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Tenth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome

Statement by Professor Walter Hallstein,
President of the EEC-Commission

On 25 March 1967, Professor Walter Hallstein, President of the Commission of the European Economic Community, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome, issued the following statement :

“ On 25 March 1967 Europe celebrates the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome and the birthday of the European Economic Community. In these ten years the landscape of world politics has changed sufficiently to prompt the question whether the aims and methods written into the Treaties of integration still hold good. The answer can be nothing other than an unqualified “yes”. Only the securely knit and independent Europe that is made possible by the Community can assume responsibility and maintain its individual character.

“ It was the intention of those who created the European Economic Community that it should be the core and vanguard of an all-European Community. Wherever freedom and human rights are cherished in the West and in the East, the peoples of Europe are summoned to collaborate in the task of unification. The Community embodies no Europe of fear — it is not an instrument of the cold war — but the Europe of confidence; it reflects not the Europe of Yalta, but a Europe in re-unification; it is not a Europe of poverty, but the Europe of economic and technical progress.

“ The Community is moving along the road indicated by the Treaty of Rome. As yet, economic integration is not complete; the aim is to build a common market of continental scale and later to merge the economies of the six Community countries in one great European economy. However, important progress has been made on both scores; the most striking decisions have been those by which the customs union and the agricultural policy are to be established on 1 July 1968. Economic union not only provides Member States, by the mere fact of its existence, with an inducement to reach agreement in the other areas of political union — non-economic foreign and defence policy — but also makes such agreement easier. This example shows that even where vital national interests are at stake it is possible, thanks to a community constitution, to find a balanced solution for Europe, and that in the long run this is to the advantage of all concerned.

“ The unification of Europe is directed neither against the Soviet Union nor against the United States, but is in the interests of both. Monolithic Atlantic or Soviet set-ups on either side of the demarcation line of the *status quo* tear Europe asunder and weaken its parts, preventing self-determination and thus frustrating any hope of a lasting reduction of tension. The establishment of a Community order in Europe may on the other hand do something which neither a bipolar system of world power nor a balkanized Europe can achieve: it may exercise by peaceful means the dangers inherent in frontiers and eliminate the

storm centre of Europe from which two world wars have originated. This would provide sure foundations for confident co-operation with the rest of the world or even for a genuine partnership.

“ The policy of unifying Europe is in its objectives and in its methods as much with us, as correct and as necessary as it was in 1950 and 1955 and as it has been ever since. Ten years of progress along the trail blazed by the European Economic Community towards European self-determination have made it clear that, provided there are no faint hearts or weak wills, the goal can be reached.

“ There is no alternative. ”

I. Memorandum transmitted by the Commission to the Council on common transport policy following the Council resolution of 20 October 1966

Further to the resolution adopted by the Council at its session of 19-20 October 1966, ⁽¹⁾ the EEC Commission transmitted to the Council on 10 February 1967 a memorandum concerning common transport policy. During that session the Council had noted that its work on transport might well be bogged down if, as decided on 22 June 1965, it continued to concentrate on rate-fixing as a means of eliminating factors which might distort the play of competition, namely the abuse of dominant positions and more especially uneconomic competition.

In its memorandum the Commission takes stock of the discussions, comments on points of disagreement and points to possible solutions. It concludes that discussions could be focussed on measures other than those concerning rates which would restrain the abuse of dominant positions and uneconomic competition. Thus there should be nothing to prevent the early introduction of a far-reaching Community system for transport.

The Commission emphasizes that the need for rapid results is the greater in that customs union between the Community countries will be complete by 1 July 1968, when the common market in agriculture will also come into force. On that date work towards economic union, in which a common transport policy figures largely, will in its turn enter a more active phase.

In its memorandum the Commission says that the ideas set out in its "Memorandum on the general lines of a common transport policy" of 10 April 1961 and its "Programme for implementation of a common transport policy" of 23 May 1962 can be taken as blueprints for this policy.

The basis of the policy should be that optimum distribution of traffic between the various modes of transport and transport firms is attained by free competition. Any attempt to reach such a distribution by co-ordination measures — dependant on rate-fixing or some other mechanism — is excluded. But this does not entirely prevent the authorities from intervening on the market. On the contrary, it implies the need for certain types of intervention, with a threefold object:

- i) To ensure the satisfactory operation of the market by placing modes of transport and transport firms on an equal footing. This would be done by harmonizing the conditions of competition and suitably apportioning infrastructure costs;
- ii) To prevent or correct abuses which may arise from competition — the abuse of dominant positions and uneconomic competition — by establishing permanent machinery for supervision and capacity control, as well as by adopting temporary selective measures in case of need;

⁽¹⁾ See Supplement to Bulletin 3-67 and Bulletin 12-66, Ch. III, sec. 35.

iii) The further the aims of regional or social policy where the free play of the market does not do so.

In view of the differences between present national policies, a joint market organization for transport based on competition can only be set up gradually. Moreover, the measures to be taken in the different fields should to some extent go hand in hand, their interdependence being borne in mind but without one measure becoming a precondition for another.

In the light of the discussions to which the Memorandum of 1961 and the Programme of 1962 gave rise within the various Community institutions, the Commission has in recent years submitted a body of proposals in the following fields:

- harmonization of the conditions of competition;
- access to the market;
- transport rates and conditions;
- rules of competition;
- co-ordination of investment;
- infrastructure costs.

Some of these proposals have been adopted by the Council after reference to the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee. However, the proposal on rate brackets submitted by the Commission in May 1963 met with opposition from one Member State, particularly with regard to its application to Rhine shipping. To get out of this impasse, a new system was conceived on which the Council reached agreement on 22 June 1965; this combined the system of compulsory rates with provisions for a system of reference rates. This rate system was to be accompanied by measures to align the operating conditions of the markets: regulations for admission to the trade, definition of the system of vertical and horizontal agreements, common solution to problems posed by certain kinds of non-governmental intervention, common solution to the problem of apportionment of infrastructure costs, financial soundness of the railways.

The new feature contained in the agreement of 22 June 1965 on these supplementary measures lay in the dates fixed for their implementation — three years from the entry into force of the new rate system, except for the financial soundness of the railways which was fixed for 31 December 1972.

In order to give effect to the rate system contained in the agreement of 22 June 1965, the Commission submitted the amended proposal of 27 October 1965.

The discussions in the Council in July and October 1966 on this amended Commission proposal for a regulation on rates revealed disagreement on the interpretation and application of certain points. This disagreement was noted by the Council in its resolution of 20 October 1966.

The main point of disagreement concerned the system of reference tariffs: the Commission had considered that — without questioning the principle of free price formation which, according to the agreement of 22 June 1965, is a feature of this system — certain safeguards were necessary to prevent this freedom producing undesirable effects. It had therefore suggested, first, that the rates applied in transport subject to reference rates should fulfil certain conditions regarding the covering of

costs. Secondly, it had proposed that intervention as regards rates, consisting in the temporary imposition of maximum or minimum rates, might be decided by the authorities if they found cases of abuse of dominant positions or instances for uneconomic competition. The main idea behind these proposals was that effective means must be available to combat possible abuses of competition.

These provisions were not accepted by one Member State, on the grounds that they conflicted with the agreement of 22 June 1965 and that price formation should be completely free in the system of reference rates. The other points of disagreement which appeared in the Council were mainly of a technical nature; the two most important concerned the system for individual contracts and the publishing of rates.

The Council resolution of 20 October 1966 underlines "the need to see that the abuse of dominant positions or uneconomic competition does not cause a serious disturbance of the transport market". The disagreement reveals varying concepts of the kind of public intervention that is needed in order to combat the abuse of dominant positions and uneconomic competition.

It was therefore necessary to find appropriate ways of avoiding these risks and to see whether measures other than rate-fixing could be applied, as the Council resolution suggests.

The Commission proceeded to study the problems which arise for the various modes of transport: rail, road, and waterway. It reached two main conclusions.

In the first place, the abuse of dominant positions is now very rare, and will become more so as a competitive transport market is developed. There are no special difficulties in combating such abuse. For railways the solution may consist in measures concerning rates, for road and inland water transport in an appropriate application of the Treaty rules on competition.

Secondly, uneconomic competition appears to be a much more complex phenomenon and one which may have numerous causes. The real remedies to abuses of this type consist in the application of a wide range of measures chosen according to the situation in each mode of transport. Recourse to measures on rates, i.e. the imposition of minimum rates, may be reserved for residual cases. Probably there will be few such cases, occurring mainly during the alignment period when other measures will not yet have had their full effect.

It thus appears, as the Council resolution of 20 October 1966 implied, that it is indeed by the co-ordinated implementation of several kinds of measures that the problems underlying the disagreements must be solved. Until now, any progress on common transport policy has been subordinated to agreement on rate systems. Henceforward, the interdependence of the different fields of this policy must be looked into again and rate provisions must be laid down in the light of the other arrangements, in particular, access to the market.

After this study of the situation the Commission was able to suggest the measures that should be taken in the different fields and the way in which they would have to be interlinked in order to overcome the disagreement on rate systems. The Commission considers that efforts must be concentrated on measures other than those affecting rates to eliminate the underlying causes of uneconomic competition.

Intervention on rates is to be reserved for the residual cases — which will very probably be rare — in which signs of abuse of dominant positions and uneconomic competition still subsist.

For this purpose the Commission in its memorandum suggests the following solutions:

- i) Measures on the harmonization of conditions of competition, the apportionment of infrastructure costs, the application of rules of competition and access to the market;
- ii) Rate measures dealing with the system of reference rates, individual contracts and the publishing of rates and conditions;
- iii) Safeguard measures which meet a dual need: to remedy serious disturbances resulting from the general economic trend and to ward off serious disturbances that may spring from the joint organization of the transport market;
- iv) A supervisory committee for the transport market. Since in consequence of the Council's resolution the implementation of a set of co-ordinated measures is now envisaged in the different fields of common transport policy, the Commission expresses a preference for the immediate establishment of a supervisory committee with general competence, capable of assisting the Commission in its task of supervising the transport market by observing the effects of the various measures and by taking suggestions as to their application in the different fields.

In conclusion, the Commission in its memorandum to the Council points out that neither the general aims and guide-lines of the common transport policy nor the measures already taken to establish it are called in question. In principle, the same is true of the Council agreement of 22 June 1965 which must, however, be applied in a new perspective. Until now, the development of the common transport policy was subordinated to an agreement on rate systems; henceforward, measures other than those affecting rates will determine the scope and content of the rules relating to transport rates and conditions.

From this new viewpoint, it is possible to lay down a practical programme based on a dual priority. Priority is given to the rules applicable to transport between the Member States on the one hand, and on the other hand to the measures intended to normalize market conditions, i.e. harmonization of the conditions of competition and rules for access to the market.

The programme submitted to the Council has two phases: the first phase should be embarked upon immediately and last only until 31 December 1969, the date that marks the end of the transition period. In this first phase, the essential measures for transport between Member States should be adopted in good time to enter into force on 1 July 1968, the date when customs union and the common agricultural market will be fully established.

In executing the first stage of the programme the essentials of the common transport policy will be worked out and important measures will be applied either over the whole transport field (harmonization, apportionment of infrastructure costs, rules of competition), or only to traffic between Member States (rate systems and regulation of road transport capacity). Whilst the regulation on access to the market may also be adopted during this first stage, it would not be implemented until the second stage, i.e. at the same time as the development of rate systems for transport between Member States and its extension to national transport, the content of which extension it largely determines.

In the second phase — intended to begin on 1 January 1970 and to last three years — the rate system will be supplemented by the entry into force of common rules for national transport and by the development of rules on transport between the Member States. In addition, the regulations on access to the market adopted during the first phase will enter into force, while the harmonization of conditions of competition and the definition of the common financial system for the utilization of infrastructure will be completed.

Annexed to the Commission's memorandum there is a note on the "general development of the work on infrastructure costs".

At the Council session of 28 July 1966, the Commission said that it had in mind to propose that the Council adopt interim solutions for apportioning infrastructure costs. This suggestion of the Commission was noted by the Council in its resolution of 20 October 1966.

In the annex to the memorandum, the Commission informs the Council that it has put down for study the following matters:

- i) Harmonization of taxes on commercial vehicles;
- ii) The situation in inland water transport as regards covering the infrastructure costs of inland waterways;
- iii) Provisional standardization of accounts of infrastructure expenditure.

II. Proposal for a regulation on agricultural producers' groups and unions thereof

As the common market in agriculture will soon be fully established, our EEC farmers must of necessity adjust to the larger economic unit which has been created for them and in the creation of which they themselves have had a hand. With the establishment of the market organizations in many sectors and the annual fixing of prices for a wide range of products, one phase of the common agricultural policy has almost reached its goal. The changeover from small national agricultural markets to the new EEC market will require very large-scale adjustment by our farmers, but this should not be allowed to delay achievement of the common agricultural policy's other objectives. This skeleton building on the verge of completion needs to be properly furnished; farming must settle itself into its new, more spacious rooms and wider corridors without getting lost in the process of moving.

Farming as at present constituted is being largely by-passed by the vigorous development of the modern economy. It is not organized into companies comparable with those that finance industrial expansion, its markets are not dominated by combines, and it lacks a sufficient number of enterprising individuals capable of bringing modern production and marketing methods to the six and a half million or so separate agricultural holdings of over 1 hectare. ⁽¹⁾

As a result, farming's position on the market is growing weaker. This is reflected chiefly in the dwindling proportion of the price of the finished product represented by the cost of the raw materials delivered by farmers.

