

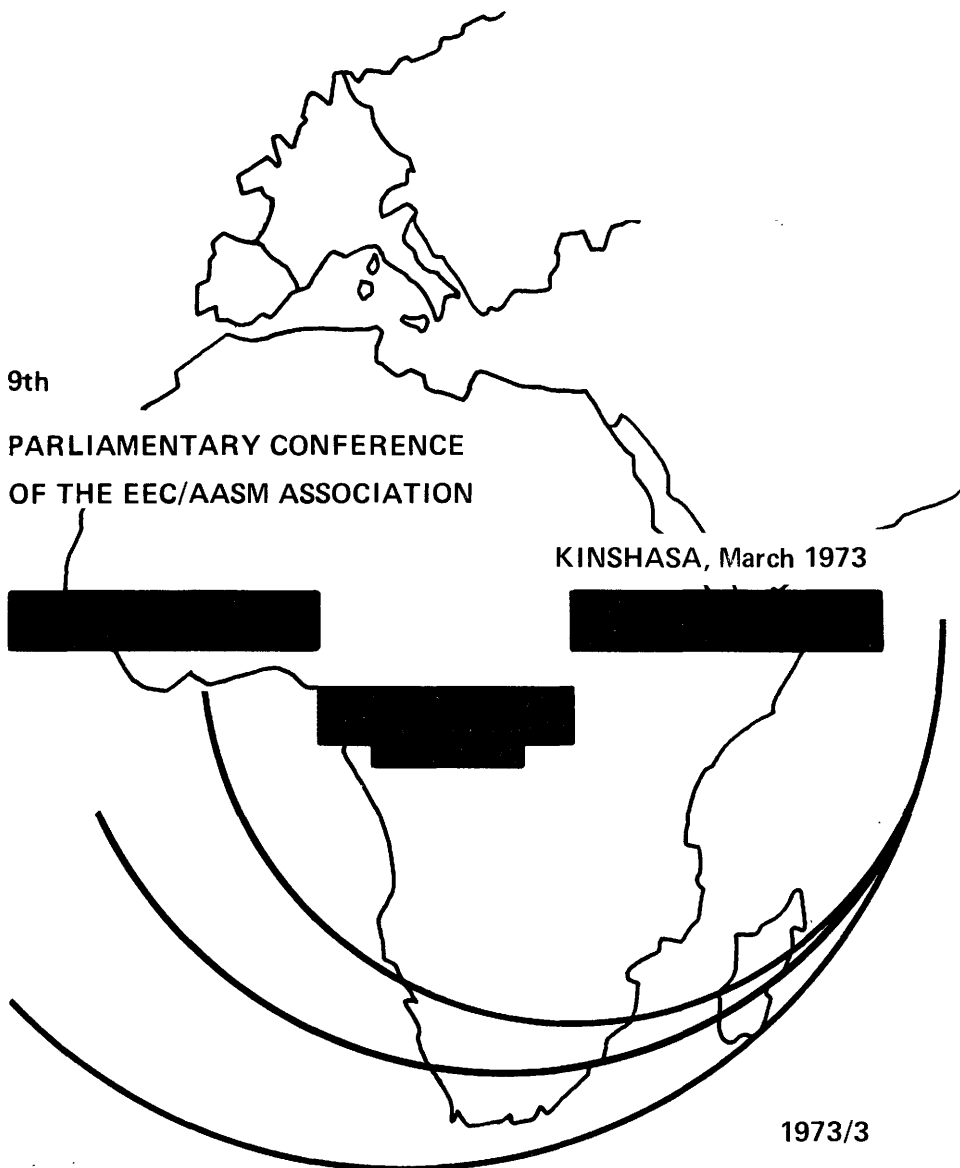
European parliament

information

9th

PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE
OF THE EEC/AASM ASSOCIATION

KINSHASA, March 1973



1973/3

**9th ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE
OF THE EEC/AASM ASSOCIATION**

C O N T E N T S

	Page
I. Introduction	1
II. Constituent meeting and formal opening session	
1. Constituent meeting	3
2. Membership of the Conference	3
3. Formal opening session	5
III. Activities of the Conference	
1. Management accounts of the Parliamentary Conference of the Association for the 1971 financial year and on the draft estimates for the 1973 financial year	7
2. 8th Annual Report on the Activities of the Association Council and Memorandum by the Commission on a Community Policy for development cooperation	8
3. Statement by Mr Boolell, Representative of Mauritius	19
4. Coordination of the activities of the partners in the Association	20
5. Development of tourism in Africa	21
IV. Joint Committee	
1. Appointment of members	23
2. Appointment of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman	24



I. INTRODUCTION

The 9th Parliamentary Conference of the EEC/AASM Association met from 29 to 31 March 1973 in Kinshasa. Pursuant to Article 52 of the Second Yaoundé Convention the Parliamentary Conference of the Association meets annually. This conference was the fourth since the signing of the Second Yaoundé Convention on 29 July 1969 and the third since that Convention came into force on 1 January 1971.

