

Brussels, 20 March 1973

No. 181

\*\* The implementation of a COMMUNITY REGIONAL POLICY is one of the priority aims which the Heads of State and Government of the Member States assigned to the Community when they met in Paris in October 1972. In ANNEX 1 there appears a brief note on the direction that the Community regional policy could take after the Summit Conference in Paris.

\*\* Community industry must equip itself with a URANIUM ENRICHMENT CAPACITY which would enable it, as from the beginning of the next decade, to cover a substantial and increasing proportion of the needs of the European Community. The size of the plant or plants to be built will have to be capable at the very least of coping with the needs of the power plants to be brought into service as from 1982. This means a minimum production of 3,000 to 4,000 tonnes of separatives work units/year in 1981 and a minimum of 10,000 tonnes s.w.u./year in 1985. Industry will have to define in terms of economic and commercial considerations the amount of capacity actually to be built over and above the minimum objective outlined above.

../..

---

This bulletin is published by the Directorate General Press and Information of the Commission of the European Communities

For further information please apply to the

Commission of the European Communities  
Directorate-General for Press and Information  
Division for industrial and scientific information  
200, avenue de la Loi  
1040 Brussels - Tel. 3500 40

or any of the Information Offices of the European Communities (list inside cover)

*The information and articles published in this Bulletin concern European scientific cooperation and industrial development in Europe. Hence they are not simply confined to reports on the decisions or views of the Commission of the European Communities, but cover the whole field of questions discussed in the different circles concerned.*

**PRESS AND INFORMATION OFFICES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

**1 BERLIN 31**  
Kurfürstendamm 102  
tel. 886 40 28

**GENEVA**  
72, rue de Lausanne  
tel. 31 87 30

**LUXEMBOURG**  
Centre européen du Kirchberg  
tel. 479 41

**ROME**  
Via Poli, 29  
tel. 689722 à 26

**53 BONN**  
Zitelmannstraße 22  
tel. 22 60 41

**THE HAGUE**  
22, Alexander Gogelweg  
tel. 33 41 23

**NEW YORK 10017**  
277 Park Avenue  
Tel. 371-3804

**SANTIAGO DI CHILE**  
Edif. Torres de Tajar-Ap  
Torre A, Casilla 10093  
Avda Providencia 1072  
Tel. 43872

**1040 BRUSSELS**  
200, rue de la Loi  
tel. 35 00 40

**LONDON SW 1**  
23, Chesham Street  
tel. 235 4904/07

**PARIS 16e**  
61, rue des Belles-Feuilles  
tel. 553 53 26<sup>4</sup>

**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20037**  
2100 M Street, N.W.  
Suite 707  
tel. (202) 296-5131

This is what is proposed by the European Commission in a communication accompanied by a draft Council resolution which the Commission has decided to forward to the Council of Ministers and which brings up to date and amplifies the proposals it made to the Council in June 1972. ANNEX 2 gives a summary of these new proposals.

\*\* Although after enlargement the Community of Nine carries greater weight in the energy market, this makes it all the more necessary to establish a satisfactory POLICY ON ENERGY SUPPLY. A preliminary examination of the energy supply and demand prospects in the three new Member States indicates that, as to supply, the situation in the enlarged Community is essentially the same as that of the Six, as described by the European Commission in its communication of October 1972 on "problems and instruments of energy policy in the period 1975-85" (see IRT Nos. 158 and 160). ANNEX 3 gives a brief review of the enlarged Community's energy supply arrangements.

\*\* In ANNEX 4 there appears a selection of RECENT PUBLICATIONS acquired by the Scientific and Technical Library of the Commission of the European Communities. These may be consulted in the Library (1, avenue de Cortenberg, 1040 Brussels, office Loi 43, first floor) or borrowed.

\*\* THE NET PRODUCTION OF PIG-IRON in the Community of Six rose to 81,297,000 tonnes in 1972, an increase of 7.3% over the 1971 figure. The following table shows the development of pig-iron production in the six countries during the past three years:

1000 tonnes

	1970	1971	1972	Comparison 1972/71 in %
Germany	33,627	29,990	32,004	+6.7
France	19,128	18,323	18,998	+3.7
Italy	8,354	8,554	9,443	+10.4
Netherlands	3,594	3,759	4,289	+14.1
Belgium	10,955	10,525	11,893	+13.0
Luxembourg	4,810	4,588	4,670	+1.8
Community of Six	80,467	75,740	81,297	+7.3

\*\* The European Commission is having profile studies made in various member countries of LONG-TERM ECONOMIC TRENDS, with a view to identifying economic cycles and allowing an in-depth economic interpretation of the connections between the long-term trends and the profile of the year-by-year economic pattern.