Agriculture must therefore endeavour, as soon as the common market is in operation, to take advantage of the new situation. This can best be done if producers:

- i) organize voluntarily in order to have a greater voice in market operations;
- ii) take a bigger part in marketing and selling their produce;
- iii) secure their position on the market.

With a view to ensuring optimum use of capital and labour and to improving incomes in agriculture, the EEC Commission submitted to the Council, on 21 February 1967, a proposal for a regulation on agricultural producers' groups and unions thereof.

This may well be the most important regulation for the development of agriculture and the improvement of market structure in a whole series of proposals now being prepared by the Commission for this purpose. In view of the importance of this proposal, the Commission hopes that it will be implemented with the constructive co-operation of all those who have a hand in the organization of the agricultural market — Member Governments, Members of Parliament and farming circles.

⁽¹⁾ Almost 70% of these are holdings of less than 10 hectares. Agriculture accounts for 8% of the EEC's gross domestic product whereas industry, with 2.3 million firms, accounts for 45%.

The need for Community arrangements

The combination of agricultural holding into producers' groups is a *sine qua non* for improvement of market structure in an agriculture based on the family farm. The Commission's proposal is designed to create a Community framework within which the Member States can promote the establishment of producers' groups and the agricultural community can pursue its own efforts to improve the organization of production and the joint supply of agricultural produce.

A short time ago the Council of Ministers, in its regulation laying down supplementary provisions for the common organization of markets in fruit and vegetables, authorized the introduction of common standards in order to improve the quality of produce, adapt supply to market requirements and, where possible, guarantee adequate incomes to growers. ⁽¹⁾ The establishment of producers' groups should therefore go a long way towards achieving the objectives of Article 39 of the EEC Treaty.

As a logical extension of this regulation, the Commission, in its proposals for regulations relating to the common organization of markets when the final, single-market stage is reached, has suggested measures to encourage the agricultural bodies involved to bring about a better organization of production, processing and marketing and to improve the quality of produce.

These measures should improve producers' knowledge of market conditions and increase the stability of agricultural markets.

Agriculture in the EEC is faced with the need to adapt production and marketing to the requirements of a demand that has been sharply concentrated in recent years. If the supply side is to be concentrated on lines of guaranteed quality, and if dealers and processors are to be assured of regular deliveries, often on specified dates, then new forms of organization are required in an agriculture that is largely made up of small family farms. Farmers in the EEC member countries have little time left to develop these new patterns of supply if they are not to be overtaken by extraneous developments in the processing industry tending in the same direction.

The salient features of the supply of agricultural produce are at present the large number of producers, the relatively small size of production units, and the production of a great number of more or less homogeneous products. As a result, supplies are very fragmented and do not always meet the requirements of a modern market. The aim of the Commission's proposal is to allow the agricultural sector of the economy to develop by encouraging concentration, without offending against the principle of free competition. Rural trade and co-operatives will be able to profit from the formation of producers' groups. For example, dealers will be largely relieved of the costly and time-consuming task of making up consignments to suit the market if they can take over lots from the producers.

The main weakness of all agricultural marketing co-operatives lies in the lack of loyalty among their members, which has prevented them from building up a position on the market commensurate with the size of their membership. This weakness will be removed by the Commission's proposal, in that the members of a producers' group will be obliged to deliver to the group their total output of the products under contract.

⁽¹⁾ See Bulletin 12-66, Ch. III, sec. 25.

The fact that agricultural co-operatives may have direct links with the production side clearly shows that, within the meaning of the Commission's proposal, an agricultural co-operative and a producers' group may be one and the same undertaking. If dealers and co-operatives wish to assume the functions of a producers' group, they will no longer be able to confine themselves to purely commercial activities, but must also direct their members' production and take responsibility for standardizing quality. This is the only way in which marketing can be put on a sound basis — the organization marketing the produce must have an influence, which it has not had up to the present, on the quality and presentation of produce.

The Commission's regulation then, is not intended to replace existing organizations; on the contrary, it consciously relies on forms of organization that have been tried and tested and seeks to profit from their experience.

There have been remarkable changes in final demand over recent years. In step with the economic development that has brought about a general rise in living standards, the demands of consumers have been modified. Consumers are now asking for increasing quantities of prepared and processed products and for fresh food all the year round. The trend of demand is for consistently high quality.

With a view to satisfying this consumer demand, the Commission's proposal is designed to ensure constant and regular supplies of produce of a given uniform quality in sufficient quantities and at prices as stable as possible.

The need for producers' groups does not arise only from economic considerations, for the joint collection and processing of products is in line with present-day technological advance and rationalization, and can stimulate the regional development of whole areas; from the common agricultural policy angle too, a variety of reasons militate in favour of joint ventures of this kind. Everywhere in the member countries similar projects are being put in hand, involving numerous vertical and horizontal agreements and liable to distort competition at the single-market stage unless they are carried out in accordance with common rules. Hence the Commission was virtually obliged to submit proposals to the Council for common rules applicable to producers' groups.

By 31 December 1969 at the latest, the Commission will consider, in the light of the experience gained and results achieved in the working of this regulation, whether its provisions should be kept as they are or amended. It should be noted that Regulation No. 159/66/CEE lays down that the Commission shall, by the same date, consider the same question with regard to organizations of fruit and vegetable growers.

Activities of producer's groups and their promotion

In principle, the proposed regulation concerns all the products listed in Annex II of the EEC Treaty that leave the farm without processing, as well as such products as butter, cheese, wine, olive oil and poultrymeat. A list of these products is given in an Annex to the proposal. Fruit and vegetables are excluded, however, because special arrangements have already been made for them.

Producers' groups must fulfil the following general conditions with regard to the sector or products for which they have been recognized:

i) They must not jeopardize attainment of the objectives of Article 39 of the Treaty by activities in respect of which they seek recognition;

ii) They must abide by common rules for the joint production and supply of agricultural produce up to the first stage of distribution;

iii) They must, in accordance with their joint rules, be in a position to store, sort, package and otherwise prepare agricultural produce for sale.

To avoid the danger of combinations liable to restrain competition, it is laid down that no producers' group may market more than 5% of the total EEC output of each product, unless otherwise decided for one or more products by the Council on a proposal of the Commission. Where a producers' group markets more than 5%, official recognition will be withheld. All discrimination between producers or producers' groups within the EEC, particularly on grounds of nationality or domicile, must be eliminated over the whole range of their activities.

Since agriculture itself does not as a rule have sufficient capital reserves and funds to ensure the establishment of producers' groups, temporary assistance from public funds should be forthcoming at the outset.

For this reason, Member States should be permitted to grant subsidies to recognized producers' groups and unions thereof during the first three years following official recognition, in order to help them find their feet and to promote their activities. The amount of such assistance should not exceed, in the first year 3%, in the second 2% and in the third 1% of the value of the produce marketed and covered by official recognition.

In addition, in the first five years after recognition, the Member States should be permitted to grant subsidies to recognized producers' groups and unions thereof for investments to improve production conditions, joint sales, storage, sorting, packaging and other preparations for sale. These subsidies may amount to not more than:

i) 40% of sums invested in real estate (new construction or in extension or modernization of existing buildings or installations);

ii) 20% of sums invested in movable property (machinery, vehicles, office and other equipment).

Once producers' groups or unions thereof begin to operate on the markets, they will come within the reach of the rules of competition (as regards stages both upstream and downstream) laid down in Council Regulation No. 26. ⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ See official gazette No. 30, 20 April 1962.

III. The possibility of Great Britain joining the Community

Extracts from press conferences given by Mr Harold Wilson,
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom,
and Mr George Brown, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
after their visits to the six Community capitals.

As promised in the last issue of the Bulletin, which described the British Prime Minister's views on the various problems connected with the possibility of the United Kingdom's membership of the Community, the reader will find below the most significant answers given by Mr Wilson and Mr Brown at press conferences held at the end of their visits to the various capitals.

Rome press conference

Mr Harold Wilson said at a press conference held in Rome on 17 January 1967 that he thought his and Foreign Secretary Georges Brown's visit had been successful but that it was, of course, only the first of six visits. Mr Wilson said one would have to look at the picture as a whole at the end of all the visits.

Asked to comment on remarks by the Italian Prime Minister, Signor Moro, Mr Wilson said, "I agree very much with Signor Moro that there are difficult problems and easy problems, but I would interpolate that, given goodwill and understanding, none of them are incapable of solution. [...] I think it is clear to everyone that the most difficult problems arise out of the agricultural situation, with particular reference to certain of the financial regulations agreed between the Six." [...]

"If Britain is able as a result of what no doubt will be tough negotiations to enter the European Community, we shall abide by the rules of that Community."

Asked about the likely reaction of the British people to entry into the EEC, Mr Wilson replied, "I believe it would have the overwhelming support of the British people if we were to enter, provided essential British and Commonwealth interests are safeguarded."

In reply to a question concerning the possibility of future discussions about the political content of the Community the Prime Minister said, "We have made clear that if we enter the Economic Community we shall play our full part in all activities necessary to improve political unity within Europe."

When asked how far relationships with the United States would be affected by British entry into the Common Market Mr Wilson commented, "While Her Majesty's Government are loyal members of NATO, we do not believe that there is anything in NATO that requires us to accept the domination of European industrial and economic life by American industrial agencies. We believe we can stand on our own feet in Europe even if as a result of past efforts we are still subject to this kind of penetration."

Paris press conference

Speaking at a press conference in Paris on 25 January 1967 Mr Wilson said: "I believe it is right to say that our hosts were impressed with the depth of purpose that we have shown in everything we have said. We did not come here asking them to say yes or no to any particular question because, of course, this is one of six visits, and as it was always understood, the six Governments of the Community will naturally wish to consult together about the issues raised by these visits. [...] We have been very encouraged by our reception and by the courtesy extended to us and by the very frank way we have been able to go into every issue raised, be they issues within the Treaty of Rome, be they issues raised by decisions taken under the Treaty of Rome, or be they other matters which in the minds of one or other of the six EEC Governments are important in deciding their attitude to what we are proposing."

On the position of sterling as a reserve currency and the possibility that this might be a serious obstacle to Britain's entry to the Common Market, Mr Wilson said: "In the minds of some of our friends in the Community the position of the sterling area, of sterling as a trading currency and also of the sterling balances raises problems of a monetary and even a broader character. [...] The sterling balances which really developed on a major scale during the war, and which now stand at roughly the same level as they did at the end of the war, though with a very different constitution as between countries, represent what one might call a banker's obligations. Against the liabilities that we have to those who have monetary reserves, gold and convertible currency reserves, we have assets, with second line reserves, on a scale considerably greater than the total of our obligations. I do not believe that there is any serious problem here, though I can well understand some of our Community friends being concerned that if, for example, there were to be at any time a run on those balances and they were to be withdrawn, then, if we were in the Community, it would not only be a drag on Britain, but a drag on our partners, perhaps causing them collectively to take internal restrictive action. I have used, I think, the full arguments to show that that would not be the position. There is not at the moment any suggestion that the banking liabilities and assets should be transferred within the Community. But whether they are outside or inside, they are fully covered by our very large investments overseas — both portfolio and direct investment of course — and therefore they need in no sense constitute, nor would they constitute, a burden, a liability or a drag on our partners within an enlarged Community. So far as working balances are concerned, the balances in London held by banking institutions, big business institutions, the oil companies and the rest, these have fluctuated, particularly when certain people were short-sighted enough to believe some things they read in the British and European press about the future of sterling, for which they paid a very heavy price subsequently. This has been, I think, a phenomenon very much associated with the period when Britain had an adverse balance of payments — 800 millions in 1964, cut to less than half that figure in 1965, cut again very sharply in 1966 and moving into surplus in 1967. [...] Britain this year looks like having one of the strongest balance-of-payments positions in Europe, or indeed more widely."

Asked whether the political structure of a larger Europe was discussed as well as the structure of Western Europe, Mr Wilson replied: "I think all of us felt in these discussions that the drive for political unity in Europe was at least as important to both of us as any of the economic questions we discussed, in many ways more important, but there was, of course, no discussion of structural problems or structural change. [...] If we become members of the European Community, we shall play our full part in all these matters as a member and, as I said in Strasbourg, we are

concerned to play such part as we can, even in advance of that, if our friends in the Six are agreeable to discussions on that basis.

[...] When I said it was not at the moment appropriate for Britain to be involved so closely in the internal political structure of the Community, I did say that political matters were very much in the forefront of the minds of both sides. I think both of us feel that, while we have great and formidable difficulties to overcome, greater political unity in Europe, particularly a much closer identification of Britain with the political issues in Europe, would have two consequences of transcendent importance. One is the drive which both the French Government and we ourselves, in our separate ways but clearly in parallel, have been engaged on in trying to reduce tension in Europe and, more widely, in the French and the British relationships with the Soviet Union; and, secondly, the very clear feeling that a wider and deeper unity in Europe will enable Europe, and therefore each country in Europe, to play a much greater part in world affairs, in influencing the two big-power countries, and in giving a lead to world peace."