The Agenda of the Conference was prepared by the Joint Committee, which met in Luxembourg from 29 May to 1 June 1972, in Ouagadougou (Upper Volta) from 24 to 26 October 1972 and in Kinshasa on 26, 27 and 28 March 1973 immediately before the opening of the Conference.

At the end of its proceedings, the Joint Committee submitted the following documents to the Conference:

- Report by Mr François Bouda on the management accounts of the Parliamentary Conference of the Association for the 1971 financial year and on the draft estimates for the 1973 financial year (Doc. 43/1973);
- Report and Complementary Report by Mr François Perret on the 8th annual report of the activities of the Association Council (Doc. 42-I/II and Doc. 42/III) to the Parliamentary Conference of the Association (Doc. 45 and Doc. 46/1973);
- Report by Mr Glinne on coordination of the activities of the 24 partner States of the Association in international organizations for economic cooperation and development, pursuant in particular to Protocol No. 5 to the Second Yaoundé Convention (Doc. 41/73);

- Report by Mr Aigner on the Memorandum by the Commission of the European Communities on a Community policy for development cooperation (Doc. 47/73);
- Working document by Mr Briot on the development of tourism in Africa and making the best use of the tourist resources of the Associated African States and Madagascar (Doc. 44/73).

II. CONSTITUENT MEETING AND FORMAL OPENING SESSION

1. Constituent meeting

The Parliamentary Conference of the Association was opened by its outgoing President, Mr Cornelis Berkhouwer, President of the European Parliament. The President expressed his regret at not being able to welcome the representatives of Mauritius as full members of the Conference because of delays in the parliamentary ratification procedure.

Pursuant to Rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliamentary Conference, a new Bureau was appointed at the beginning of the meeting; the new members unanimously appointed by the Conference, are as follows:

- President: Mr Philippe Yacé, President of the National Assembly of the Ivory Coast,
- First Vice-President: Mr Cornelis Berkhouwer (Netherlands, Liberal), President of the European Parliament,
- Vice-Presidents: Mr Bo-Boliko Lokonga (Zaire),

Mr Giovanni Bersani (Italy, Christian Democrat), Mr Marcel Marigoh M'Boua (Cameroon), Mr Achille Corona (Italy, Socialist), Mr Da Ould Sidi Haiba (Mauritania), Mr Louis Briot (France, European Democratic Union), Mr Thaddée Bagaragaza (Rouanda), Mr Heinrich Aigner (Germany, Christian Democrat).

2. Membership of the Conference:

54 members of the European Parliament:

Achenbach, Adams, Aigner, Antoniozzi, Ariosto, Armengaud, Artzinger, Baas, Behrendt, Berkhouwer, Bersani, Bos, Bourdellès, Briot, Bro, Broeksz, Colin,

Corona, Cousté, Dalsager, Dewulf, Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker, Fellermaier, Miss Flesch, Galli, Gerlach, Girardin, Habib-Deloncle, Harmegnies, Härzschel, Hill James, Hougardy, Mrs Iotti, Jahn, Jozeau-Marigné, Kollwelter, Laudrin, Lautenschlager, Ligios, McDonald, Martens, Memmel, Normanton, Pounder, Radoux, Lord Reay, Schuijt, Schwörer, Seefeld, Sourdille, Spénale, Triboulet, Vals, Wohlfart

The Associated States were represented by Members of Parliament or other political figures.

Countries represented by Parliamentarians:

- Federal Republic of Cameroon
- Republic of the Ivory Coast
- Republic of Gabon
- Republic of the Upper Volta
- Islamic Republic of Mauritania
- Republic of Niger
- Republic of Rouanda
- Republic of Senegal
- Republic of Chad
- Republic of Zaire (Congo Kinshasa)

Countries represented by other political figures:

- Republic of Burundi
- Central African Republic
- Republic of Dahomey
- Republic of Mali
- Republic of Somalia
- Republic of Togo
- Congo Brazzaville

The Republic of Madagascar was not represented at the Conference (an apology for absence was received from the Malagasy Government). The Conference resolved to admit the representatives of Mauritius and of the Member States of the East African Community, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, as observers.

