial aid to Chernobyl to improve the safety of nuclear installations.

May 1993

Resolutions adopted on Thursday, 27 May 1993

on the dumping of EC beef in the Sahel region

Compromise resolution
Verhagen (NL)

The dumping of EC beef in the Sahel region is having an adverse effect on the further development of this region, which is slowly recovering after a long period of drought and other disasters. The Commission is urged to revise its policy on export refunds and particularly to phase out the exceptionally high export refunds for north-west Africa. As long as this policy is followed, subsidized exports from the Community have a damaging effect on local agriculture.

Group spokesman: VERHAGEN (NL)

Kurds in Iraq

Compromise resolution
Simpson (UK)

This resolution expresses profound alarm at the signs that Saddam Hussein is continuing his policies of terror against the Iraqi Kurds and stresses the enormous damage that will be done to the authority of the UN and to the international standing of the Member States; it urges that stronger measures be taken against his regime.

Group spokesman: SIMPSON (UK)

Whaling

Compromise resolution
Banotti (IRL) and Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

This joint resolution condemns the plans of Norway and Japan to resume whaling and supports the proposal for the creation of an international sanctuary to protect whales.

- **Human rights**

United Nations Conference on human rights

Compromise resolution
Lenz (DE) and Verhagen (NL)
Group spokesman: LENZ (DE)

Guatemala

Compromise resolution
Suarez Gonzalez (ES) and Verhagen (NL)
Group spokesman: SUAREZ GONZALEZ (ES)

Middle East

Compromise resolution
Penders (NL)
Group spokesman: PENDERS (NL)

Sarawak

Compromise resolution
Verhagen (NL)
Group spokesman: VERHAGEN (NL)

June 1993

Resolutions adopted on Thursday, 24 June 1993

Somalia

Compromise resolution

Verhagen (NL), Brok (DE), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: CASSANMAGNAGO CERRETTI (I)

Parliament expresses shock at the death of 23 Pakistani Blue Berets, approves the principle of the response to the killing of the Pakistani soldiers but expresses its doubts as to the nature of the response and its deep concern that the humanitarian operation will be turned into a punitive mission and calls for a social and economic reconstruction and rehabilitation plan to be drawn up for Somalia.

Solingen

Compromise resolution

Verhagen (NL), Brok (DE), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: BROK (DE)

condemning all acts of racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism and in particular the arson attacks on a Turkish family on 29 May 1993, calling for an EC agreement on fair and comprehensive asylum procedures, inviting the ad hoc working party on immigration and the ministers responsible for immigration questions to take account of the European Parliament's decisions when drafting their proposals on immigration problems.

Moratoria on nuclear testing

Compromise resolution

Penders (NL)

Group spokesman: HABSBURG (DE)

calling on France, Russia and the United States to extend their moratoria and asking the UK Government to reconsider its policy; requesting China, the only nuclear power still actively testing, to put an end to these tests; calling on the EC Member States to re-commit themselves to achieving a comprehensive test ban.

- **Human rights**

Angola

Compromise resolution

Verhagen (NL)

Bosnia

Compromise resolution

Mantovani (I), Cassanmagnago Cerretti (I)

Group spokesman: MANTOVANI (I)

Guatemala

Compromise resolution

Suarez Gonzalez (ES), Marck (B)

Group spokesman: SUAREZ GONZALEZ (ES)

Tibet

Compromise resolution
Moorhouse (UK)
Group spokesman: MOORHOUSE (UK)

- **Disasters**

Floods in Bangladesh

Compromise resolution
Verhagen (NL)
Group spokesman: VERHAGEN (NL)

Flooding in Ireland and Wales

Compromise resolution
Cooney (IRL)
Group spokesman: COONEY (IRL)

Dumping of nuclear waste in the Atlantic

Compromise resolution
Verhagen (NL)

July 1993

Resolutions adopted on 15 July 1993

International terrorism

Compromise resolution
Verhagen (NL)

on the situation in the Occupied Territories and the recent terrorist attack by Palestinian extremists condemning terrorist attacks such as a recent aborted bus hijacking in Jerusalem which caused several deaths amongst the civilian population, noting that the perpetrators of the hijacking have reportedly been identified as belonging to HAMAS and condemning this organization; reasserting the need for the peace negotiations to be continued and for the PLO to be recognized.