Mr George Brown was asked whether the British Government was ready to accept the common agricultural policy which had been worked out by the Six. In his reply, the Foreign Secretary said: "[...] the common agricultural policy raises a number of problems for us. Four stand out. The effect on our cost of living by the raising of our food prices at home, if prices stay as they are. The distortions that it will import into our pattern of agricultural production because, for example, of the high level of cereal prices. The effect on members of the Commonwealth, notably of course New Zealand, not only, but notably New Zealand, and fourthly the effect on our balance of payments if we have not only to face the higher prices, but also to contribute ninety per cent of the levies across the exchanges to the Fund, which will put us in a position, if things remain exactly as they are, of paying as much to the Fund just about as all the other members of the Community added together. These problems of varying order, varying degrees of importance and of difficulty will need to be taken care of. [...] There are ways in which each of them can be taken care of and subject to that, which is after all the same position as each other member of the Community took about its own problems, the common agricultural policy, like the Treaty of Rome is not 'in itself, or necessarily, an impediment'."

To a questioner who asked: "Did you put specific proposals on technological sharing and what was your impression of how such proposals were received?", the Prime Minister replied: "I think you could assume that what I said in Strasbourg was developed with greater emphasis here in Paris. You know that the Secretary of State for Defence announced a tremendous programme of joint production within the field of military aircraft and helicopters, which for the later 'seventies involves, so far as Britain and France are concerned, a joint interdependence in the defence and the defence production field. What, of course, we are particularly concerned with, as I was when I was received by President de Gaulle in April 1965, is the extension of this kind of co-operation, on a practical joint production basis and in other ways, in civil technology — not only computers but a very wide range of electronic and other sophisticated modern products. So, of course, it will be clear that any real extension in that kind of technological co-operation would be dependent on our becoming part of a Common Market with the sale and exploitation of the consequences of that research."

Brussels press conference

Mr Harold Wilson held a further press conference on Wednesday night, 1 February 1967, at the end of his visit to Brussels, and observed that once again the visit had been extremely encouraging.

Asked how far Britain was prepared to see a surrender of sovereignty to the EEC Commission and where Britain stood on the question of majority voting, the Prime Minister replied: "This emotive phrase 'surrender of sovereignty' has never been one which frightened me in the debates on the Common Market three years ago. I said then that the progressive surrender of sovereignty is the mark of an advancing civilization."

So far as majority voting was concerned, he continued: "We have made it plain that whatever we put our name to we shall carry out fully and we shall carry out all obligations on entering the Community as the founder members and our partners in this venture have done."

Asked which he considered was the most important problem he had tackled in Brussels, Mr Wilson said. "They are all important, but [...] I would identify certain agricultural problems with particular reference to the operation of the financial regulations, as being among the key questions."

Asked what assurances had been received from the Common Market Commission about support for the British case, Mr Wilson said, "We neither sought nor asked for nor expected any expression of support for what we are doing, but we had an extremely useful discussion in which we were able to draw on the very great technical expertise in running the Commission over the past ten years and were able to discuss in very great depth some of the principal problems, particularly agriculture and the financial problems associated with agriculture."

I do not think it would be helpful for me to reveal the outcome of the discussions, but I found it very encouraging to get such a full discussion of these problems."

The Prime Minister, asked if he felt he had now dispelled doubts about sterling, replied, "So far as the question of sterling is concerned, there are no doubts at all in Europe about sterling."

A further questioner asked about discussions on the position of the developing countries of the Commonwealth. He said there had been criticism of a tendency to concentrate on the problems of the advanced Commonwealth countries.

Mr Wilson told him, "Of course we have been very much involved and so have our Common Market friends in every international organization designed to provide help for the developing countries. [...] Everything that can be done is being organized through international organizations."

The Common Market itself has devoted considerable time, energy and resources to assisting those developing countries which historically have been most associated with the Common Market countries themselves, particularly of course in Africa."

It was very far from the truth to say that the discussions on Commonwealth problems had been confined only to advanced countries. Certainly some of the agricultural problems of temperate Commonwealth countries were important and had been discussed, but of course there were discussions of problems affecting African, Asian and Caribbean countries, like those posed by the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement.

When asked about the discussions of capital movements between Common Market countries, Mr Wilson said, "There are problems here. In some discussions they have, I think, been exaggerated. I believe they are soluble, given time and given a special understanding of some of the problems which arise in respect of Britain — and of course many of the problems here are already foreseen and mechanisms are provided for dealing with them."

Bonn press conference

At the end of his visit to the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr Harold Wilson held a press conference in Bonn on 16 February 1967.

In his brief opening remarks the Prime Minister quoted what he described as the key sentence of the agreed statement: 'The issues involved in Britain's approach to the European Economic Community were fully discussed', and when asked to comment on the German position, said: "The position of the German Government, as put to us, is completely in accordance with all their public statements about support for British entry."

In reply to a questioner who considered there was some division within the British Government over Britain's entry into the Common Market, Mr Wilson said: "The statement I made on November 10 was made on behalf of the whole British Government."

To a questioner who asked: "Would you say that the argument developing about non-proliferation, because of the involvement of Euratom in it, has added a new difficulty that has to be sorted out in the process of Britain's entry into the Common Market?", the Prime Minister replied: "We have had some discussion on this inevitably but not in the context at all of the Common Market discussions. It is an entirely separate issue: our experts have had a brief discussion and this will continue. [...] You mentioned Euratom — we believe that the entry of Britain into all the Communities, as long as they remain separate Communities, and in the one Community on merging, will enable us to put a lot more life into Euratom, and our proposal for what I call the technological Community could be examined in relation to bringing Euratom into the wider technological setting. We believe that this will enable all of us in Europe to work much more closely together on the civil use of atomic energy; but this depends of course on a favourable response to our approach about joining the Community."

To a questioner who inquired whether he still insisted that, if Britain joined, there would have to be some sort of national control on the free movement of capital, Mr Wilson replied: "On the question of what our final view will be on capital movements — or any other question, of course — it is too early to say; [...] but I think you can assume that problems arising out of Article 67 and the general problem have of course been discussed."

On the question of prices, Mr Wilson said: "There has been no attempt to convert the German Government to a different attitude about agricultural prices, nor have they sought to convert us, but we have discussed the bearing of prices on the question of the financial regulations — which of course is one of the thorniest problems."

Finally, Mr Wilson was asked whether he had discussed possibilities of European co-operation in the field of defence; he reminded the questioner that they had been talking about the Common Market; Anglo-German and wider interests in defence were of course, he pointed out, a matter for NATO and WEU.

Press conference at The Hague

Mr Harold Wilson met members of the press in The Hague on 27 February 1967.

Asked for an indication of how long it would take for the British Government to reach a decision about applying for entrance to the Common Market, he replied: "I can't give any indication about how long it will take the British Government to reach its conclusion as to the next step, but I certainly intend that it should not take long. Right through we have stressed the importance of maintaining the momentum which these visits have involved, the speed and concentration of the visits, and the fact that it has been so concentrated has been an expression of that momentum, and we are determined to see, so far as it lies in our power, that that momentum shall not be lost."

The next questioner asked: "Do you see the creation of a non-proliferation treaty and your possible entry into the Europe of the Six as two entirely separate affairs? If not, the non-proliferation treaty would appear to become a stumbling block on your road to Europe." To this the Prime Minister replied: "[...] We do see them as two separate issues. [...] It might be desirable, in so far as there could be anxieties in Euratom, for experts to go and discuss these problems with the leaders of the Euratom Community. So far from this being an impediment to our joining the Common Market, I would have thought, if there are these anxieties, it should be an encouragement, it should be a reason for our joining, because we believe that Euratom, which has faced considerable difficulties over the years, could be greatly strengthened in its working by the contribution that we could make to its activities through our own development in the peaceful uses of atomic power. [...] In certain of its aspects, for example in the field of power generation, we have a strong claim to say that we now lead the world. I believe that we can here contribute a great deal to Euratom, whether under its present organization, expanded in a more technological sense, or as it will finally be, merged into one Community with the other two. And these are all arguments, I think, for strengthening the links between Britain and Europe, by Britain joining the Community or Communities — whichever is relevant at that particular time. So I think it would be totally to misconceive both the treaty and what is likely to happen under it, to feel that this should be an impediment to our joining. We also will be facing the problem of inspection and we are much more relaxed about the problem from our much greater knowledge of what is involved; and we want this spirit of relaxation to be communicated to our prospective partners."

Answering a questioner who wished to know whether the matter of parliamentary control was discussed, Mr Wilson said, "Yes, it has been discussed, and of course quite properly and appropriately. I can think of almost no question bearing on the future of the Community, or bearing on British entry, that has not been discussed in these very fast moving and thorough discussions. Our position on this, as on all other institutional questions arising out of the Treaty of Rome, is that if we are able to secure entry on terms which we, and the British people, consider reasonable, we shall of course play our full part in all that is envisaged by our Common Market partners. [...] Of course exactly how these things should develop, we could say far better from within the Community than by making pronouncements from outside."

To a question on the possibility of a second round of talks, Mr Wilson gave the following reply: "We haven't taken any decision about this yet; if by a second round you mean that the Foreign Secretary and I should have a further six visits to the six capitals, I can't tell you how agreeable this would be, but at the same time we realize this does take a lot of time, and I'm not sure that a repetition of our existing tour

and going over ground which is becoming increasingly familiar to all those concerned would necessarily be the best way of maintaining momentum. If any of our friends desired further talks in a bilateral sense, at any level, of course we would be very glad to arrange them, and there are arrangements for continuing bilateral discussions through all the bilateral machineries which exist within Europe today."

On the question of monetary co-operation the Prime Minister was asked whether he would like Article 108 of the Rome Treaty activated and whether he thought it desirable to have central bank credits prolonged. "Article 108," Mr Wilson replied, "is an article we have discussed on a number of these visits. [...] But, if you are referring [...] to anxieties of some Common Market countries about disturbances resulting from the international position of sterling, my answer would be first, that the strength of sterling is largely a function of, is dependent on, the strength of Britain's balance of payments. This we are, of course, successfully building up. Secondly, in so far as sterling is a widely acceptable trading currency throughout the world, any difficulties of the kind envisaged in Article 108 are perhaps better handled through the mechanism of the International Monetary Fund and through the informal co-operation between central banks, which have been developed not only within Europe but more widely, [...] without ruling out, in appropriate circumstances, that any member country of the Common Market running into difficulties could have appropriate access by agreement to the facilities provided under Article 108."

Another journalist recalled that the phrase about essential British and Commonwealth interests being safeguarded had been often repeated since November; he wished to know whether the Prime Minister implied that some special conditions could be attached to the existing system in order to protect those interests, or whether it meant simply that in Mr Wilson's judgement they could be satisfied under existing arrangements.

The Prime Minister replied: "This is what the visits are designed to clarify. In many cases the anxieties expressed in Britain, not least in past years by myself, have been shown to be less real than was once thought, because of the way in which the Common Market works — and we've learnt a great deal about the practical working of the Common Market and its various institutions over the past few years. But it will be of course for the British Government to consider in the light of the report that the Foreign Secretary and I will be making to our colleagues how far and in what way we should seek to ensure that essential interests are safeguarded. It is no secret, I think, that when the Treaty of Rome was first drafted the member countries sought to safeguard their interests in the way it was drafted, and there were individual protocols and provisions at that time. While all of us in Britain would want to minimize any special arrangements because we were not there at the original drafting, I think we want to see how far, within existing arrangements or without going beyond the spirit of any existing arrangement, we could solve these problems [...] by transitional arrangements of varying degrees of time, on which so far we haven't formed a view — or indeed discussed any particular periods. In yet other cases more permanent arrangements might be worked out within the general spirit of the Community."

Press conference in Luxembourg

The Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary held a press conference after their visit to Luxembourg on 10 March 1967.

Mr Wilson said that he and the Foreign Secretary, Mr Georges Brown, now had sufficient information to enable the Cabinet to take a decision about British membership of the Common Market. [...] Everything had been covered so fully that he could not imagine any problem on this score, but he would not like to suggest that the Cabinet would rush into a decision. It was a very, very important issue and a great deal of work had to be done, including in the first instance work by himself and the Foreign Secretary.

Asked how he proposed to maintain the momentum of the British initiative, he replied, "We shall certainly waste no time, we shall get down to it as quickly possible. But this is a big job, a job that has to be done effectively. It is a momentous decision."

Mr Brown intervened to point out that certain other events were taking place in the period ahead — the Kennedy round of trade negotiations, for example. Britain and the Six were likely to be "pretty well occupied" and he thought the timing would take care of itself.

Summing up the visits, Mr Wilson said, "This is the sixth and last of the visits that the Foreign Secretary and I have been paying to the Heads of Government of the six member countries of the EEC and the other Communities and like the other we have found this extremely helpful, extremely useful, and we are now returning to London to start tying together the lessons from all the discussions that we have had. [...]"

Mr Wilson told a questioner that it would be premature to say whether he considered essential British and Commonwealth interests could be safeguarded and whether an application for EEC membership by Britain was likely to be welcome.

IV. Internal activities

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMON MARKET

Customs matters

Tariff quotas

1. On 3 February 1967 ⁽¹⁾ the Commission, acting under Protocol IX to List G, granted Germany for 1967 a tariff quota of 130 tons at a duty of 1.25% for imports from non-member countries of yarn spun entirely from silk waste other than noil, not put up for retail sale, CCT heading ex 50.05.