3. Formal Opening Session

During the opening session statements were made by the following: Mr Kapwassa Kilischinga, First Vice-President of the National Legislative Council, Mr Cornelis Berkhouwer, President of the European Parliament and First Vice-President of the Conference, Mr Philippe Yacé, President of the Conference and Mr Bo-Boliko Lokonga, President of the National Legislative Council on behalf of the Head of State.

The First Vice-President of the National Legislative Council, Mr Kapwassa Kilischinga, described the efforts of the EEC and Associated States to construct a genuine association on the basis of cooperation as successful. *The President of the European Parliament*, Mr Cornelis Berkhouwer, referred to the enlargement of the Community and to the effect this would have on the Association, particularly when the Convention came up for renewal in 1975. He emphasized that the accession of a number of Commonwealth countries to the Yaoundé Convention must in no way act to the detriment of the present members of the Association. The Paris Summit Conference had concerned itself in detail with the difficulties of the developing nations and supported the EEC's policy of association. The President went on to describe the outcome of the Third UNCTAD World Trade Conference as unsatisfactory, although it could serve as the point of departure for further discussions. He described the participation of the developing countries in the discussions on the reform of the international monetary systems and the development of trade as steps in the right direction.

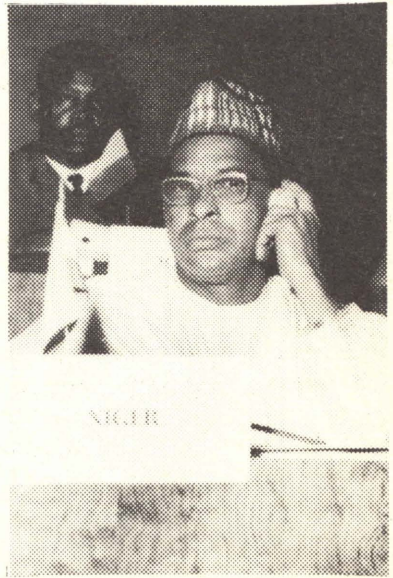
The President of the Conference, Mr Philippe Yacé, promised the EEC the support of the Associated States during the coming negotiations with the USA. In order to resist American demands for abolition of the preference policy and admittance to the EEC market of American rather than African products, the Europeans would have to give evidence of strength and unity. He underlined the political nature of the Association, which was based not only on cultural, historical and geographical ties, but also on common economic interests. He discussed at some length the main concerns of the Africans, namely the monetary crisis and inflationary trends in Europe as well as the falling world market prices for primary commodities, as a result of which the economic efforts of Africa might well be undermined. *The President of the National Legislative Council*, Mr Bo-Boliko Lokonga, described regional and international cooperation as a necessary step towards the improvement of living standards. Trade with the EEC remained unsatisfactory and the negative trend in the prices of primary commodities was a cause of concern to the African partners.



The Presidents Yacé, Bo-Boliko Lokonga, Berkhouwer



Mr François Bouda



Mr François Perret

III. ACTIVITIES OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Management accounts of the Parliamentary Conference

Mr François Bouda submitted a report to the Conference on the management accounts of the Parliamentary Conference of the Association for the 1971 financial year and on the draft estimates for the 1973 financial year (Doc. 43/73). The rapporteur noted that for a budget of FF 216,000, expenditure amounted to only FF 160,312.56, leaving an unused surplus of FF 55,687.44. Thus, despite rising costs, expenditure had fallen by approximately 10 0/0 in comparison with the 1969 financial year: he thanked the budget administrators for this result.

The Conference adopted the following Resolution:

The Parliamentary Conference of the Association,

1. endorses the views contained in the report;
2. notes that the expenditure of the Conference, to be charged to the Associated States under Article 2 (3) of Protocol No. 10 annexed to the Convention of Association, amounts to FF 160,312.56 for the 1971 financial year;
3. gives discharge to the Secretary-General of the European Parliament in respect of the management accounts for the 1971 financial year;
4. takes note of the draft estimates for the 1973 financial year of expenditure chargeable to the European Parliament pursuant to Article 2 (3) of Protocol No. 10, the amount of which has been fixed at FF 390,000;

5. approves the draft estimates for the 1973 financial year of expenditure chargeable to the Associated States pursuant to Article 2 (3) of Protocol No. 10, the amount of which has been fixed at FF 216,000;
 6. decides to maintain the contribution of each Associated State at 600,000 CFA francs for the 1973 financial year;
- 2. 8th Annual Report on the Activities of the Association Council and Memorandum by the Commission on a Community policy for development cooperation**

At the suggestion of Mr Spénale (France, Socialist), and with the agreement of the rapporteur, the Conference decided to discuss the reports by Mr Perret (Niger) and Mr Aigner (Germany, Christian-Democrat) jointly.