\*\* The Environment, Public Health and Consumption section of the Economic and Social Committee of the Community approves of the European Commission's move to request the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution to draw up an URGENT PROGRAMME FOR THE PURIFICATION OF THE RHINE WATERS. It also approves of the European Commission's proposal that a European Agency for the Rhine Basin be set up, with the responsibility of implementing this purification programme (see IRT No. 138). The section asks the European Commission to propose immediately the setting-up of such a European Agency.

\*\* A European symposium on the problems posed by the CONTAMINATION OF MAN AND HIS ENVIRONMENT BY MERCURY AND CADMIUM will be organized at Luxembourg on 3, 4 and 5 July 1973 by the Commission of the European Communities. The object of this symposium is to gather scientific information with a view to allowing an objective European-scale assessment of the risks to human health and surroundings entailed by pollution of the environment with mercury and cadmium.

\*\* The European Commission has recently published:  
the Proceedings of the first International Conference on the problems of STRUCTURAL MECHANICS IN REACTOR TECHNOLOGY, held in Berlin (Germany) on 20-24 September 1971 by the Commission of the European Communities and the Bundesanstalt für Materialprüfung (BAM).  
(EUR 4820 - 6 volumes - BF 5,000).

the Proceedings of the seventh symposium on FUSION TECHNOLOGY which was held at Grenoble (France) on 24-27 October 1972. (EUR 4938e - BF 700 - available in English).

These two documents are on sale at the Sales Office for the official publications of the European Communities (P.O. box 1003 Luxembourg 1).

It should be noted that the second International Conference on problems of structural mechanics in reactor technology will be held in Berlin on 10-14 September 1973.

\*\* Studies ordered by the Commission are often announced in "Industry, Research and Technology" at the time of launching. This is in order to keep our readers fully informed of what is happening in the Community in the sectors of industry, technology, research, energy and environmental protection.

The announcement that these studies have been started often evokes immediate and numerous enquiries from our readers concerning the results.

Obviously, if these studies have been undertaken, it is because the Commission does not yet know the answers.

There is therefore no point in asking us for them; in any case our readers may rest assured that "Industry, Research and Technology" will publish the results obtained from the studies begun as soon as these have been completed, provided, of course, that it has been decided to make the findings public.

## THE COMMUNITY'S REGIONAL POLICY

The lines which this might take after the Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Member States in Paris in October 1972

---

The implementation of a Community regional policy is one of the priority aims which the Heads of State or Government of the Member States assigned to the Community when they met at Paris in October 1972. A better distribution of wealth within the Community needs to be promoted and the regional disparities likely to hamper the process of economic and monetary union need to be eliminated.

To this end, the Paris Summit Conference allotted the Commission of the European Communities a threefold task:

1. to compile a report describing the principal regional inequalities subsisting in the enlarged Community;
2. to undertake, with the Member States, the coordination of their various regional policies;
3. to set up a Regional Development Fund which would be established by 31 December 1973. This fund would serve to correct the main regional inequalities in the enlarged Community, in particular those resulting from agricultural predominance, industrial changes and structural unemployment.

The report on regional inequalities in the Community is currently in progress. This should in principle be approved by the Commission on 4 April 1973 and then be passed to the other Community institutions. The Commission might moreover forward to the Council of Ministers as early as next June formal proposals for the framing of a common regional policy.

The Community's regional policy will need a long time to take shape. It cannot replace the Member States' regional policies but should be coordinated with them. Neither can it be confined to measures for boosting the economy; to achieve its aim, i.e., a better balance between the regions, by stimulating the development of less favoured regions and eliminating the disadvantages of excessive concentration in the "overdeveloped" regions, the regional policy should be integrated into the other national and joint policies (agricultural, industrial, social, transport, environment, etc.). Finally, its success will depend on close collaboration with employers and workers.

In the first instance, the Commission intends to concentrate its efforts on two matters: the creation of the Regional Development Fund and coordination of the Member States' regional policies.

A. The Regional Development Fund

It is not yet possible to make specific proposals as to the amount of the Fund. The importance of the regional policy and the need for really effective measures call, however, for appreciable financial resources.

Aid from the fund should go mainly to regions where the problems are most acute and to States which have to make the greatest regional development effort. The projects financed by the Fund should form part of coordinated regional development programmes, in accordance with the aims of the common regional policy. Some of the Fund's resources could be reserved for specifically Community programmes (e.g., the development of frontier zones extending into a number of Member States).

Aid from the Fund could take the form of capital premiums and interest rebates. The most efficient system of management of the Fund appears to be a mixed system, under which projects within the limits of a certain scale would be examined by the Member States concerned and approved by the Commission, while large-scale projects would be examined by the Commission with the aid of representatives of the Member States.