On 7, 10 and 21 February 1967 respectively the Commission, acting under Article 25(3 and 4) of the Treaty took the following three decisions:

i) To increase from 1 500 to 2 200 tons the tariff quota at a duty of 8.2% granted to Germany for the period 1 April 1966 to 31 March 1967 for salted coalfish (pollack) for canning, CCT heading ex 03.02 A I c2 ⁽¹⁾.

ii) To increase from 215 to 365 tons the tariff quota at a duty of 6% granted to the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union for the period 1 April 1966 to 31 March 1967 for crabs of the "King", "Hanasaki" and "Kegani" species and shrimps of the "Pandalus platyceros japonicus" species, CCT heading 16.05, simply boiled in water and cleaned or shelled, whether or not frozen, for canning ⁽²⁾.

iii) To increase from 55 to 63.5 tons the tariff quota at a duty of 1% granted to Germany for the second half of 1966 for yarn entirely spun from silk waste other than noil, not put up for retail sale, CCT heading ex 50.05, for the manufacture of sewing thread entirely of this material ⁽³⁾.

Reduction of customs duties on certain Annex II products

2. On 17 February 1967 the Commission laid before the Council a proposal for a directive in pursuance of the Council decisions of 11 May 1966. The object of this directive is to liberalize the movement of the agricultural products listed in Annex II to the Treaty other than those covered by the regulations instituting common organizations of agricultural markets already in force or expected to come into force shortly (e.g. sugar).

The scope of this directive is limited to lowering the remaining intra-Community customs duties on the products concerned on 1 July 1967. Duties would be cut by between 10 and 15% depending on the product, and this would bring the reduction in the original duty on each product up to 75%.

⁽¹⁾ See official gazette No. 26, 13 February 1967.

⁽²⁾ Ibid. No. 30, 22 February 1967.

⁽³⁾ Ibid. No. 46, 14 March 1967.

This proposed directive will be followed before 1 July 1967 by a second one relating to the elimination of duties between the Member States with an eye to the final date of 1 July 1968.

As is known, the Council decides by qualified majority vote on a proposal of the Commission in the case of tariff reductions to be effected during the final stage of the transition period.

COMPETITION

Application of the rules of competition: cartels and dominant positions

Application of Articles 85 and 86 to individual cases

3. Early in February 1967 the Commission communicated to a firm the complaints made against an export prohibition in its terms of sale.

The firm in question has the exclusive dealership in one of the Member States for the pharmaceutical, plant-health and veterinary products of its parent company, which itself sells them in the other Member States either directly or through agents, in particular exclusive agents who are not subject to any export prohibition.

On the other hand the terms of sale of the firm which has the exclusive dealership on the home market of the parent company lay down *inter alia* that the products supplied may not be exported except for personal use and that buyers may only deliver to others for resale if they impose the same export prohibition. Failure to respect this clause may lead to stoppage of supplies and legal action.

In its complaints the Commission states that reference by the producers to the legal provisions applicable to their branch of trade, which they are obviously required to observe, does not authorize them to follow up those provisions by rules of a private nature whose effects are more far-reaching and which fall under the provisions of the Rome Treaty on cartels. Moreover, as regards the products involved in the particular case the national regulations hardly differ from one country to another, so that a product conforming with requirements in one Member State will generally satisfy those applicable in the others.

Taxation

Harmonization of turnover tax

4. At its session of 9 February 1967, the Council adopted the two directives ⁽¹⁾ proposed by the Commission on the harmonization of turnover tax systems in the six Member States.

The first directive provides that the multi-stage turnover tax systems at present in force in Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands will be replaced by a value-added system and that the TVA system already existing in France will be aligned on the common system. It also lays down the main principles of the latter. The second directive is concerned with the details of the common system.

⁽¹⁾ See official gazette No. 71, 14 April 1967.

The introduction of the value-added tax system in all the Member States now decided by the Council is of great economic significance. In the first place, unlike the multi-stage turnover tax it ensures the neutrality of the tax as regards competition between large integrated concerns and the generally small and medium-size firms in the Common Market which are not integrated. Secondly, specialization of production by firms is no longer artificially hindered, and this is of special importance for ancillary industries and those supplying services. Thirdly, it will now be possible in international trade to equalize with precision the burden of turnover taxes. The present multi-stage systems only allow of a rough and ready equalization which leaves much room for distortion of competition between firms in different Member States and allows of manipulations in favour of certain branches of industry. As customs union nears completion these distortions become increasingly important from the economic standpoint. Lastly, the common system has the practical advantage that in international trade businessmen will have to cope with only one turnover tax system instead of the six which exist at present.

The introduction of the common TVA system is a decisive step towards the establishment of a single internal market. It creates the necessary precondition for a common market without internal tax frontiers, i.e. without tax remission on exports, taxation on imports, and, consequently, without the accompanying formalities at frontiers. This objective cannot be reached until the rate of TVA has been equalized in all the Member States, which will be the subject of a later directive.

In essence the first directive embodies the following principles:

- a) The common TVA system will come into force by 1 January 1970 at the latest. The necessary municipal legislation must be promulgated early enough for this time-limit to be observed;
- b) Before the end of 1968 the Commission will submit to the Council proposals laying down how and within what time the harmonization of turnover tax should attain its main objective, which is the total abolition of countervailing charges at the frontiers between Member States. The Council will take a decision on these proposals before 1 January 1970 if possible.

The second directive lays down the implementing details of the common TVA system which each Member State must introduce into its tax legislation. The following points may be noted:

- i) Value-added tax is a general consumer tax which is charged in principle at all stages of production and distribution in such a way that only the increment in the value of the product at the stage considered, i.e. the value added at this stage, is taxed. The amount of tax is calculated on the total turnover, the tax paid on the products bought at the preceding stage being deducted. The difference then goes to the revenue authorities;
- ii) The value-added tax is charged on supplies of goods and services in the countries in question and also on goods imported;
- iii) The tax applies in principle to all supplies of goods down to the retail stage. However, for a period extending at latest until tax frontiers are abolished, the Member States are free to apply the system down to the wholesale stage only.

As regards the supply of services taxation is only compulsory if the services have an appreciable direct or indirect influence on the prices of goods. The services subject to the tax are given in a list, which mentions in particular the transfer of patents and trade marks and the transport and stocking of goods. It does not mention banking

operations. The tax regulations concerning the large group of services which do not figure on the list (for example doctors, hairdressers and others who generally supply services only to private individuals) are left to the Member State.

The place where the supply of a service is taxed is the place where the service rendered is used or exploited. However, on a proposal from the Commission, the Council may agree to special arrangements waiving this principle.

Tax paid at earlier stages on supplies or services to persons subject to the tax or on imports is deductible from the tax chargeable on the turnover of the taxpayer. In principle such deduction can be made immediately and in respect of all tax paid at the earlier stages. However, in order to mitigate the difficulties of the changeover to the new system, Member States may for a certain transitional period apply the deductions in respect of capital goods by annual fractions (deductions *pro rata temporis*) or exclude capital goods from the system of deductions in whole or in part.

Furthermore, Member States are entitled to exclude deductions for capital goods in whole or in part for reasons connected with business trends and after consulting the Community.

Although Member States are entitled until such time as tax frontiers are abolished to lay down rates of tax and tax exemptions autonomously, the directive contains certain restrictions in this matter. In the event of exemption it is strictly forbidden to permit deduction of the tax paid at earlier stages. A compulsory minimum is fixed for the rates reduced. It is however possible until such time as tax frontiers have been abolished to waive these two rules in favour of final consumers and for specific social reasons. But the total effect of such exceptions may not be greater than the aggregate effect of the facilities previously granted in the context of social policy.

The directive lays down a special procedure should a Member State think fit in certain exceptional cases to take special measures to simplify the collection of the tax or to prevent fraud.

In dealing with small firms for which the normal TVA system would meet with difficulties, every Member State is free to apply the special system best suited to national requirements and possibilities.

The Commission is instructed to submit proposals to the Council as soon as possible on common procedures for applying the tax to operations concerning agricultural products.

Tax harmonization

5. On 8 February 1967 the Commission transmitted to the Council a general programme for the harmonization of taxes up to and after 1 July 1968, the date at which customs duties will have been abolished and the common agricultural market will have been fully established.

As regards indirect taxes the Commission memorandum mentions between now and 1 July 1968 the removal of discrimination in excise duties on wines and spirits, sugar, cocoa and yarns and the harmonization of various excise duties (manufactured tobacco, beer, sugar, wines and spirits). This harmonization is to take place in liaison with the proposals shortly to be worked out in connection with agricultural policy and the modification of monopolies. Harmonization will also have to cover excise duties on petroleum products.

As far as possible proposals will be submitted for the harmonization of the structures and later the rates of annual road tax on motor vehicles. Finally, a transitional solution will have to be found to harmonize the rules on the territorial application of indirect taxes on insurance contracts.

After 1 July 1968 a fourth directive will have to be submitted concerning the Community value-added tax and the new proposals in the field of excise duties and indirect taxes on capital movements.

The programme concerning direct taxes first mentions, among the studies to be completed before 1 July 1968, taxes on capital movements. The aim is the complete removal of international double taxation of dividends and interest and, in general, the removal of all the causes — distortions or discriminations — likely to cause abnormal capital movements, to keep capital markets segregated from each other and to curb the expansion of savings. With this in view it is important *a)* to work out a harmonized system for the retention at source of tax on interest on negotiable bonds and on dividends which would provide in particular for the amount retained to be set against the beneficiary's taxes, *b)* to reorganize tax credit, *c)* to find a single method for lightening the total fiscal burden, *d)* to harmonize the fiscal consequences of the operations of investment companies and *e)* to harmonize the tax arrangements applicable to holding companies.

The programme also includes provisions to facilitate the reorganization and merger of firms (acceptable tax system for mergers and contribution of assets between companies in different Member States) and incentives to investment (prior consultation on all fiscal measures concerning the basis of assessment of the profits of representative firms and alignment of the components of profits tax assessment).

After 1 July 1968 the approximation should concentrate on schedular taxes, the method of computing the taxable profit of businesses, rates of company taxes, co-ordination and methods of control and collection.

International tax questions

6. The Working Party on international tax questions held its 20th meeting in Brussels from 29 January to 2 February 1967.

The study of the draft multilateral convention for the avoidance of double taxation was continued ⁽¹⁾.

The discussions covered:

Article 6 — System for income from property.

Article 7 — Taxation of business profits.

Article 8 — Special provisions applicable to maritime, inland waterway and air traffic.

Article 9 — Transfers of profits between associated companies.

Article 10 — Taxation of dividends at source.

Since there was a consensus on the essential points, it will be possible to maintain the broad lines of the OECD model convention.

⁽¹⁾ See Bulletin No. 1-67, Ch. IV, sec. 7.

However it has become apparent that the lack of harmonization of the rules in the Member States for determining profit causes difficulties as regards the part which can be apportioned to a particular establishment or plant (Art. 7).

The same applies to the fixing of a uniform maximum rate for retention at source on the dividends (Art. 10). In this case too harmonization of direct tax systems would help towards a solution.

Taxes on insurance contracts

7. The Working Party on indirect taxes on insurance contracts met in Brussels on 31 January 1967.

The main purpose of the meeting was to determine whether it was desirable and feasible to bring insurance operations into the scope of Community TVA. It emerged from the discussions that most delegations thought that for technical and budgetary reasons TVA would hardly lend itself to the taxation of insurance services.

It was agreed that the studies on the harmonization of structures and on the rates Member States' specific taxes on insurance contracts should be continued without further delay.

Countervailing charges on imports and refunds on exports

8. The Working Party on problems in the application of Articles 95-97 of the Treaty to turnover taxes met in Brussels on 16 February 1967.

The purpose of this meeting was to examine the changes in countervailing charges on imports and refunds on exports contemplated by the Netherlands Government for 1 March 1967.

These measures were examined by virtue both of the prior consultation procedure laid down by the decision of the member Governments' Representatives meeting in the Council on 21 June 1960 (standstill) and of the prior consultation provided for in Article 102 of the Rome Treaty.

Meanwhile the Commission has informed the Netherlands Government its views.

9. The meeting continued the technical examination of the changes in countervailing charges made in the meantime by the Federal Republic of Germany. After certain further information had been supplied at the request of the other delegations this examination was considered to be concluded.

At the request of the Netherlands delegation a discussion began on the taxing of processed products reimported in the course of processing traffic.

The German delegation described the background to the change introduced in Germany a few months previously and explained the legal reasons for it. ⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ On 1 March 1967 the Commission decided to hold the consultations with the Member States provided for in Article 101(1) of the Treaty.

Approximation of legislation: proceedings of the European Parliament

10. At its session of 30 January to 3 February 1967 the European Parliament passed three resolutions endorsing Commission proposals for Council directives concerning certain technical specifications of motor vehicles, wheeled farm tractors and the elimination of radio interference caused by motor vehicles ⁽¹⁾.

FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS

Freedom of establishment in direct insurance

11. On 2 February 1967 the Commission forwarded to the Council a proposed directive for the elimination of restrictions on freedom of establishment in the field of direct insurance other than life assurance.

This proposal supplements a draft directive co-ordinating rules and regulations on access to and pursuit of the insurance profession which was laid before the Council by the Commission in June 1966 ⁽²⁾.