Mr Perret first submitted to the Conference his report on the 8th Annual Report on the activities of the Association Council (Doc. 45/73), which includes the following five main sections: investments, preferences within the Association, trade, financial and technical cooperation and industrialization of the AASM. The rapporteur described the permanent nature of the EEC/AASM Association as a pattern for cooperation with the developing countries. It had been conceded at the Paris Summit Conference of the Nine that the Community would have to increase its efforts on behalf of the developing countries. The enlargement of the EEC and the possible extension of the policy of association should not, however, be allowed to lead to a weakening of existing relations between the EEC and the AASM. The decision of Mauritius to join the Association was proof of the attractiveness of this system of cooperation; however, it needed to be perfected and strengthened especially in the trade sector because customs duties were no longer adequate to solve the present problems. Mr Perret welcomed the fact that third world countries would be able to participate in the coming multilateral GATT negotiations; this would lead to a more equitable organization of world trade.

The President-in-Office of the Association Council, Mr Gishenga, drew attention to the importance of general tariff preferences to the Associated States and noted that they would like to see an improvement of the system. The planned anti-inflationary measures of the Community, which included reductions in customs tariffs, would further narrow the margin of preference enjoyed by the AASM. He also referred to the import arrangements for certain types of fruit

and vegetables from the AASM which, he said, were a cause of considerable concern to the countries involved. He considered it regrettable that no decisions had been reached on the major primary commodities at the World Trade Conference and felt that this was a further reason for strengthening the ties and agreements within the Association.

The President-in-Office of the Council of the European Communities, Mrs Pétry, described the close partnership between the EEC and the AASM as a political and economic reality. The enlargement of the Community had increased the EEC's responsibilities in the world particularly to the developing countries. The Community was prepared to give assistance to countries of the third world, but this must not act to the detriment of the Associated States. The aim of the European policy of association was to preserve existing achievements and observe the fundamental principles laid down in Protocol No. 22. Although it was still too early to make any pronouncements on the results of the renewal of the Yaoundé Convention, it was already virtually certain that several improvements would have to be made in the trade and technical and financial cooperation sectors.

In a well received speech Commissioner Deniau stated that the enlargement of the Community and of the Association would change the present character of the Association fundamentally; this was because, while not intending to encroach upon the position of priority enjoyed by the present Association, the Community's efforts were necessarily directed at all African countries. There remained the question of quantity versus quality. The Commissioner spoke at some length on trade, financial cooperation and on the institutions of the Association. He expressed some disappointment over the question of trade relations; exports by the AASM countries had, it was true, risen, but to a lesser extent than those of other developing countries. Tariff quotas and reciprocal preferences in the framework of a free trade area (the only way, incidentally, in which GATT could offer Africa a position of priority), were not enough to stabilize primary commodity prices. Mr Deniau therefore proposed establishing a kind of 'equalization or insurance fund'. Generally speaking the institutions of the Association functioned well, although they were sometimes too cumbersome; consultations were sometimes merely theoretical and of benefit to nobody. Hitherto EDF had chiefly contributed to infrastructural development and the question now arose as to whether a special department of the EDF should not be created for regional cooperation. It would be politically desirable for the Fund to be included in the budget. Finally, the Commissioner announced the submission of a memorandum on the extension and strengthening of the Association.

Mr Aigner then presented to the Conference his report on the memorandum by the Commission on a Community policy for development cooperation (Doc. 47/73). He expressed his approval of the new course being followed by the Community, which was not only an improvement to the policy of association but indeed an indispensable addition to it, as had been confirmed in section 11 of the final communiqué of the Paris Summit Conference. The Yaoundé Convention was a good example of what the Community could do for all developing countries. Mr Aigner touched on several problems which are not mentioned in the memorandum. These include: a responsible family planning policy, environmental problems, multi-national business concerns and international insurance firms in the developing countries, as well as the possibility of a link between development aid and the creation of special drawing rights. He has serious doubts as to the wisdom of a link between development aid and the issue and allocation of special drawing rights; in this respect he shared the opinion expressed in a report by the Economic Affairs Committee of the European Parliament. The financial resources of the EDF belonged to the assets of the Community and must at all costs be preserved. In addition, Mr Aigner felt that the Community could only fulfil its responsibilities if the countless failures of development policy were put right and the emergence of a certain political indifference halted. He rejected use of quantifiable factors such as gross national product or per-capita income as criteria for decisions on aid policy, because these factors excluded vital questions of distribution and differing requirements; social, cultural and political changes were equally important. Development aid which did nothing to reduce social inequalities, which created privileged classes and failed to increase the purchasing power of the general population, would be self-destructive. A new system of partnership, based on trust, was a pre-requisite for achieving the aims of a second development decade.