South Africa

Compromise resolution
Verhagen (NL)
Group spokesman: VERHAGEN (NL)

welcoming the agreement to hold the first general elections with universal suffrage on 17 April 1994, recalling its former resolutions on the need to lift sanctions, except those on the supply of arms, and to promote investment in South Africa; being of the opinion that some form of dialogue must be established between the European Parliament and the Transitional Executive Council.

- **Human rights**

Bosnia-Herzegovina

Compromise resolution
Oostlander (NL), Habsburg (DE)
Group spokesman: OOSTLANDER (NL)

Albania

Compromise resolution

Lagakos (GR), Oomen-Ruijten (NL)

Group spokesman: RAWLINGS (UK)

Kurds

Compromise resolution

Habsburg (DE)

Baha'is in Iran

Compromise Resolution

Habsburg (DE)

Group spokesman: ELLES (UK)

Arthur **HILDEBRANDT**
in collaboration with: Cecile **CARTON**, Suzanne **DERUYVER**

THE YEAR IN BRIEF

JULY 1992 - JUNE 1993

1992

JULY

- 1 July United Kingdom holds Council presidency until end of year
- 2 July Luxembourg Parliament ratifies Maastricht Treaty
Commission decides to grant emergency humanitarian aid to war victims in former Yugoslavia
- 4 July Ali Kafi elected president of Algerian High Committee of State. Belaid Abdessalam appointed prime minister
- 6 July United Kingdom ratifies Dublin Convention on right of asylum
- 6 - 8 July Eighteenth G7 annual economic summit in Munich. Boris Yeltsin accepts IMF debt relief plan for former Soviet Union
- 8 July CSCE suspends new Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)
- 9 - 10 July CSCE summit in Helsinki. Special WEU Council meeting decides to deploy naval forces to police embargo on Yugoslavia
- 15 July Commission proposes to negotiate partnership and cooperation agreements with independent former Soviet states
- 17 July Slovakia declares sovereignty, setting seal on 'Velvet Divorce' following decision on 20 June
- 19 July Judge Paolo Borsellino assassinated in Sicily
- 23 July Council adopts third civil aviation package
- 25 July Opening of Barcelona Olympics
- 29 July Attempted coup in Madagascar
- 31 July Greek Parliament ratifies Maastricht Treaty
UN General Assembly admits Georgia to UN by acclamation

AUGUST

- 2 August Franjo Tudjman re-elected president of Croatia
News breaks that civilians are being held in Serbian detention camps in Bosnia
- 7 August Council decides to extend Phare programme to include Slovenia
- 11 - 12 August Meeting in Washington, United States, Canada, and Mexico conclude North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
- 14 August Georgian government forces launch military intervention in autonomous republic of Abkhazia
- 22 - 26 August Right-wing extremists mount violent attacks on asylum-seekers' hostels in Rostock (former GDR)
- 24 August For first time, Israel recognizes UN resolution on Golan Heights and hence accepts possibility of partial withdrawal
- 25 August International peace conference on former Yugoslavia opens in London. Conference chairman Lord Carrington resigns and is replaced by Lord Owen
- 27 August United States, United Kingdom, and France establish air exclusion zone south of 32nd parallel in Iraq
- 31 August Dollar slumps below DM 1.45 to reach lowest rate since World War II

SEPTEMBER

- 11 September Tacis programme national coordinators hold first ministerial-level meeting to discuss aid to independent former Soviet states
- 17 September Pound and lira withdraw from EMS
Italian Senate ratifies Maastricht Treaty
- 18 September Interior and Justice Ministers of Twelve decide to set up anti-Mafia task force staffed by police-officers and judges
- 20 September French referendum produces 51.04% vote in favour of Maastricht Treaty ratification
- 22 September UN General Assembly expels new Yugoslavia
- 23 September Spain reintroduces exchange controls. Portugal and Ireland follow suit on 24 September
- 26 September Attempted coup in the Comoros
- 28 September Finance Ministers of Twelve reaffirm commitment to EMS following money market turbulence and reject two-speed Europe