The present proposal lists those rules or regulations in Member States which discriminate against nationals of other Member States and are consequently to be withdrawn. It specifies that the friendly societies referred to in Article 3 of the original directive will benefit from the removal of restrictions only after the expiry of the transition period, since they are exempted from the co-ordination measures.

When the proposed directive has been adopted by the Council, the Member States will enact the measures required to comply with it within 12 months from the notification of the original co-ordinating directive and will implement them from the same date as they implement the laws and regulations adopted pursuant to that directive.

Free movement of workers

12. The Consultative Committee set up under Regulation No. 38/64 on the free movement of workers within the Community met on 24 February 1967 in Brussels with M. Levi Sandri, Vice-President of the Commission with special responsibility for social affairs, in the chair.

The Committee examined a preliminary draft regulation on measures to achieve the objectives of the Treaty as regards free movement of workers. After a full discussion the Committee found that the draft faithfully reflected the principles set out in its formal opinion of 16 January 1967 on the measures required in this field.

The Consultative Committee also took note of the chief amendments which the Commission is proposing to make to Directive 64/240 on the movement and residence of workers and their families ⁽³⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Extracts from this resolution are given in the Annex to the present Bulletin.

⁽²⁾ See Bulletin No. 8-66, Ch. II, sec. 15 and official gazette No. 175, 3 October 1966.

⁽³⁾ See official gazette No. 62, 17 April 1964.

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL POLICY

Adoption of the first medium-term economic programme

13. On 8 February 1967 the EEC Council of Ministers and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States adopted a medium-term economic programme for the Community for the period 1966/70.

In conformity with the Council decision of 15 April 1964 ⁽¹⁾, which defined a framework for studies on medium-term economic policy, this initial programme was based on the draft submitted by the Commission. This in turn was based on the preliminary draft prepared by the Medium-term Economic Policy Committee. It sets out the guidelines for the economic policies which the Member States and the Community institutions propose to follow during the period indicated.

This first programme contains first a foreword, and then an introduction setting out the basic problems in the economic development of the Community during the period in question. This is followed by six chapters.

After dealing with the broad aims of medium-term economic policy and the general outlook for economic growth in the Community during the coming years, the programme sets out the guidelines for the various fields of economic policy. Employment and vocational training policy, public finance and regional policy are treated in greater detail.

The programme highlights the precarious nature of the economic balance likely to prevail in the Community during the next few years. It stresses the need to keep prices sufficiently stable if there is to be regular and rapid growth in the Community. On this point it draws the attention of the authorities to the need to moderate the increase of private consumption and to keep public expenditure within certain limits. Balanced growth can be ensured by a rapid and continuous development of supply. Such development calls for a body of measures that will increase the factors of production and promote their optimum distribution so that the greatest possible improvement in productivity is achieved. Among such measures, those aiming at vocational training better adapted to the needs of the economy and a better balance in regional development will make a particularly important contribution to the economic growth of the Community as a whole.

In the terms of the Council decision of 15 April 1964, referred to in the decision taken today, the Council and the Governments of the Member States in adopting the programme express their intention of acting in conformity with the guidelines contained in it.

The Council has instructed the Medium-term Economic Policy Committee to carry out an annual review of the programme for the purpose of making any necessary adjustments. The Committee will have to follow up the medium-term economic policies of the Member States and examine their compatibility with the programme. It will also have to study economic trends in order to seek why actual developments have diverged from the forecasts. It may render opinions, at the request of the Council or Commission or on its own initiative, in order to advise the Community's institutions and those of the Member States on the application of the economic policy contemplated.

⁽¹⁾ See official gazette No. 64, 22 April 1964.

The Committee has already made the necessary procedural arrangements to enable it to undertake these tasks.

The Committee also proposes, when the next draft programme is drawn up, to go more deeply into the guidelines for areas of policy which have not yet been examined sufficiently. The Committee has therefore given a high priority in its current work to policy on scientific and technological research, on the structure of industrial and agricultural sectors and on the structural adjustment of enterprises, and to incomes policy and capital market policy.

As the customs union moves towards completion and economic integration develops, it will be possible to compare and co-ordinate the objectives and instruments of the Member States' economic policy on a permanent basis. The first medium-term economic programme is an important step on the way to true economic union.

Third directive in pursuance of Article 67 of the Treaty: amended proposal

14. In order gradually to extend the liberalization of capital movements in the Community the Commission on 8 February 1967 laid before the Council an amended proposal for a third directive under Article 67 of the Treaty.

This amended proposal introduces new measures to relax exchange controls, but is otherwise the same as the original proposal which provided for the elimination between the Member States of legal or administrative obstacles to the issue of foreign securities on the domestic capital markets, to the introduction of foreign securities on domestic stock exchanges and to the acquisition of foreign securities by financial institutions.

These measures, which are intended to ensure a certain reciprocity in the Member States' undertakings with regard to exchange controls, provide that up to a specified ceiling the countries still imposing exchange restrictions shall authorize the issue on their capital markets of the securities of other member countries, and again up to the ceiling specified shall liberalize all medium- and long-term loans and financial credit not exceeding a certain amount.

Short-term Economic Policy Committee

15. The Committee met on 16 and 17 February 1967 to examine the economic budgets of the Member States and to review the business situation in the Community. Its conclusions were embodied in an opinion sent to the Commission.

Group of experts on consumer surveys

16. The Group met in Brussels on 20 and 21 February 1967. It finally adopted the draft of the joint questionnaire and decided on the other main features of the inquiry to be conducted three times yearly on the basis of a multi-stage random household sample.

Study Group on medium-term economic forecasts

17. The Study Group met on 7 February 1967 with M. P. de Wolff in the chair.

An exchange of views was held on the drawing up of value projections and on the analysis of volume projections.

A sub-group was set up to make a more detailed analysis of the trend by sectors in the past.

The Group also discussed its future programme of work and established a time-table.

Medium-term Economic Policy Committee

18. At its meeting on 30 January 1967 the Working Party on scientific and technological research policy discussed the draft of its report to the Medium-term Economic Policy Committee. In particular it laid down the main lines of Chapter I which will deal with taxation, competition and patents.

The Working Party on incomes policy met on 2 and 27 February 1967, when it continued the examination of its draft report to the Medium-term Economic Policy Committee on the lines of action so far followed in the member countries as regards incomes (wage and non-wage), and also of the draft of its proposals on the forms which an incomes policy in the Community may take.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

Council sessions of 8-9 and 20-21 February

19. In February 1967 the Council held two sessions on agriculture. A summary of the proceedings is given on later pages and the details below.

The session of 8-9 February 1967 was mainly concerned with problems of the common market organization for sugar in 1967/68 and certain problems connected with the proposed regulation on transitional measures for common cereal prices.

At its session of 20-21 February 1967 the Council gave its assent in principle to the transitional measures for the single market in cereals, pigmeat, eggs and poultry. The aim of these measures is to avoid any disturbances to trade flows, the production cycles of raw material users or supply to consumers on the transition to common price levels after 1 July 1967.

Processed cereal products (with the exception of flour, which will be dealt with later on the basis of a Commission proposal) will be subject, until July 1967, in intra-Community trade to a levy equal to 100% of the variable component of the levy applicable on 30 June 1967.

As to cereal conversion products, the Council has provided for a transition period of one month for eggs, six weeks for poultrymeat and three months for pigmeat. A levy corresponding to 100% of the variable component of the levy applicable on 30 June 1967 will be imposed.

The Council continued its examination of outstanding questions relating to a proposed regulation to amend Regulation No. 26 applying certain rules of competition to production of and trade in agricultural produce (agricultural aids). The Special

Committee for agriculture was instructed in particular to resume study of the classification of certain categories of aids on the basis of the practical suggestions which the Commission intends to present shortly.

The Council also discussed the regulation on measures for the common market organization in the sugar sector for the 1967/68 marketing year and on the co-ordination and unification of fruit and vegetables import systems.

Finally, several regulations were adopted in the Community languages (see Chapter VII "The Council").

Common organization of agricultural markets

Cereals and rice

20. On 6 February 1967 the Commission adopted a regulation determining the total annual consumption of rice by industry to meet the requirements of home markets. ⁽¹⁾ This regulation constitutes the implementing measures for Article 1(2) of Council Regulation No. 115/66/CEE of 25 October 1966 concerning the financing of intervention on home markets for rice. Article 1(2) requires the Commission to determine this amount in order that each year, when expenditure eligible for aid from the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund is calculated, one twelfth of the said amount may be deducted from the quantities of home-grown paddy in stock on the last day of the marketing year in each producing State. The present regulation will enable Member States to lodge their applications for reimbursement in respect of market intervention in the rice sector for the 1964/65 marketing year, the first in which the levy system was applied.

Finally, on 28 February 1967, the Commission adopted a regulation concerning the fixing of the levy in advance and refunds for certain products in the cereals sector ⁽²⁾.

Beef and veal

21. At its session of 20-21 February 1967 the Council adopted a regulation on certain measures concerning imports from non-member countries of frozen beef and of cows on the hoof for the food industry. ⁽³⁾ By this regulation the Council allocated among the Member States the tariff quota of 22 000 tons of frozen meat, at 20% duty bound in GATT, and authorized the Member States to suspend until 30 June 1967 in trade with non-member countries:

- a) The levy on frozen meat for processing in bond;
- b) Half the levy applicable to imports of live cows for processing in bond.

The Council also temporarily reduced to 15% the customs duty applicable in Italy to certain frozen meats for processing in bond.

On 14 February 1967 the Commission took a decision fixing the maximum refund on exports of live cattle to non-member countries ⁽⁴⁾.

⁽¹⁾ See official gazette No. 23, 8 February 1967.

⁽²⁾ Ibid. No. 37, 1 March 1967.

⁽³⁾ Ibid. No. 33, 24 February 1967.

⁽⁴⁾ Ibid. No. 30, 22 February 1967.

Finally, on 28 February 1967, the Commission adopted a regulation amending Regulation No. 207/66/CEE providing for new arrangements to avoid deflection of intra-Community trade in frozen beef ⁽¹⁾.

Sugar

22. At its session of 20-21 February 1967 the Council adopted the regulation on measures for a common market organization in the sugar sector for the 1967/68 marketing year ⁽²⁾. This regulation follows on the same lines as were adopted by the Council for the period beginning on 1 July 1968.

The Council limited the common price and marketing guarantees to the following amounts:

Germany	1 700 000 tons
France	2 300 000 tons
Italy	1 230 000 tons
Netherlands	575 000 tons
B.L.E.U.	530 000 tons.

The regulation also envisages the possibility for Member States to carry over a maximum quantity of white sugar to the following marketing year. Finally, it provides for possible refunds on the production of sugar used in manufacturing certain products, particularly in the chemical industry. The list of these products and the implementing details will be adopted at a later date.

Eggs and poultry

23. On 6 February 1967 the Commission adopted a regulation amending certain levies on slaughtered guinea fowl laid down in Regulation No. 202/66/CEE. ⁽³⁾. As a mistake had been made in this regulation as regards the calculation of the levies applicable to imports into Belgium and Luxembourg of slaughtered guinea fowl from non-member countries, the Commission issued a corrigendum replacing the amounts of 12.48 Bfrs per kg and 12.48 Lfrs. per kg by the amounts of 12.35 Bfrs. per kg and 12.35 Lfrs. per kg.

On 1 February 1967 the Commission took a decision authorizing France to introduce certain measures for the benefit of private stocking of poultrymeat. ⁽⁴⁾

Authorization was given to finance the private stocking of slaughtered chickens up to maximum of 5 000 tons by advances repayable in not more than three years. Assistance is granted for a period of 5 to 20 weeks. It is limited to the real costs borne by those holding stocks and may not exceed 0.021 FF per kg a week for warehousing costs, etc. and 0.15 FF per kg a week for costs of freezing, etc.

Only establishments which give an undertaking to sell the chickens in stages up to 30 June of this year at the latest are eligible for this assistance.

⁽¹⁾ See official gazette No. 37, 1 March 1967.

⁽²⁾ Ibid. No. 40, 3 March 1967 and Bulletin No. 2-67, Ch. I.

⁽³⁾ Ibid. No. 23, 8 February 1967.

⁽⁴⁾ Ibid. No. 26, 15 February 1967.

The Commission based its decision on Article 226 of the Treaty (general safeguard clause) and the consideration that this measure is likely to help the sector in question to adapt to the economy of the Common Market.

Finally on 23 February 1967, the Commission adopted three regulations: ⁽¹⁾

i) A regulation reducing the supplementary amount on poultry eggs in shell. Following a slight rise in offer prices from non-member countries, it was decided to reduce the supplementary amount applicable to these imports from all non-member countries except Finland, Poland and South Africa. This reduction brings the supplementary amount down from 0.15 u.a. per kg to 0.1 u.a. per kg.

ii) A regulation amending the supplementary amount for liquid or frozen egg yolk. This is an amendment to Regulation No. 228/66/CEE which provided for the application, in conformity with Regulation No. 154/66/CEE, of two supplementary amounts, the first of which — 0.550 u.a. per kg — was applicable to imports of liquid or frozen egg yolks from Great Britain and Czechoslovakia, and the second of 0.400 u.a. per kg to those from other non-member countries. This change means that with effect from 26 February 1967 a single supplementary amount of 0.500 u.a. per kg for imports from all member countries will apply.

iii) A regulation reducing the supplementary amount on slaughtered guinea fowl. The supplementary amount applicable to imports from non-member countries was reduced when it was noted that there had been no import by Member States after the adoption of Regulation No. 208/66/CEE of 14 December 1966. This reduction is 0.125 u.a. per kg, the previous supplementary amount having been 0.275 u.a. per kg.