In the subsequent debate, the French Member of Parliament, Mr Armengaud (Liberal) was the first to speak. He warned of the dangers of the Nixon Round, described GATT as redundant and pointed to the dangers of the present monetary crisis. The agreements between the EEC and the AASM were directly affected by the forthcoming negotiations and he called for a joint Afro-European position on these questions. The representative of the Cameroon, Mr Marigoh M'Boa, spoke of the renewal of the Yaoundé Convention and the present monetary problem. The Italian Member of Parliament, Mr Bersani (CD), described the suggestion by Mr Aigner (Germany, CD) and Mr Spéna (France, Socialist), that the Community should make part of its own resources available to the Association, as interesting. Mr Guillabert (Senegal) described the difficulties affecting imports of vegetables and fruit into the Community as

damaging for the future of the Association. The Association was the outcome of an autonomous political choice, and he demanded still closer relations between Europe and Africa.

The representative of Burundi, Mr Nzeyimana, found Mr Deniau's suggestion for the setting up of an equalization fund very interesting. The Italian Member, Mr Galli (CD), favoured a further development of the Association and Mrs Iotti (Italy, Non-attached) proposed that technological aid to Africa should be increased and autonomous centres for capital accumulation created. The British Member, Mr Normanton (Conservative) demanded more trade and less aid for the developing countries. Mr Aladji Queddo, representative of Chad, spoke of the falling prices for primary commodities and of the present monetary problems. Mr N'Da Heyo (Rwanda) called for further industrialization of the developing countries. In the view of Mauritania, according to Mr Dah Ould Sidi Haiba, the Association had the historic task of fighting under-development in the world. The most important problem, in the view of the Belgian Member Mr Dewulf (CD), was the future of the Association. The system of association and the world-wide responsibilities of the EEC should complement one another and not be mutually exclusive. He added that the development aid programme of the Community could not be offered to all developing countries, but must be confined to the Mediterranean and African countries.

Resolution on the Perret Report

At the end of the debate the Conference adopted the following Resolution:

The Parliamentary Conference of the Association,

I. Present problems of the Association

(a) Enlargement of the Community

1. Welcomes the enlargement of the European Community which will enable Community development aid to be consolidated and expanded to match Europe's growing responsibilities throughout the world;
2. Notes that the present Association arrangements will remain unchanged until January 1975;

3. Notes with satisfaction that the Treaty of Accession confirmed once again that the aim of the enlarged Community in its Association policy remains to preserve the achievements and basic principles of the Association and recognized that any extension of this policy must not be allowed to weaken relations between the Community and the AASM;
4. Is well satisfied with the commitments entered into by the Paris Summit Conference,
 - confirming the vital importance which the enlarged Community attaches to the association policy,
 - inviting the institutions of the enlarged Community and the Member States to progressively adopt an overall policy of development cooperation on a worldwide scale;
5. Hopes that the enlarged Community, as the third world's largest trading partner, will take resolute steps to implement solutions capable of giving a more satisfactory and better balanced structure to international economic relations, in particular by regulating and improving the export revenue of the developing countries and giving increased support for the diversification of the economies of these countries, especially the least advanced among them;

(b) Accession of Mauritius

6. Recommends that all necessary steps be taken to ensure the entry into force at the earliest possible date of the agreement on the accession of Mauritius to the Yaoundé Convention which emphasizes the outwardlooking and dynamic character of the Association;

(c) Activities of the institutions

7. Draws attention to its attachment to the joint institutions of the Association and notes that their activities have continued to be fruitful;

8. Welcomes the fact that, as a result of the enlargement, the three new Member States of the Community, while not having the same terms of reference as the six Member States which are partners in the present association convention, will in future be represented in the institutions of the Association;

(d) Trade

9. Notes with regret that while total European imports from all the developing countries increased, imports from the associated States showed a sharp decline in value in 1971;

10. Accepts that these results are essentially due on the one hand to the rise in price of petroleum products which the AASM do not supply in substantial quantities, and on the other to a fall in the price of cocoa and copper;

11. Expresses its serious concern over the present international trade difficulties, stemming in particular from fluctuations in primary commodity prices;

12. Deplores the repercussions of the prolonged closure of the Suez Canal on the economies of certain associated States, in particular on banana exports from Somalia, and hopes that a peaceful settlement will soon allow the reopening of this waterway which is of world interest;