OCTOBER

- 4 October Mozambique peace accord ends 16 year-civil war
- 6 - 9 October UN Security Council sets up war crimes commission to investigate alleged atrocities in former Yugoslavia and bans military flights by Serb forces in Bosnian airspace
- 13 October Announcement that 30 000 miners are to be made redundant in United Kingdom sparks off political crisis and demonstrations against John Major's economic policy
- 15 October European Parliament calls for greater transparency and democracy and comes out in favour of European constitution
- 16 October At special meeting in Birmingham, European Council adopts declaration in support of 'A Community close to its Citizens'
- 19 October Twelve decide to set up Guarantee Fund and reserve to finance Community loans to third countries. ECU 349 m loan granted to Russia
- Eight directives adopted on VAT rate and excise duty harmonization
- South African Parliament adopts constitutional amendment clearing way for Blacks to enter government
- 23 October First visit to China by Emperor Akihito of Japan sets seal on reconciliation of the two countries
- 26 October Canadians vote in referendum to reject constitutional reform recognizing Quebec as distinct society
- 28 October Heads of State or Government of Visegrad countries and Community meet in London following foreign minister-level meeting on 5 October
- 29 October Italian Chamber of Deputies completes Maastricht Treaty ratification

NOVEMBER

- 3 November Bill Clinton elected 47th US president
- 4 November Belgian Senate completes Maastricht Treaty ratification
- 5 November Following breakoff of Euro-American negotiations on oilseeds and Uruguay Round agricultural issues, United States decides to impose 200% punitive levy on certain European farm produce from 5 December
- 6 November NATO agrees to establish closer ties with WEU
- Greece becomes ninth country to accede to Schengen Agreement
- 9 November Party of European Socialists set up
- 12 - 13 Nov. Attempted coup in Peru

- 13 November PPE Athens Congress adopts declaration pointing to need to draw up genuine constitution for European Union founded on principles of democracy, subsidiarity, and federalism
- 19 November US Administration and Commission reach compromise in Washington on agricultural aspects of GATT. France maintains that compromise runs counter to CAP reform
- 20 November Greece becomes tenth WEU member state
- 21 November Realignment within EMS following 6% devaluation of Spanish and Portuguese currencies
- 25 November Spanish Parliament completes Maastricht Treaty ratification
- Norway applies to join European Community
- 27 November Attempted coup in Venezuela
- 30 November United States announces that it will levy anti-subsidy duties on European steel exports

DECEMBER

- 1 December In response to French farming unions' appeal, thousands of European farmers demonstrate in Strasbourg against Washington compromise
- 3 December UN gives mandate for multinational force to mount military operation in Somalia for humanitarian purposes only. Nineteen countries take part in American-led Operation 'Restore Hope'
- 4 December Washington withdraws sanctions threat to European agricultural exports
- 6 December 50.3% of Swiss vote in referendum to reject ratification of Agreement establishing European Economic Area
- 1220 die in serious intercommunal violence in India after Hindu fundamentalists destroy mosque
- 10 December Portuguese Parliament completes Maastricht Treaty ratification
- UN Security Council agrees on precautionary deployment of UN forces in Macedonia
- 11 - 12 Dec. Edinburgh European Council grants Denmark special terms clearing way for fresh referendum on Maastricht Treaty ratification. It endorses 'Delors II' economic growth package and decides that accession negotiations with Austria, Sweden, and Finland will open on 1 January 1993
- 13 December Liechtenstein votes in referendum to accede to EEA
- 14 December Congress of People's Deputies forces Russian President Boris Yeltsin to accept Viktor Chernomyrdin as new prime minister in place of Yegor Gaidar
- 15 December Netherlands Senate completes Maastricht Treaty ratification

- 18 December German Parliament completes Maastricht Treaty ratification
Kim Young Sam elected president of South Korea
- 20 December Slobodan Milosevic re-elected president of Serbi

1993

JANUARY

- 1 January Single market enters into force. Removal of internal frontiers affecting movement of goods, services, and capital
Start of Danish Council presidency
Czech and Slovak Federative Republic dissolved. Two succession states come into being: Czech Republic (Bohemia and Moravia) and Slovakia
Burhanuddin Rabbani elected Afghan head of state
- 3 January Presidents George Bush and Boris Yeltsin sign START II Treaty
- 5 January Tanker *Braer*, carrying 85 000 tonnes of crude, runs aground off southern tip of Shetlands. Oil slick averted due to storm-force winds
- 6 January Third Commission under President Delors takes office
- 10 January Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd pays official visit to Argentina, first by British minister in 27 years
- 12 January Peace conference on former Yugoslavia fails after Bosnian Serbs reject ten-point constitutional plan draw up by co-chairmen Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance
- 13 January Iceland Parliament ratifies EEA Agreement
New Fianna Fáil-Labour coalition government formed in Ireland under Prime Minister Albert Reynolds
- 15 January Top Mafia boss Salvatore Riina arrested in Palermo
- 17 January Poul Nyrup Rasmussen becomes prime minister after Poul Schlüter resigns from Danish Government
- 18 January Council grants Italy ECU 8 bn balance of payments support loan
- 25 January 6000 threatened with redundancy after American manufacturer Hoover announces transfer of production from France to Scotland, where wage costs are lower. France hits out at 'social dumping'
- 26 January Václav Havel elected president of Czech Republic
- 28 January Troop mutiny sparks off looting and bloodshed in Zaïre. French Ambassador among hundreds killed
- 30 January 10% devaluation of Irish punt revives EMS tensions