Fruit and vegetables

24. On 16 February 1967 the Commission adopted a regulation concerning communication to the Commission of the main features of the withdrawal price system applied by fruit and vegetable growers' organizations. ⁽²⁾ This regulation contains certain special arrangements to make the data reported by the Member States comparable.

At its session of 20 and 21 February 1967 the Council considered a first report by the Special Committee for Agriculture on the progress of work on the draft regulation concerning the co-ordination and the harmonization of fruit and vegetable import systems applied by each Member State in respect of non-member countries. After an exchange of views principally on the problem of whether or not the protection measures currently in force and those envisaged by the proposal under examination were adequate to allow complete liberalization of trade with non-member countries, the Council asked the Special Committee for Agriculture to continue its work on the subject.

Oils and fats

25. On 1 February 1967 the Commission adopted a regulation concerning certain conditions governing refunds and levies on exports of olive oil. ⁽³⁾ This regulation specifies the conditions for granting a refund for exports in the form of a licence

⁽¹⁾ See official gazette No. 31, 23 February 1967.

⁽²⁾ Ibid. No. 29, 11 February 1967.

⁽³⁾ Ibid. No. 20, 2 February 1967 and No. 35, 28 February 1967.

for levy-free import of a quantity of olive oil equal to that exported, and the conditions determining the export levy.

On 14 February 1967, the Commission adopted three regulations, ⁽¹⁾ namely:

a) A regulation on the conditions governing the suspension of the import levy on olive oil for use in certain preserves. In accordance with Articles 1 and 2 of Council Regulation No. 217/66/CEE, this regulation sets out arrangements for control of the use in certain preserves of olive oil imported into the Community with suspension of levies and arrangements concerning the circulation of these oils in the Community.

b) A regulation altering the date of application in Germany of the import and export licence system in the olive oil sector. The date of the authorization granted to Germany to suspend application of the import and export licence system by way of exception to Article 17 of Council Regulation No. 136/66/CEE was extended to 30 June 1967. In fact the final date of 28 February previously set cannot be met by Germany because of a certain delay occurring in procedure for adjusting national legislation.

c) A regulation concerning certain transitional provisions applicable in the groundnut and groundnut oil sector in France. This regulation puts back to 31 December 1967 the date of entry into force in France of the Common market organization for oils and fats set for 1 July 1967, for groundnuts and groundnut oils only, owing to agreements concluded between France and certain African countries for the present groundnut crop year.

Finally, on 2, 14 and 27 February 1967, the Commission determined the levies in the olive oil sector. ⁽²⁾

Milk and milk products

26. On 15 February 1967 the Commission adopted two regulations giving effect to the common market organization in the milk and milk products sector for the milk year 1967/68.

The first was Regulation No. 28/67/CEE ⁽³⁾ extending certain provisions of Regulation No. 192/64/CEE concerning arrangements for intervention in the butter market, and fixing the amounts representing depreciation in the value of butter owing to storage. Secondly, Regulation No. 29/67/CEE ⁽³⁾ on the standard amounts for certain milk products for the milk year 1967/68 determines the standard amounts valid for the year which are intended to ensure Community preference in the calculation of levies.

Finally, at its session of 20-21 February 1967, the Council adopted a regulation amending the annexes to Regulation No. 111/64/CEE, which establishes groups of products in the milk and milk products sector, as regards products under heading 17.02 A. ⁽⁴⁾

On 28 February 1967 the Commission adopted a regulation setting out arrangements for implementing Regulation No. 215/66/CEE on the system applicable to compound animal feedingstuffs with a basis of milk powder and other milk products. ⁽⁵⁾

⁽¹⁾ See official gazette No. 27, 16 February 1967.

⁽²⁾ Ibid. No. 21, 2 February 1967 and No. 26, 15 February 1967.

⁽³⁾ Ibid. No. 27, 16 February 1967.

⁽⁴⁾ Ibid. No. 33, 24 February 1967.

⁽⁵⁾ Ibid. No. 39, 2 March 1967.

Common market organization for plants, cut flowers, bulbs, etc.

27. On 23 February 1967 the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a regulation setting up a common market organization for live plants, cut flowers, bulbs, etc. Like the first market organization for fruit and vegetables, this proposal envisages a system of Community standards for quality and a trading system.

The proposed regulation replaces the old draft which the Commission presented in January 1966. The latter contained a number of temporary and transitional provisions; the new draft, submitted at the Council's request, contains provisions of a more definitive nature. It mentions that the Council may take any necessary measures to supplement these provisions as experience may dictate.

The essential provisions contained in the proposed regulation are as follows:

Standards

The Council may fix standards for quality, size, and packaging; these may cover grading, packing, and presentation as well as marking. Together with the basic draft regulation, the Commission proposes standards:

- a) For flower bulbs, which will apply both in the retail trade and in exports to non-member countries;
- b) For cut flowers and fresh foliage, applicable in the production centres and in trade with non-member countries (classes I, II and coronets).

These standards prevent the export of inferior products to non-member countries; they offer guarantees for Community consumers while allowing professionals to use small bulbs as their primary materials. The standardization of market prices by quality class will also contribute to the transparency of Community markets.

The Member States will arrange for products to which the standards apply to be checked for conformity with them.

Intra-Community trade system

From 1 July 1967, the following will be forbidden:

- 1) All quantitative restrictions or measures of equivalent effect;
- 2) All charges equivalent in effect to customs duties;
- 3) Recourse to the system of minimum prices (Article 44 of the Treaty).

From 1 July 1968 customs duties will be eliminated. Member States will allow buyers and sellers to deal with whomsoever they choose, subject to the provisions governing the internal functioning of co-operatives and similar groups.

System of trade with non-member countries

In 1967 for the first time the Commission may fix minimum export prices through the Management Committee for dormant bulbs and tubers (Common Customs Tariff 06.01 A).

The draft regulation makes provision for setting up a management committee for live plants, cut flowers, bulbs, etc.

From 1 July 1968, it also requires:

- 1) Full application of the Common Customs Tariff and a ban on all charges equivalent in effect to customs duties;
- 2) A ban on all quantitative restrictions or measures equivalent in effect.

A saving clause is also proposed: at the request of a Member State, the Commission must decide within two working days whether to apply it. The Commission may also apply this clause on its own initiative. Member States may refer the Commission's decision to the Council within three days.

Community information for purposes of the common agricultural policy

Survey on the pattern of farming

28. At its session of 20 and 21 February 1967, the Council adopted a regulation amending Regulation No. 70/66/CEE in respect of the basic survey in France and in Italy. ⁽¹⁾ The basic survey in those countries will be carried out during the period beginning 1 November 1967 and ending 31 January 1968.

Competition in agriculture

Application of Article 93(3) of the Treaty

29. In pursuance of Article 93(3) of the Treaty, on 6 February 1967 the Commission informed the Italian Government that it had no comment to make on the agricultural part of an Italian law concerning the less-favoured areas of northern and central Italy.

Approximation of legislation

Proposed directive on the control of San José scale

30. Coming after the directives prohibiting the introduction of organisms harmful to plants into the Member States and the campaign against potato-wart scab and potato-root eelworm, a proposed directive on the campaign against San José scale was submitted to the Council on 20 February 1967. This harmful organism is present in several Member States and is amongst the most dangerous of its species. It attacks all ligneous dicotyledons except conifers and is usually lethal.

The proposed directive lays down certain minimum requirements to which Member States must conform. They can also take additional or more rigorous measures.

One of the minimum requirements is that Member States must demarcate contaminated areas and institute safety zones around them.

⁽¹⁾ See official gazette No. 33, 24 February 1967.

In principle, all contaminated plants in nurseries and all contaminated plants and fruit found in consignments must be destroyed.

Where plants are contaminated but still in the ground, they must be treated so that their fruit will be free from San José scale.

Possession of the organism is forbidden. Certain exceptions may be authorized by Member States if they are absolutely sure that there is no danger of spreading the organism in question. This provision applies especially to experiments, tests and immunity breeding work; it may also apply to contaminated fruit for immediate processing (manufacture of fruit juice, jams and preserves).

The content of this directive is to be incorporated in the legislation of the various Community countries not later than one year from the date on which it is notified to them.

Progress of harmonization in the field of veterinary and animal husbandry legislation

31. When the directives of 26 June 1964, which came into force on 30 June 1965, concerning intra-Community trade in cattle and pigs and in fresh meat became law in the member countries and were put into effect it became obvious that it was necessary to adjust some of their provisions in order to take into account new technical and scientific developments and experience gained. On the Commission's proposal, the Council therefore adopted two directives which will come into force eight months after their publication. These are:

- 1) Council directive of 25 October 1966, amending the Council directive of 26 June 1964 on health inspection in intra-Community trade in cattle and pigs. ⁽¹⁾
- 2) Council directive of 25 October 1966, amending the Council directive of 26 June 1964, on health requirements in intra-Community trade in fresh meat. ⁽¹⁾

On the basis of the Commission directives of 13 May 1965 (which came into force at the same time as the Council directives of 26 June 1964) concerning the procedure to be followed when rendering opinions on official approval of slaughterhouses and cutting rooms in intra-Community trade in fresh meat and concerning the procedure to be followed when rendering opinions on intra-Community trade in cattle and pigs and in fresh meat, the Commission adopted the proposals of the Member States and published a list of veterinary experts competent to report on matters of intra-Community trade in cattle and pigs and fresh meat ⁽²⁾; by a decision of 29 July 1966 it designated the veterinary experts competent to report on slaughterhouses and cutting rooms ⁽³⁾.

An examination of the national provisions adopted by the Member States in pursuance of the directives which came into force on 30 June 1965 was also made.

The proposals submitted to the Council in December 1963 for directives concerning health requirements for trade in fresh poultry-meat and in meat products, as well as the draft directive submitted to the Council in September 1965 concerning health requirements and health inspection in the import of cattle and pigs and fresh meat from non-member countries and a draft Council decision setting up a Veterinary

⁽¹⁾ See official gazette No. 192, 27 October 1966.

⁽²⁾ Ibid., No. 100, 7 June 1966.

⁽³⁾ Ibid., No. 153, 23 August 1966.

Committee were discussed at several meetings of the Agricultural and Veterinary Working Party of the Council. These drafts have not yet, however, been adopted by the Council.

The European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee were consulted on these proposals and rendered a favourable opinion.

During the various meetings of the "Veterinary legislation" Working Party, co-ordination of measures taken by certain Member States on an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease was discussed.

Since the free movement of certain agricultural products must be ensured by 1 July 1967 and since all obstacles to trade must be abolished by 1970, the following matters were given high priority with a view to Community regulations:

- 1) Salmonellosis,
- 2) Re-examination of the directive of 26 June 1964 on brucellosis,
- 3) Leucosis,
- 4) Biological residues in meat and meat products,
- 5) Amendment of Article 8 or 9 of the directives of 26 June 1964 as regards measures which can be taken by certain Member States in respect of another Member State in the event of an outbreak of epizootic diseases,
- 6) General health inspection measures,
- 7) Transportation of cattle, fresh meat and meat products,
- 8) Boned and pre-packed meats,
- 9) Guts,
- 10) Milk and milk products.

Other sectors urgently requiring harmonization in the interest of free movement of goods will be studied as soon as possible.

Acting on a memorandum from the Commission, on 14 June 1966 the Council granted 2 158 000 u.a. in a supplementary budget for the EEC's contribution to the work undertaken by the International Office of Epizootics to combat African swine fever in the Iberian peninsula, as well as 350 000 u.a. as an EEC contribution to the FAO operations against foot-and-mouth disease in Turkey. The use of these sums was discussed in a management committee in co-operation with the International Office of Epizootics and in a tripartite committee in collaboration with the FAO and that Office.

In the field of animal husbandry legislation, work on regulations concerning thoroughbred sires and artificial insemination was begun in collaboration with government experts of the Member States. Satisfactory progress has already been made in two meetings of the Working Party on animal husbandry legislation. Three well-known experts in this field have been commissioned to make studies in preparation for further harmonization measures.

COMMON TRANSPORT POLICY

Communication from the Commission to the Council on the common transport policy following the Council resolution of 20 October 1966

32. On 10 February 1967 the Commission transmitted to the Council a memorandum concerning the common transport policy, following the resolution adopted by the Council at its session of 19-20 October 1966. ⁽¹⁾

This memorandum, which was published in the supplement to Bulletin No. 3/1967, is discussed in detail in Chapter I of the present Bulletin.

Application of consultation procedure

33. In pursuance of the Council decision of 21 March 1962 establishing a procedure for prior examination and consultation, on 1 February 1967 the Commission rendered an opinion on the Italian Bill already mentioned in the last Bulletin, amending certain road traffic regulations, in particular as regards the weights and dimensions of commercial vehicles. Its opinion was favourable, since the Bill aims to align Italian legislation on this subject with the proposals which the Commission has made. ⁽²⁾ The Commission indicated however that a maximum length of individual vehicles of 12 metres was to be recommended, as in its proposals.