13. Is also disturbed by the negative consequences of recent monetary events for the international economy;

14. Hopes that the forthcoming worldwide multilateral negotiations in GATT and the IMF – in which the developing countries will all be participating for the first time – will result in a more equitable organization of world trade and international monetary relations and that concertation between the partners of the Association will be continued and intensified during these negotiations;

15. Expects the European Community to play an active part in the inter-governmental consultations which the Secretary-General of UNCTAD has begun pursuant to Resolution 73 (X), and to contribute to the search for

and implementation of effective solutions for the products in respect of which consultations could be envisaged with a view to an international agreement or arrangement;

16. Notes with satisfaction that the multilateral negotiations with a view to the conclusion of an international cocoa agreement have finally been completed, while regretting that the largest consumer country has not become a party to it, and recommends that the necessary steps be taken to ensure that the agreement comes into force as scheduled on 1 July 1973;
17. Hopes that all necessary steps will be taken to break the present deadlock on the International Coffee Agreement and enable it to be renegotiated in the near future;
18. Reiterates its appeal for active participation by the Council of the European Communities in the renegotiation of the International Sugar Agreement;
19. Stresses the importance to the AASM of an international agreement or arrangement on oleaginous products and accordingly expects the European Community to give priority to the search for solutions in this area;
20. Notes with concern that under the EEC's system of generalized preferences which has been extended from 1 January 1973, the AASM, after forfeiting their exclusive right of preferential access to the Community market, have not obtained in return preferential access to the markets of other industrialized countries, particularly the United States;
21. Regrets that the Council of the European Communities has departed from the principle of duty-free imports of fruit and vegetables from the AASM, while noting that the latest interim decisions of the EEC allow a satisfactory outlet on the European market for the products of the associated States in the off-season;
22. Asks for the duty exemption to be restored when this matter is next considered by the Council of the European Communities;
23. Recommends that appropriate measures be taken at an early date by the EEC to facilitate, through harmonization of legislation on health protection,

plant health controls and protection of natural food products, the marketing in Europe of certain agricultural products (such as beef and veal, fresh pineapples, vanilla, oil cakes ...) which are of particular interest to the associated States;

24. Invites the EEC to pursue and intensify efforts to promote the sale of exports from the associated States and improve the commercial structures of these States;

(e) Financial and technical cooperation

25. Welcomes the fruitful activities of the Third European Development Fund;

26. Endorses the guidelines adopted by the Association Council on the objectives of financial and technical cooperation, with particular reference to the training of supervisory staff to handle development operations and also of trade officials;

27. Again recommends that steps be taken to ensure that parity changes do not affect the overall capacity of the Fund to provide assistance;

28. Hopes that, in the spirit of Article 23 of the Yaoundé Convention, the guidelines approved at the Third Session of UNCTAD in Santiago on the treatment to be accorded to the least advanced countries will be borne in mind when the Fund's resources are allocated;

29. Stresses the need for effective coordination between the African countries at the level of viable economic areas as an essential prerequisite for the industrial development of the AASM;

30. Hopes that in the context of the financial assistance provided by the EEC, greater efforts will be made to develop the tourist potential of the associated States, bearing in mind at all times the need for the States concerned to safeguard the quality of the environment and of the tourist centres;

II. The future of the Association

31. Is opposed to any move to deprive the Association of its partnership content and transform it into a mere aid agreement;
32. Points out that the Heads of State or Government of the EEC Member States have formally stated their political resolve to maintain special links between the enlarged Community and the African and Malagasy States;
33. Notes with satisfaction that with a view to the renewal and extension of the Association, the African States have already begun efforts to seek common positions vis-à-vis the enlarged Community;
34. Points out that the results achieved by the Third Session of UNCTAD in Santiago, which appear modest in comparison with the practical achievements of the Yaoundé Convention, confirm the need for the efforts undertaken in the Association to be continued, until comparable results can be obtained on a worldwide scale;
35. Notes that the Yaoundé Association alone is based on an arrangement which simultaneously mobilizes three instruments of cooperation in the legal framework of free trade areas and therefore strongly emphasizes the need to leave the present structures and bases of the Association unimpaired;
36. Recalls, in regard to the future content of the Association policy, the position it adopted in its Resolution of 13 January 1972 on the seventh annual report on the activities of the Association Council (*);
37. Welcomes in this connection the fact that under Protocol No. 22 annexed to the Association Treaty, the Community has undertaken to safeguard the interests of those countries whose economies depend substantially on exports of primary commodities and that, by analogy with the existing arrangements for Commonwealth sugar, the principal of regional agreements on raw materials has accordingly been adopted.

(*) Official Journal of the European Communities, No. C/11, 7 February 1972, para. 23.