FEBRUARY

- 1 February Community accession negotiations opened with Austria, Sweden, and Finland
Europe Agreement signed between Romania and EC
- 3 February Commission adopts 1993 annual economic report and renews gloomy forecasts of very modest growth (slowing to 3/4%) and rising unemployment
- 6 February Belgian Chamber of Representatives adopts first article of new Constitution to change Kingdom of Belgium into federal state
- 8 February Karolus civil servant exchange programme launched. European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction set up.
- 10 February Albert Zafy elected president of Madagascar
- 11 February Milan 'Clean Hands' corruption inquiry throws suspicion on several ministers and leading politicians including Bettino Craxi
- 14 February Algirdas Brazauskas elected president of Lithuania. Glafkos Clerides elected president of Cyprus
- 15 February Michal Kovac elected president of Slovakia
- 22 February Central America and EC sign new framework cooperation agreement
- 23 February EIB agrees to finance 14 capital equipment projects in EC as a whole, Romania, and Bulgaria worth nearly a billion ecus
- 24 February After falling 20% against other EMS currencies, pound and Italian lira hit all-time low against German mark
- 25 February Council endorses Commission guidelines on steel industry restructuring and arrangements to be negotiated with Eastern countries
- 26 February United States decides to air-drop relief supplies to population in eastern Bosnia
Bomb attack on Manhattan World Trade Center kills five and injures over a thousand
Commission sets four-month minimum prices for certain imported fishery products after prices slump by between 15 and 30% in France and elsewhere

MARCH

- 3 March Commission decides to grant ECU 60 m in humanitarian aid for war victims in former Yugoslavia
- 4 March EEC-Mongolia trade and cooperation agreement (signed on 16 June 1992) enters into force
- 7 March Serious political crisis hits Italy after President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro refuses to sign amnesty for unlawful party funding

- 8 March Europe Agreement signed between EC and Bulgaria
Maastricht Treaty ratification held up in UK after Major Government is defeated in vote on Labour amendment
- 12 March North Korea withdraws from NPT
United States unilaterally breaks off negotiations with Commission aimed at opening up public procurement
- 13 March President Abdou Diouf re-elected for third term in Senegal
- 14 March After first Constitution is adopted by referendum, principality of Andorra becomes independent state
- 25 March Twelve approve amendment to EIB Statute aimed at establishing European Investment Fund
In response to French Government request, Commission adopts safeguard measures for fishery products
- 28 March After second round of French general election, UDF and RPR secure majority by winning 460 seats. Édouard Balladur appointed prime minister next day
- 29 March On visit to Moscow, Troika backs President Yeltsin and Russian reforms
In response to fresh spate of attacks on Israeli targets, including murder of two policemen, Israel closes Gaza Strip. West Bank sealed off a day later

APRIL

- 1 April Temporary cohesion financial instrument enters into force
Commission and MITI agree on 1993 arrangements for Japanese car exports to Europe
- 2 April Thorvald Stoltenberg replaces Cyrus Vance as Yugoslav crisis mediator
- 3 - 4 April At Vancouver Summit, Presidents Clinton and Yeltsin endorse global cooperation strategy to promote democracy, security, and peace
- 5 April Council gives Commission brief to negotiate agreement with Russia to lay foundations for free trade area
- 7 April Commission launches Konver programme for areas affected by defence cuts and military base closures
- 8 April Commission temporarily bans Central and Eastern European livestock, meat, and dairy imports for health reasons
Macedonia admitted to UN under provisional name of 'Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia'
- 9 April Assassination of Chris Hani, General Secretary of South African Communist Party and member of ANC National Executive Committee