34. On 23 February 1967 the Commission also sent a recommendation to the French Government on a draft decree specifying the arrangements applicable to international road passenger transport. In this recommendation, the Commission informed the French Government that it had certain objections of substance and procedure to the draft decree.

Harmonization of certain social provisions in the field of road transport

35. A first meeting with government experts for the establishment of Community rules on the installation of a mechanical monitoring device on road vehicles (a recording tachometer) took place in Brussels on 17 February 1967.

Such rules were provided for in Article 16 of the proposed Council regulation on the harmonization of certain social provisions in the road transport sector. ⁽³⁾ The main subject of this discussion was the information to be supplied by the mechanical device, namely: speed, distances, running and stopping time of vehicles (differentiating in the latter case between the crew's working time and resting time), change of driver when there are two drivers and opening of the device (for inserting and taking out the recording sheet, breakdowns, etc.). With regard to scope of application, the experts were agreed that in the interests of road safety and social progress the regulation should provide for a much more wider use of the recording tachometer than is at present the case in a number of Member States.

⁽¹⁾ See Bulletin No. 12-66, Ch. III, sec. 35.

⁽²⁾ See Supplement to Bulletin No. 7-64.

⁽³⁾ See Bulletin 9/10-66, Ch. V., sec. 47.

Proceedings of the European Parliament

36. During its session of 30 January to 3 February 1967, the European Parliament rendered its opinion on a Commission proposal to the Council concerning a directive for the harmonization of arrangements regarding the duty-free entry of fuel in the tanks of commercial vehicles. ⁽¹⁾

In this opinion the Parliament suggests certain amendments to the Commission proposal. One of these was that the quantity of fuel specified by each Member State should be the same for all Community vehicles, wherever registered, and another was that the criteria for assessment of the tax and the rates of the tax on vehicles should be harmonized with effect respectively from 1 January 1968 and 1 January 1969.

Proceedings of the Economic and Social Committee

37. At its session of 22 and 23 February 1967, the Economic and Social Committee rendered two formal opinions concerning transport. As to the proposed Council regulation concerning the abolition of discrimination in transport rates and conditions, ⁽²⁾ the Committee did not consider that the cases of discrimination envisaged by this proposal called for a special regulation.

The Committee proposed to wait until a regulation had been introduced on rate systems (including compulsory brackets and reference brackets) before placing on a legal basis the prevention of discrimination, which was done directly among the Member States by concerted action. When this regulation was adopted, the basic elements of the present draft regulation could quite simply be inserted in Regulation No. 11/60 with due regard to certain situations mentioned in the opinion.

The Committee also raised the question of penalties. Whereas under the terms of Regulation No. 11 penalties differ from country to country, the Committee recommended that they should in future be determined on uniform principles.

38. The second opinion concerned the proposed Council regulation on the harmonization of certain social provisions in road transport. ⁽³⁾

In principle the Committee endorsed the Commission's proposal. However it proposed certain amendments making the regulation more restrictive in some respects and less so in others.

On general matters, the Committee regretted that the Commission had not stipulated a maximum age for drivers (Article 5). The Committee also considered that in principle the minimum age for drivers should be 21, with exceptions in certain circumstances, such as the completion of full vocational training. The wording of Article 5 should therefore be amended accordingly.

The Committee urged that checks to see that the regulation was being observed should be based on standard criteria applicable both to resident and to non-resident carriers.

Finally, the Committee considered that working conditions in the various modes of transport should be co-ordinated as soon as possible and with due regard for the features peculiar to each.

⁽¹⁾ See Bulletin 9-10/66, Ch. V., sec. 48.

⁽²⁾ See Bulletin 12-65, Ch. III, sec. 34.

⁽³⁾ See Bulletin 9-10/66, Ch. V., sec. 47.

On specific points the Committee suggested the following amendments:

Article 5: 18 years of age instead of 16 for the minimum age of driver's mate.

Article 7: 450 km instead of 300 for two drivers to be required in the cases indicated by the Commission.

Article 10: No distinction between goods and passenger transport in respect of the length of the driving day (in both cases 9 hours) and fixing of a maximum of 96 hours for the driving time over two consecutive weeks, instead of 90 for goods transport and 80 for passenger transport.

Article 11: Arrangements less favourable to drivers in respect of exceptions to the general standard providing for at least 11 consecutive hours of rest, passenger transport nevertheless having an advantage over goods transport.

In addition the Committee proposed to add a new article stipulating that the Commission should submit to the Council three years after the entry into force of the regulation a report on its working and experience gained.

SOCIAL POLICY

Protection of young workers

39. On 2 February 1967 the Commission addressed a recommendation to the Member States on the protection of young workers. ⁽¹⁾ The recommendation, which is one of various measures to improve living and working conditions and align them in an upward direction, is the outcome of studies begun in 1961.

The recommendation, the first draft of which appeared in 1964, was prepared by the Commission with the collaboration of government experts and representatives of workers' and employers' organizations. Before adopting the final text, the Commission also sought the opinion of the European Parliament and of the Economic and Social Committee, whose suggestions were for the most part incorporated.

The recommendation has two aims: to generalize the application of certain protective measures and to provide increased protection for young workers. The main provisions concern:

- i) The minimum working age: the minimum age should be brought up to 15, with a view to its being raised later in accordance with changes in the school-leaving age.
- ii) Working hours: these should be limited to eight hours a day and eventually to 40 hours a week. Annual paid holidays should be extended by law to a minimum of 24 days, excluding Sundays and public holidays. No one should have to work for more than four and a half hours without a break.
- iii) Prohibition of work in certain conditions: night work, work on Sundays and public holidays, and dangerous and unhealthy types of work should be forbidden.

⁽¹⁾ See official gazette No. 25, 13 February 1967.

iv) Medical checks and accident prevention: a medical examination on taking up employment and a medical check at least once a year should be made compulsory. Before young people start their first job, and at regular intervals thereafter, they should be fully informed of accident risks and possible health hazards.

v) Release from work for training purposes: young people should be allowed to follow training and upgrading courses and should be granted leave for these purposes without deduction from their annual holidays.

The recommendation closes with provisions urging observance of the rules concerning the protection of young workers, such as compulsory written contract and registration of adolescents, with notification of number of working hours. The Member States should report to the EEC Commission every two years on developments in the protection of young workers.

Vocational training

40. The Advisory Committee on vocational training, the term of office of whose members was renewed by the Council on 20 December 1966, held its first meeting of the year on 21 February.

At this meeting, the Committee expressed a favourable opinion on the draft Community list, prepared by experts in this field, concerning the levels of training required for lathe-workers.

After examining the list of building trades for which Community lists are to be made concerning the levels of training required, the Committee appointed the panel of experts which will be instructed to draw up these lists.

A working party was set up to collaborate with a similar working party of the Advisory Committee for the free movement of workers in examining employment problems from the standpoint of medium-term economic policy.

Social security for migrant workers: Administrative Committee

41. The Administrative Committee for the social security of migrant workers met on 26 and 27 January and began its second reading of the preliminary draft regulation laying down implementing procedures and supplementing the provisions of the revised regulation on workers and members of their family who move from one Community country to another. This second reading was continued at the Administrative Committee's session of 23 and 24 February 1967.

Meeting on 14 February 1967, the Administrative Committee's Audit Committee examined the balances at 31 December 1965 as regards the social security benefits paid by insurance offices of one Member State to those in another; it also considered the difficulties encountered in applying the regulations relating to sclerogenic pneumoconiosis.

Proceedings in the European Parliament

42. At its session of 30 January - 3 February 1967, the European Parliament held a full debate on the prospects for European social policy following the session of the Council of Ministers held on 19 December 1966. Speaking on behalf of the Social

Committee, M. Troclet and M. Dittrich, the rapporteurs, welcomed a certain revival in the activities of the Council of Ministers of Social Affairs, but regretted that the work to which the Council had, at this session, decided to give priority could not be considered likely to make up the time lost in this field.

All the speakers expressed concern at this delay, they dealt *inter alia* with the following subjects: the statute and activities of the European Social Fund, compressed training courses, and aid for redundant Italian sulphur-mine workers.

M. Servais, the Belgian Minister of Labour and President of the Council of Ministers of Social Affairs, recalled that the Treaty leaves the responsibility for social policy to the Member States, while requiring them to co-operate closely in this field.

Replying to remarks addressed to him by several speakers, M. Servais rejected the allegation of "bilateralism" that had been made against the solution adopted in the case of the Italian sulphur mines, and said that some of the delay was due to the crisis of 30 June 1965.

M. Levi-Sandri, Vice-President of the Commission and the member with special responsibility for social affairs, spoke of the role and activities of the Commission, and expressed a moderately optimistic view of the prospects for European social policy.

The Parliament then unanimously adopted a resolution stating firmly its views on the subject.

It also adopted a resolution on questions of industrial accident prevention in the Community ⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ These resolutions are given in the Annex to this Bulletin.

V. External activities

GATT

Multilateral trade negotiations

43. Negotiations are continuing with a view to arriving at partial agreements on what will be the main points of the final overall agreement. During February, the Community delegation therefore took part not only in its bilateral negotiations for this purpose with European countries but also in multilateral negotiations on the key industrial products. There is, moreover, a close connection between the progress that can be made on these key points and the attempt to fix the main elements of the agreements through the various bilateral negotiations.

In the agricultural sphere, the groups instructed to negotiate general arrangements are also working in the same direction. Substantial progress has been made by the cereals group, in which the first signs are beginning to appear, if not of mutual agreement, at least of the lines along which agreement may be found, provided there is on both sides a willingness to compromise.

Other negotiations in GATT

44. On 9 February 1967, the GATT Council adopted two decisions concluding, agreements for re-negotiations under Article XXVIII(1), of the General Agreement between the Republic of South Africa and the Community and between Finland and the Community. By these agreements, alterations in the customs duties previously bound by South Africa and Finland in favour of the EEC Member States have been offset by concessions that are substantially equivalent.

Other proceedings in GATT

45. The Community took part in the discussions of a working party set up by the GATT Council to examine a request by Poland with a view to that country's acceding to the General Agreement.

At the first exchange of views on the Polish request, the Community's representative welcomed Poland's desire to put its relations with the Contracting Parties on a new footing, and declared that the Community would co-operate, in a positive and constructive spirit, in a study of the questions posed by the accession of a country with a special economic structure. He said, however, that pending the results of the working party's deliberations, the Community did not consider the negotiations at present in progress with Poland in connection with the trade negotiations as being *sui generis*.

At its first working sessions, on 8 and 27 February 1967, the working party considered the legal and economic problems that Poland's accession to GATT would raise, both for that country and for the Contracting Parties. Special attention was devoted to certain questions, such as the pattern of trade and price formation in a planned economy, and it was decided to continue discussion of these at a later date.

BILATERAL RELATIONS

Ireland

46. Mr. Colley, the Irish Minister for Industry and Commerce, accompanied by senior officials from the Departments for External Affairs and for Industry and Commerce, paid a visit to the Commission on 27 February 1967. H.E. Ambassador Sean Morrissey, Head of the Irish Mission to the European Communities, also took part in this meeting. The ministerial delegation from Ireland was received by M. Rey and M. von der Groeben, members of the Commission.

The discussions on this occasion concerned general problems connected with European integration, and particular problems relating to competition, aid to underdeveloped areas, freedom of establishment, and the common commercial policy.

Spain

47. At its session of 8 and 9 February 1967, the Council took note of the proceedings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives concerning the possible content of an agreement with Spain.

The Council invited the Committee to submit a report for its session in March.

The Maghreb countries

48. At its session of 8 and 9 February 1967, the Council took note of the progress report submitted by the Committee of Permanent Representatives together with a timetable. The Council proposes to re-examine the problem of relations with the Maghreb countries before Easter.

Nigeria

49. When the Agreement establishing an Association between the European Economic Community and Nigeria was signed in Lagos on 16 July 1966, ⁽¹⁾ it was agreed that an EEC-Nigeria Interim Committee should be set up to make preparations, before the entry into force of the Agreement, for the rapid implementation of the latter.

The first meeting of this Committee, which is composed of representatives of the Member States and of the Commission, on the one hand, and of Nigeria, on the other, took place on 17 February 1967. The chair was taken by the Chairman of the EEC Committee of Permanent Representatives, H.E. Ambassador Van der Meulen. The large Nigerian delegation included H.E. Ambassador Dickson C. Igwe and M. M. Damcida, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Trade.

Both sides underlined the importance of expediting ratification by the signatory States. The most important points of the agenda, on which an exchange of views took place, were the draft standing orders of the Association Council, the allocation among the EEC Member States of the tariff quotas provided for in the Agreement, and the definition of the concept of "goods originating in ...".

(1) See Bulletin 9-10/66, Ch. III.

Representation of associated States

50. The competent institutions of the European Economic Community took note of the appointment of H.E. Ambassador Edouard Adjomo as Gabon's new representative to the EEC.

On 13 February 1967, the President of the Council, M. Van Elslande and, in the absence of the President of the Commission, its Vice-President, M. Levi-Sandri, each received H.E. Ambassador Bernardin Mungul-Diaka, who presented his letters of credence as the new representative of the Congo Republic (Kinshasa) to the EEC.