38. Calls for resolute action by the European Community on regional agreements of this kind, in the spirit of the solutions proposed for several years by the Parliamentary Conference of the Association;
39. Recommends that the negotiations provided for in Article 62 of the Yaoundé Convention should be opened as scheduled on 1 August 1973 and brought to a conclusion early enough for the ratification procedures to be completed in time for the future association arrangements to enter into force on 1 February 1975, when the present agreement expires;
40. Accordingly invites all the parties concerned to take timely measures to ensure strict compliance with those deadlines;

o o
o

Resolution on the Aigner Report

At the end of the debate the Conference adopted the following Resolution:

The Parliamentary Conference of the Association

1. Welcomes the initiative taken by the Commission of the European Communities and signifies its agreement to the structural review of the Community policy for development, as proposed in the memorandum;
2. Expects the Community and the Member States to be accordingly better able than in the past to meet their growing responsibilities to all the developing countries;
3. Draws attention to the constant responsibility which the European Community and the associated African States and Madagascar have for the success of the EEC/AASM Association;
4. Stressed in particular that the EEC/AASM Association is demonstrably an original form of cooperation between the developed and less developed countries which has proved justified from the commercial, financial, technical and institutional as well as political angles;

5. Considers therefore that the new dimension which the Community intends to give to its development policy must not be substituted for the Association with the AASM but could be a most welcome addition to the latter;
6. Hopes that the forthcoming negotiations on a new Association Convention will lead to the enlargement and strengthening of the Association, not only in terms of the number of States which are associated but also in respect of the content of the Convention;
7. Requests the parties involved in the negotiations to give particular attention to the social requirements and cultural structures of the countries concerned;
8. Believes that the Community will only be able to fully implement its development policy to the extent that it succeeds in adapting its own economic aims accordingly;
9. Considers it necessary for this to be done in concertation with the other important commercial powers, since the Community cannot on its own support the consequences of such a policy;
10. Considers that the developing countries must, to a greater extent than in the past, move beyond the national framework to achieve regional cooperation;
11. Stresses once again the value of international agreements on primary commodities for the improved functioning of the world markets and a more equitable distribution of earnings between the industrialized countries and the less developed countries, and emphasizes the responsibility of the Community and its Member States in respect of the international agreements which have still not been concluded;
12. Urges the Commission – in working out its concepts on the expansion of trade with the developing countries – to take into account the experience it has acquired in this area in its relations with the AASM, and if necessary to broaden the existing programme with this end in view;
13. Believes that the Member States must gradually harmonize excise duties on tropical products;

14. Urges the European Commission to make proposals for the protection of designations and indications of origin of tropical food products and to give technical assistance to the countries concerned which so request to enable them to guarantee the authenticity of such products;
15. Shares the European Commission's view of the need for a continuous flow of funds to enable the internal development of the developing countries to be programmed, and stresses specifically in this context that it is essential for the technical and financial aid given by the Community under the Association with the AASM to be increased;
16. Considers that the coordination of bilateral aid given by the Member States and the Community must not be confined to an exchange of information but must gradually be extended to the instruments used and aims pursued;

3. Statement by Mr Boolell, representative of Mauritius

The Mauritian Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Boolell, attending the Conference as an observer, alluded to the problem of unemployment in his country, which indicated the need for an active development policy. The main problem was the single crop cultivation of sugar and he asked the partners of the Association for their support. Up to now industrial investment had centred on the processing of agricultural products. The development of tourism was gaining ground, but this should not be allowed to lead to price increases and the resulting risk of damage to social equilibrium.

4. Coordination of the activities of the partners in the Association

The German Member, Mr Fellermaier (Socialist), deputizing for the Belgian Member, Mr Glinne (Socialist), laid before the Conference a report on coordination of the activities of the 24 partner States of the Association in international organizations for economic cooperation and development, pursuant in particular to Protocol No. 5 to the second Yaoundé Convention (Doc. 41/73).

The report indicated that such coordination depended on the extent to which the economic interests of the various partners in the Association could be harmonized. According to all concerned the results of previous efforts at

coordination had in general been satisfactory, as long as expectations remained realistic. This coordination of interests was less evident in terms of a common position in international organizations for economic cooperation and development as it was in integrated cooperation in the sector of tropical products (e.g. Coffee Agreement) and in GATT. Mr Fellermaier mentioned cooperation between the EEC and the AASM at the third UNCTAD Conference as an example of this sort of teamwork. He pleaded for a permanent dialogue between the partners, particularly within existing organizations. Mr Bouda, the representative of Upper Volta, felt that the Association should act as a single body at international conferences. He described Protocol No. 5 as an important document and endorsed the content of the Glinne report.