B. Coordination of the Member States' regional policies

The Commission is contemplating taking up again its proposal concerning the creation of a Regional Development Committee, for which the Commission would provide the Secretary and the Council of Ministers the Chairman and which would work in close coordination with the other economic committees (the Medium-term Economic Policy Committee and the Monetary Committee). The tasks of this Regional Development Committee would include the framing, examination and approval of regional development programmes.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

THE CREATION OF A COMMUNITY URANIUM ENRICHMENT CAPACITY

The Commission of the European Communities is to submit to the Council of Ministers new proposals bringing up to date and supplementing those which it submitted in June 1972

---

Community industry must equip itself with a uranium enrichment capacity to enable it to cover a substantial and increasing proportion of the European Community's requirements by the beginning of the next decade. The size of the facility or facilities to be built will have to be capable of meeting at least the requirements of the power plants to be commissioned in 1982 and after. This means a minimum production of 3,000 to 4,000 tonnes of separative work units/year in 1981 and at least 10,000 tonnes of separative work units/year in 1985. Industry will have to determine in the light of economic and commercial considerations the amount of capacity actually to be built in addition to the minimum aim indicated above.

This is what the Commission proposes in a communication accompanied by a draft Council resolution, which it has decided to forward to the Council of Ministers and which brings up to date and supplements the proposals which it made to the Council in June 1972 (see IRT No. 150).

Owing to the increase in requirements, the Community's supply of enriched uranium cannot be guaranteed beyond 1980 by the existing plants. Moreover, the new conditions laid down for the supply of enriched uranium after 1981 by the US Atomic Energy Agency, which has hitherto been virtually the only supplier of enriched uranium to the Community, are likely to cause serious uncertainties in the framing of construction programmes for nuclear power plants in the Community. The promoters of potential future uranium enrichment capacities in the Community, for their part, fear that the USAEC conditions - in particular the very long time elapsing between the conclusion of long-term contracts and the first delivery - will considerably reduce the market which might become open to any enrichment facilities brought into service in the Community in the early 1980's.

As soon as possible, therefore, and no later than the end of 1973, (when the decisions on the construction of the power plants for commissioning after 1980 have to be adopted), the policy should be adopted which is to govern enriched uranium supplies essential for covering foreseeable requirements; if this is not done, a delay may occur in the development of the use of nuclear energy which would imperil the achievement of the principal aims of the common energy policy (see IRT Nos. 119 and 161).

In the Commission's view, the Community's enriched uranium supply policy should include in particular:

- any necessary measures of encouragement of steps taken by Community firms to create the enrichment capacities necessary for the Community's supplies (i.e., an overall annual capacity of 3,000 to 4,000 tonnes of separative work units/year in 1981 and at least 10,000 tonnes of separative work units/year in 1985);
- arrangements concerning the commitments to be made for deliveries from outside the Community, in order to guarantee a regular supply to Community users and at the same time ensure economic operation of the uranium enrichment facility or facilities constructed by Community industry.

The Commission also proposes the creation of a Standing Committee on Uranium Enrichment Coordination, consisting of representatives of public bodies and interested undertakings, with a Commission chairman. This Committee would ensure the joint consultation of all interested parties and the promotion of joint studies to facilitate the coordination of the necessary investments. It would be required to frame a general report which the Commission would send to the Council of Ministers together with its proposals, to enable the Council to comment by 31 December 1973 at the latest on the Community's enriched-uranium supply policy.

THE ENLARGED COMMUNITY'S ENERGY SUPPLY

For the supply of primary energy, the situation in the enlarged Community is basically the same as that in the Six, as described by the Commission in its Memorandum of October 1972 on the problems and instruments of the energy policy during the period 1975-85 (see IRT Nos. 158 and 160). This fact is demonstrated by a first examination of the outlook for energy supply and demand in the three new Member States.

The creation of a larger market will give the Community more weight in the world in energy matters but will make it the more necessary to frame a satisfactory supply policy.

The problem of oil imports will present itself on a Community scale in almost identical terms. Even though the Community's dependence on imported oil might under favourable circumstances drop from 65% to 50% in 1985, thanks to the North Sea production, this percentage nevertheless represents almost 1,000 million tonnes of crude oil which needs to be bought outside the Community. The objectives of dependability and cheapness therefore retain all their importance, together with the necessity of developing a strategy which will give the world oil market as much flexibility as possible.

In the case of coal, the most pressing question will be what burdens the Community and the Member States will be prepared to shoulder in order to maintain a certain level of production.

The framing of a fuel supply policy for conventional power plants will be of special importance in the enlarged Community, more especially in view of the respective parts which coal of Community origin and coal imported from non-member countries might play.

For natural gas, as for oil, the development of the Community's own resources, together with the establishment of an import policy, remain the primary aims. A further aim is the improved utilization of available

resources, in view of the specific advantages and the relative scarcity of the gas. In this respect, the situation poses fewer problems in the United Kingdom, where gas consumption in conventional power plants is very limited.