- 13 April UN decides to renew mandate of peacekeeping forces in Cambodia
- Spanish Prime Minister Felipe González calls early general election with aim of coming to grips more effectively with Spain's economic crisis and curbing internal Socialist Party dispute over funding
- 13 - 14 April Conference on economic development of Eastern Europe held in Copenhagen
- 15 April At Tokyo meeting, G7 Foreign Ministers approve \$240 bn aid plan for Russia
- 17 April President Turgut Özal of Turkey dies
- 18 - 19 April Italians vote in referendum for change in way of electing senators and abolition of public party funding. Giuliano Amato tenders Government's resignation on 22 April. Carlo Azeglio Ciampi appointed prime minister on 26 April
- 22 April United States agree to open up public procurement and to bring Uruguay Round to successful conclusion by end of year
- 26 April Bosnian Serb Parliament rejects Vance-Owen peace plan. Economic sanctions announced by UN on 17 April tightened up. International military intervention subject of renewed speculation
- 27 April Boris Yeltsin's reforms win vote of confidence in Russian referendum
- 29 April French Government postpones Schengen implementation indefinitely
- Four ministers resign in protest from new Government after Italian Deputies refuse to waive Bettino Craxi's parliamentary immunity

MAY

- 1 May Former French Prime Minister Pierre Bérégovoy commits suicide
- 4 May Commission proposes to give clear political signal to Central and Eastern European countries and open up Community market more quickly to their products (except steel, textiles, and farm produce)
- 7 May Serbia and Montenegro cut off all aid to Bosnian Serbs
- 7 - 10 May Transatlantic Summit held in Washington
- 14 May Peseta devalued by 8% and escudo, by 6.5%
- 18 May Second referendum takes place in Denmark. 56.8% vote for Maastricht Treaty ratification

JUNE

- 6 June General election takes place in Spain. Partido Popular makes substantial gains
- 21 - 22 June European Council meets in Copenhagen
- 23 June PPE Group celebrates 40th anniversary.
'Robert Schuman Room' officially opened in Strasbourg

Pascal FONTAINE

**RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EPP GROUP AND
CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT AND CONSERVATIVE PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES
IN THE EEC**

Within the past year the EPP Group has decided to work more closely with parliamentary parties in the parliaments of the European Community. It has therefore proposed that the 'Chairmen's Conference' should be established as a permanent forum and regular meetings take place at various levels (Members of Parliament, experts, secretariats) in order to discuss specific subjects.

The proposal sprang from the need to intensify consultation with and the flow of information to and from the national parliaments, the aim being to prevent the lack of democratic legitimacy, already a deep-seated flaw, from becoming still more deeply entrenched.

The EPP Group chairman, Mr Tindemans, and the Group Bureau accordingly suggested that the Conference of Chairmen of the Christian-Democratic and Conservative Parliamentary Parties of the European Community hold two sessions a year, one in autumn and one in spring.

Discussions at the meeting of 19 and 20 October 1992 focused on the progress made by the Member States in ratifying the Maastricht Treaty. The party leaders described the situation in their respective countries as well as embarking on an in-depth review of progress in the matter of European integration.

The meeting likewise pointed to the need for the parliamentary parties to work closely together, for example by establishing permanent liaison channels, setting up two-way information flows, organizing regular specialists' conferences, holding advance briefings, at which Christian-Democratic and Conservative members of COSAC would assemble for consultations immediately before the usual weekly meetings, and arranging secretariat-level meetings.

The chairmen also agreed that the Conference of Parliaments (Assizes) should be convened after Maastricht had been ratified. Furthermore, the specialist European Parliament and national parliamentary committees should hold joint meetings, European Parliament rapporteurs and their counterparts in the national parliaments should keep in close touch, and MEPs and Members of national parliaments should serve on joint committees.

The next meeting was held on 17 and 18 May 1993 and followed on from a secretariat-level preparatory meeting. The agenda included a general discussion on the current progress of European integration, that is to say, at the point in time when the Danes were about to hold their second referendum and nine countries had already ratified the Maastricht Treaty, and specific discussions on, firstly, internal security and the implications for immigration and drug trafficking and, secondly, the transposition of Community legislation into national law and the consequences as regards transparency, democracy, and the manner of giving effect to the subsidiarity principle.

Not only did it refer to the need for the Maastricht ratification process to be brought to a swift conclusion, but the general discussion also touched upon the challenge posed to the Community by a burning problem of the day, in other words, the economic and social situation in the different Member States and the type of remedy that the Community can bring to bear.