Resolution on the Glinne report

The Conference adopted the following Resolution:

The Parliamentary Conference of the Association,

1. Believes that more energetic efforts should be made by the partners in the Association in order to work actively towards a constructive political dialogue between the EEC and AASM;
2. Invites the Council of the Communities to take all necessary steps to prevent the consultation of the AASM, for which provision is made in Protocol No. 5, from becoming purely formal, in particular by organizing a constructive dialogue between the partners, involving detailed examination of relevant issues;
3. Believes that closer consultation between the partners in the Association – especially after the enlargement of the EEC – should result in common international action with a view to the conclusion of world agreements on primary commodities, beginning with cocoa;
4. Stresses the importance of the procedure for consultation and information on commercial policy and calls upon the Council of Association to devote greater space in its activity report to the implementation of decision No. 35/71 on this procedure;

5. Development of tourism in Africa

The French Member, Mr Briot (EDU), presented to the Conference his working document on the development of tourism in Africa and making the best use of the tourist resources of the Associated African states and Madagascar (Doc. 44/73).

He felt that tourism should be included in economic planning; it would be necessary to determine whether present economic and social policies were adequately equipped to cope with the specific requirements of tourism. In order to represent the interests of tourism adequately and to ensure that it was given full consideration when general economic and social policies were laid down, it was vital for the body responsible for tourism to enjoy sufficient authority. The department which laid down tourist policy should also be in a position to ensure the existence of an adequate tourist infrastructure. As far as civil aviation was concerned the possibilities of reducing air tariffs and thus reducing travel costs to promote tourism should be seriously examined. Since the required infrastructures were extremely expensive it would be appropriate to concentrate the necessary investments in selected areas or centres.

The representative of the Cameroun, Mr N'Goo Mebe, pointed out that the development of tourism in Africa required suitably trained personnel. The British Member, Mr. James Hill (Conservative), spoke of the importance of African craft trades and called for a drastic reduction in air tariffs. Mr Pounder (UK, Conservative) also described the promotion of tourism in Africa as important because it earned foreign currency without polluting the environment.

Mr Louis Briot



Mr Heinrich Aigner



Mr Ludwig Fellermaier

IV. JOINT COMMITTEE

1. Appointment of members

On a proposal of the Bureau the Conference appointed the members of the Joint Committee and noted that the representatives of the Associated States had appointed deputy members.

Representatives of the European Parliament (1)

ACHENBACH (Germany, L)
AIGNER (Germany, CD)
ARMENGAUD (France, L)
BERSANI (Italy, CD)
BRIOT (France, EDU)
BROEKSZ (Netherlands, S)
COLIN (France, CD)
CORONA (Italy, S)
DEWULF (Belgium, CD)
DODDS-PARKER (UK, C)

FLESCH (Luxembourg, L)
HARMEGNIES (Belgium, S)
IOTTI (Italy, Non-attached)
KOLLWELTER (Luxembourg, CD)
LAUDRIN (France, EDU)
REAY (UK, C)
SCHUIJT (Netherlands, CD)
SEEFELD (Germany, S)
SPENALE (France, S)

(1) The European Parliament representatives on the Joint Committee are members of the Committee on Development and Cooperation.

Representatives of the Associated States

	Full Members	Deputy Members
BURUNDI	NZEYIMANA Laurent	—
CAMEROON	N'GOO MEBE Jean	NSAKWA Peter Ngi
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	NGAMBIKA—BEBE Bernard	—
CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE	—	—
IVORY COAST	EBAGNITCHIE Edouard	GON COULIBALY
DAHOMEY	KOUKOUTI Babatoundé Costant	—
GABON	NGOULAKIA Pierre Claver	ONWANLELE Jules
UPPER VOLTA	BOUDA François	KONDOMBO Norbert
MADAGASCAR	—	—
MALI	SISSOKO Alioune	—
MAURITANIA	MOULAYE Mohamed	MOHAMED FALL BABAHA
NIGER	GAOH Amadou	PERRET François
RWANDA	NDAHAYO Claver	MUDENGE Canisius
SENEGAL	GULLABERT André	—
SOMALIA	ALI Hashi MATTAN	—
CHAD	MOUNINE Mahamad	SILEK Ali Aberhaman
TOGO	DAGADOU Victor Emmanuel	—
ZAIRE	KASONGO Mukundji	KAMOSSI Lulungu

2. Appointment of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman

The Conference appointed Mr Ernst Achenbach (Germany, L) Chairman and Mr N'Goo Mebé (Cameroon) Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee.

At its constituent sitting, the Joint Committee decided to hold its next meetings in Bruges (Belgium) and in Lomé (Togo).