The potential contribution of nuclear energy is strengthened by the technological experience of the United Kingdom. It is nevertheless even more necessary now than formerly to promote rapid development of this energy source. Only in this way can the enlarged Community hope to reduce its over-great dependence on imported oil in the not too distant future.

**RECENT PUBLICATIONS**

Which have been added to the Scientific and Technical Library of the Commission of the European Communities and can be consulted in the Library (1 avenue de Cortenberg, 1040 Brussels, Loi Offices, 1st Floor, No. 43) or borrowed.

---

**GENERAL**

- La Mutation des Signes (EU 17137)  
Berger, René  
Denoël, Paris, 1972
  
- Belgium's 500 Largest Companies (EU 17159/2)  
S.A. Etudes Financières et Economiques, Brussels, 1972

**ECOLOGY**

- Keine Angst vor morgen (EU 17138/2)  
Koeck, Wolfgang + Greiling, Walter  
Econ Verlag, Dusseldorf, 1972
  
- Molecular Approaches to Ecology (EU 17125)  
Florkin, Marcel + Schoffeniels, Ernest  
Academic Press, New York, 1969
  
- The New Battle of Britain (EU 17140)  
A Conservation Handbook and Directory  
Wallis, H.F.  
Knight, London, 1972

**ENVIRONMENT**

- The Environment and the Planner (EU 17126)  
Seminar in Brussels, 21-22 January 1971  
European Society of Corporate and Strategic Planners,  
ESCSP, Brussels, 1971

- Political Economy of Environment - Problems of Method (EU 17149 (2))  
Symposium held at the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris, July 5-8, 1971  
Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes  
Mouton, Paris, 1972
  
- Development and Environment (EU 17149 (1))  
Panel of Experts, United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Founex, Switzerland, June 4-12, 1971  
United Nations + Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes (VI<sup>o</sup> - Section)  
Mouton, Paris, 1972
  
- Consultative Assembly - Report on the Environment in Europe (EU 7709 (3080))  
Council of Europe, Strasbourg, 1972
  
- Consultative Assembly - Rapport sur la dégradation de l'environnement et ses répercussions sur la santé Humaine (EU 7709 (3061))  
Council of Europe, Strasbourg, 20 December 1971
  
- Mémoire sur l'application de la science et de la technologie à la solution des problèmes de l'environnement (EU 7709 (3069)) Council of Europe - Consultative Assembly  
Ryan, Treu  
Council of Europe, Strasbourg, 5 January 1972
  
- Mémoire sur l'agriculture et les problèmes de l'environnement (EU 7709 (3082)) Council of Europe - Consultative Assembly  
Hauret  
Council of Europe, Strasbourg, 17 January 1972
  
- Pesticide Residues in Food (EU 1979 (502))  
Report of a Joint Meeting, Geneva, November 22-29, 1971  
World Health Organization + Food and Agriculture Organization  
WHO-FAO, Geneva, 1972

- La distillation solaire - Une solution au problème de l'alimentation en eau pour des besoins limités (EU 17128)  
United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs,  
United Nations, New York, 1972
  
- Water in Foods (EU 17132)  
Matz, Samuel A.  
Avi Publishing Co., Westport, Conn. 1965

### POLLUTION

- Remote Measurement of Pollution (EU 17156)  
Report of a Working Group sponsored at Norfolk, Virginia  
August 16-20, 1971  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Springfield, Va., 1971

### SPACE

- Ressources et activités consacrées à l'espace - Examen des activités et des ressources que l'Organisation des Nations Unies, et ses institutions spécialisées et d'autres organismes internationaux compétents consacrent aux utilisations pacifiques de l'espace extra-atmosphérique (EU 17127)  
United Nations - Department of Political and Security Council Affairs,  
United Nations, New York, 1972

### INFORMATICS

- Etude du marché des sociétés de service, et de conseil en informatique (SSCI) Vol. 2: Etude économique et financière (EU 17142 (2))  
Ballester-Flors, A. + Oddou, J.  
Ballester-Maringe Oddou Consultants, Paris, June 1972
  
- Etude du marché des sociétés de service et de conseil en informatique (SSCI) Vol. 4: Note de synthèse (EU 17142 (4))  
Ballester-Flors, A. + Caplain, C. + Casalis, S. + Oddou, J.  
Ballester-Maringe Oddou Consultants, Paris, July 1972

- Electronic Data Processing in the Soviet Union and Other East European Countries (EU 17157)  
Special Study No. 72-1  
East-West SPRL, Brussels, December 1972
  
- Handboek informatica - De aspecten van de fundamentele informatica alsmede administratieve en wetenschappelijke toepassingen van de informatica (EU 17154)  
Belkim, J.W. van + Nielen, G.C. + Oorschot, J.M. van + Uitert, C. van + ...  
Samson, Alphen aan der Rijn, 1972