Immediate practical measures are required, and they have to extend to all twelve Member States. What is more, the Twelve should join forces and show the necessary political determination in resolving the problem of drug trafficking.

To enable solutions to be found quickly, the Conference considers it essential for the above topics to be discussed by all concerned, since they are central to the development of our societies. Regarding a future session of the Conference of Parliaments, it was thought preferable to postpone the decision until after the 1994 European election.

As far as the EPP Group is concerned, the meetings have proved to be of capital importance and have made it possible to work out common ground, proceeding from very thorough discussion of the overall situation. Both were well attended, and the speakers were, on the whole, satisfied with the outcome.

Maria Beatrice **SCARASCIA MUGNOZZA**

STATISTICAL DATA

Activities of the European Parliament and its bodies during the period covered by the report:

IN PLENARY

During the period covered by the report the European Parliament held

11 part-sessions covering 55 days
1 additional part-session for 1 day

and adopted the following resolutions and decisions:

I. Resolutions following consultations:

332 opinions on Commission proposals (including opinions at first reading under the cooperation procedure (**I), of which:
20 without amendment
95 giving unqualified approval
170 calling on the Commission to adopt amendments to its proposals (of which **I=48)
3 rejecting Commission proposals
1 resolution in which the Commission was urged to withdraw its proposal
12 pursuant to Rule 40(2)
1 pursuant to Rule 41(4)
30 opinions on Commission communications/reports

II. Under the cooperation procedure - second reading (**II):

21 approved the common position of the Council
27 amended the common position of the Council
8 subject to the assent procedure *** (including 1 rejection)

III. 26 reports on budgetary matters

- IV. 327 own-initiative resolutions, of which:
- 113 pursuant to Rules 63 or 121
 - 65 pursuant to Rules 56(3) or 58(5)
 - 149 pursuant to Rule 64
- V. 10 miscellaneous decisions concerning the Rules of Procedure of which
- 1 motion for a resolution on the number and composition of interparliamentary delegations

COMMITTEES

19 committees. 4 subcommittees, 1 working party

held 406 meetings covering 749 days (including 22 hearings covering 54 days and 3 colloquies covering 7 days)

DELEGATIONS

22 interparliamentary delegations
 8 joint parliamentary committees
 1 joint ACP-EEC Assembly

held 215 meetings (of which ACP 26) covering 371 days (ACP 32)).

MEETINGS OF THE EPP GROUP

The EPP Group held 52 meetings, of which:

2 meetings on 7 and 9 September 1992 in London
 2 meetings on 10 and 11 November 1992 in Athens
 4 meetings on 14 - 18 June 1993 in Vienna
 2 meetings on 5 and 7 July 1993 in Luxembourg

11 meetings of standing working party A
 11 meetings of standing working party B
 11 meetings of standing working party C
 11 meetings of standing working party D

2 Colloquies:

22 October 1992 on Euro-African non-governmental organizations (Brussels)

15-16 April 1993 on 'Solidarity among the Generations; Requirements of a Forward-Looking Policy' (Brussels)

4 Conferences:

- 19 October 1992 Conference of the chairman of the Christian-Democratic and Conservative parliamentary groups in the national parliaments (Brussels)
- 4-5 March 1993 Parliamentary conference on cooperative societies (Brussels)
- 17-18 May 1993 Conference of Christian-Democratic and Conservative parliamentary group chairmen (Brussels)
- 16-17 June 1993 Debate on 'Austria's accession to the European Union'/Aspects of Austria's accession
- 7-8 July 1993 Parliamentary conference on 'Russia - Problems and Perspectives'

Study days were held on:

- 9-11 September 1992 in London (Subjects: enlargement, subsidiarity and democratization)
- 10-14 May 1993 in Valencia (Subjects: reform of the structural funds, the Mediterranean region and its problems, revival of economic growth).

Members of the EPP Group submitted:

- 75 reports following consultations
- 22 reports under the cooperation procedure, first reading (**I)
- 23 reports under the cooperation procedure, second reading (**II)
- 4 *** common positions
- 6 reports on budgetary matters
- 4 reports on the Rules of Procedure
- 178 own-initiative resolutions were authored or co-authored by EPP members pursuant to Rules 64, 58 (5), 56(3), 63 and 121.

Inge KOTZAK