Missions of non-member countries to the Community

51. On 10 February 1967, the President of the Council, M. Van Elslande, and, in the absence of the President of the Commission, its Vice-President, M. Levi-Sandri, each received H.E. Ambassador H. L. Tettamanti and H.E. Ambassador Aristy-Pereyra, who presented their letters of credence as the new Heads of Mission of Argentina and the Dominican Republic respectively to the EEC.

The competent institutions of the European Economic Community acceded to the Uganda Government's request to establish diplomatic relations with the EEC and gave their agreement to the appointment of H.E. Ambassador Alfonso Santa Cruz as the new Head of the Chilean Mission to the EEC.

RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Council of Europe

52. Under arrangements for contacts between officials of the Commission and officials of the Secretariat-General of the Council of Europe, M. Polys Modinos, Secretary-General of the Council of Europe and a number of his colleagues held talks in Brussels with officials of the Directorates-General for External Relations and Social Affairs and of the Joint Information Service.

A fruitful exchange of views took place on the establishment of a European Youth Centre and on co-operation regarding social welfare for migrant workers in the various European countries.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

53. The Community was represented at the VIIIth session of the ECA which was held in Lagos, Nigeria, from 13 to 24 February 1967.

The session was mainly concerned with the progressive establishment of four regional groupings for the purpose of economic integration: East Africa, West Africa, North Africa and Central Africa. By creating common markets in these regions, the ECA hopes to encourage economic co-operation, or even integration, in the whole of Africa.

In addition, the meeting urged the more advanced GATT member countries to reach agreement without delay on special measures to facilitate African trade, and to take effective steps to reverse the tendency towards a tightening of procedures for granting financial aid and increase the volume of such aid.

COMMON COMMERCIAL POLICY

Consultations on commercial policy in regard to the East bloc countries and Japan

54. In accordance with the Council decision of 9 October 1961, meetings have been held under a Commission chairman to discuss the steps taken by Member States in the sphere of commercial policy.

On 20 January and 10 February, consultations took place with regard to the Member States' bilateral negotiations with Japan.

On 8 February, a similar meeting was held to discuss the recent trade negotiations between Italy and Yugoslavia.

Commission Decisions under Article 115 of the Treaty

55. By Decisions of 14 and 22 February 1967, France was authorized, at its request, to exclude from Community treatment:

- i) cut flowers originating in non-member countries and in free circulation in the other Member States, until 31 March 1967; ⁽¹⁾
- ii) basket-ball and tennis shoes originating in Czechoslovakia and in free circulation in the other Member States, until 31 December 1967. ⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ See official gazette No. 37, 1 March 1967.

⁽²⁾ Ibid. No. 46, 14 March 1967.

VI. The Community and the Associated States

ASSOCIATED AFRICAN STATES AND MADAGASCAR (AASM) AND ASSOCIATED OVERSEAS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES (OCT)

Special provisions applicable to oleaginous products

56. On 8 February 1967, the Commission submitted to the Council an amended proposal for a regulation laying down special provisions for imports into the Community of oleaginous products originating in the AASM and OCT.

The Convention of Association between the Community and the associated African States and Madagascar requires the Community, when drawing up its common agricultural policy, to take the interests of these States into consideration as regards products similar to and competitive with European products. The Council Decision of 25 February 1964 extends this commitment to the OCT.

In addition, under the Yaoundé Convention, the AASM must market their oleaginous products at world prices. Any fall in the latter would have serious consequences for the economy of some of the associated States.

The Council therefore envisaged special provisions for these products in its resolution of 11 May 1966 concerning the basic principles for the common organization of markets in oils and fats. In this resolution, the Council acknowledged the need for the special measures applicable to vegetable oils originating in the associated States to come into force on the same date as the regulation establishing the Community's market organization for oils and fats.

The original proposal for a regulation concerning these products, which was submitted by the Commission to the Council on 2 December 1964, was worked out at a time when it seemed likely that the common organization of markets in oils and fats would come into force very soon; it is now clear that, where oleaginous products other than olive oil are concerned, this will not happen until 1 July 1967. For this reason, the Commission has submitted to the Council an amended proposal for a regulation, which takes the new circumstances into account and simplifies the arrangements for aid previously envisaged. This regulation is also expected to come into force on 1 July 1967.

Where trade is concerned, the central feature of these provisions is that the duties that the Member States apply among themselves will also be applied to oleaginous products originating in the AASM and OCT.

These provisions will therefore abolish the duties on oils. As the CCT duties on oilseeds and oleaginous fruits are nil, there is nothing that can be done to facilitate trade with the Community by means of tariff adjustments; it therefore seemed necessary for the Community to be able to adopt special measures that would, despite this situation, avoid disturbances in trade with the Community in oilseeds and oleaginous fruits originating in some of the AASM and OCT.

Furthermore, it appeared necessary that financial aid should be granted to the AASM and OCT when the world market price falls below a reference price, in order to mitigate the effects that falls in world prices would have on these countries' export earnings.

This aid will go towards the oleaginous products that are most important for the economy of the AASM and OCT; it will be calculated from the quantities of products that the Community has itself bought at prices lower than the reference price.

In order to enable the AASM and OCT to estimate how much they will receive, the percentage of the difference between the reference price and the world price that the Community will bear will be fixed at the same time as the reference price.

Similarly, it appeared necessary to set a limit to the financial commitment undertaken by the Community by fixing a maximum amount for aid in the light of the maximum foreseeable theoretical risk.

When consultations are held with the AASM in pursuance of Article 11 of the Convention, these States will be asked to take note of the Community's wish that the aid given be used for the benefit of the production sectors concerned.

Arrangements for certification of "product origin" for parcel post

57. On 22 February 1967, the Commission submitted to the Council two draft decisions to be put before the EEC-AASM Association Committee, with a view to introducing special arrangements, within the framework of the Association, for products originating in the AASM or EEC when sent by post for commercial purposes.

The object is to simplify matters for all concerned: consignors, importers and customs officers.

The first of these two drafts contains provisions relating to these special arrangements and provides for the introduction of the "AY 2 form" which will take the place of the "AY 1 movement certificate" prescribed by Article 6 of Decision No. 5/66 of the Association Council. The latter decision will thus be amended.

The second draft adds further chapters to Decision No. 6/66 of the Association Council laying down procedures for the satisfactory operation of the new system.

The arrangements suggested involve the use of a special form and greatly simplify the formalities involved in the use of the "AY 1 certificate" issued by the customs authorities of the exporting country. The latter certificate will be replaced by a simple declaration made out and signed by the exporter without any special intervention by the customs authorities and stating that the goods in the package to sent by post are products originating in the AASM or EEC, as the case may be. When the customs authorities of the importing country deem it necessary to obtain further information in order to satisfy themselves of the truth or otherwise of this declaration, the proposed decision provides that the customs authorities in the exporting country will be asked by those in the importing countries to make enquiries for this purpose. In these circumstances, the new measures respect the rules relating to the preferential trading system instituted by the Yaoundé Convention.

The draft decisions were worked out by the Commission in close co-operation with national representatives in the Panel of Experts on Customs Legislation.

As the provisional arrangements for goods sent by post will expire on 30 April 1967, the Commission has pointed out to the Council that it will be necessary to decide the Community's position on this matter as soon as possible, in order that a final decision on the arrangements to be made for goods sent by post can be taken by the Association Committee at its session of April 1967 at the latest.

SCHOLARSHIPS, IN-SERVICE TRAINING AND SYMPOSIA

Scholarships

58. On the Commission's initiative, a meeting of the ambassadors of the 18 associated African States including Madagascar was held in Brussels on 15 February 1967 to consider certain matters connected with the scholarship programme and make plans for the implementation of the programme for the coming academic year. A second meeting took place on 28 February and was devoted to the programme of scholarships for correspondence courses.

In-service training

59. The second period of in-service training for the 1966/67 academic year started on 15 February 1967, eight of the students concerned being from the Congo (Kinshasa), Upper Volta, Mali, Madagascar and Surinam.

Symposia

60. Four symposia have been held in Brussels with a total of 143 participants, 37 of whom were nationals of States not associated with the Community.

Two symposia were held in Africa, one at Bobo-Dioulasso (Upper Volta) under the auspices of the Centre d'études sociales d'Afrique occidentale (CÉSAO), and the other at Douala (Cameroon) under the auspices of the Institut panafricain pour le développement (IPD).

VII. Institutions and organs

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The European Parliament met in plenary session from 30 January to 3 February 1967.

M. Marjolin, Vice-President of the Commission, addressed the Parliament on the economic situation in the Community in 1966 and the outlook for 1967. ⁽¹⁾

A debate was held on prospects for European social policy (see Ch. IV, sec. 42).

The Parliament passed several resolutions:

Approximation of legislation

i) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposals for a directive on the approximation of legislation concerning direction indicators for motor vehicles,

a directive on the approximation of legislation concerning braking systems for certain categories of motor vehicles.

ii) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal for a directive on the standardization of provisions concerning duty-free entry for fuel contained in the tanks of commercial vehicles (see Ch. IV, sec. 36).

iii) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal for a directive on the approximation of the legislation of Member States concerning wheeled farm tractors (maximum speed, seats for persons other than the driver, and load platforms).

iv) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal for a directive on the approximation of legislation concerning the suppression of radio interference from motor vehicles.

Common agricultural policy

i) Resolution on problems relating to the organization of the world sugar market (see Annex to this Bulletin).

ii) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal for a regulation laying down transitional measures with a view to application of the common cereal prices.

iii) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal for a regulation to amend Regulation No. 14/64/CEE with regard to determination of the import price and calculation of the levy for derived products in the beef and veal sector.

⁽¹⁾ The text of this address was published in Bulletin 3-67.

iv) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposals for directives concerning:

1. measures to combat potato wart,
2. measures to combat potato-root eelworm.

v) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal for a regulation to extend the time-limit laid down by Article 20(1) of Regulation No. 17/64/CEE in respect of aid from the EAGGF, Guidance Section, for the year 1965.

vi) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal for a regulation to amend, in respect of France and Italy, Regulation No. 70/66/CEE on the conduct of a basic survey as part of a programme of surveys on the pattern of farming.

vii) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal for a regulation laying down transitional measures for the common organization of sugar markets in the 1967/68 marketing year.

Social policy

i) Resolution on prospects for the European social policy following the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 19 December 1966 (see Ch. IV, sec. 42 and Annex to this Bulletin).

ii) Resolution on the prevention of industrial accidents in the Community (see Annex to this Bulletin).

The Community's external relations

i) Resolution on the amended proposal for a regulation on the progressive establishment of a common procedure for the administration of import quotas in the Community.

ii) Resolution on arrangements governing trade in oils and fats between the Community and Greece.

Administrative matters

Resolution on the number and composition of the Committees of the European Parliament.

THE COUNCIL

207th session

At its 207th session, which was held on 8 and 9 February 1967 with M. van Elslande, the Belgian Minister for European Affairs, in the chair, the Council dealt with the following matters:

Medium-term economic programme

The Council and the Governments of Member States adopted the Community's medium-term economic programme, which covers the period 1966/70 (see Ch. IV, sec. 13).

Approximation of the legislation of Member States concerning turnover taxes

The Council adopted in principle the first and second directives on the approximation of the legislation of Member States concerning turnover taxes (see Ch. IV, sec. 4).

Fiscal problems

The Chairman of the Committee of Permanent Representatives presented a progress report of the Committee concerning the listing of fiscal problems which it was proposed to put down for consideration.

The Council requested the Committee of Permanent Representatives to continue its work on the subject and to submit its final report as soon as possible.

Multilateral trade negotiations in GATT

The Commission presented a report on the progress of the multilateral trade negotiations in GATT.

External relations

The Council discussed relations with Spain and the Maghreb countries (see Ch. V, secs. 47 and 48).

208th session

The 208th session of the Council, which was devoted to agricultural matters, was held on 8 and 9 February 1967 with M. Heger, the Belgian Minister of Agriculture, in the chair (see Ch. IV, sec. 19).

209th session

The 209th session of the Council, which was devoted to agricultural matters, was held on 20 and 21 February 1967 with M. Heger, the Belgian Minister of Agriculture, in the chair (see Ch. IV, sec. 19).

The Council adopted the following regulations in the four Community languages:

i) Concerning imports of frozen beef and live cows from non-member countries for processing;

ii) Amending the Annexes to Regulation No. 111/64/CEE establishing groups of products in the milk and milk products sector, in respect of products falling under heading 17.02 A;

iii) Amending Regulation No. 70/66/CEE in respect of the conduct of the basic survey in France and Italy;

iv) Amending Council Regulation No. 9 concerning the European Social Fund.

The Council also adopted a decision extending the authorization provided for in Article 1 of the Decision of 19 December 1960 concerning the French system of aids for certain types of paper pulp.

COURT OF JUSTICE

Cases pending

Case 5/67 — W. Beus & Co., Munich, v. Hauptzollamt München — Landsbergerstrasse.

On 6 February 1967, the Court of Justice received a request for a preliminary ruling from the Finanzgericht München. This concerns the interpretation and validity of the EEC Commission's Regulation No. 144/65/CEE of 18 October 1965 instituting a countervailing charge on imports from Bulgaria and Rumania of dessert grapes grown in the open. ⁽¹⁾

Case 6/67 — Mme Guerra Teresa Leno (Italy) v. Institut national d'assurance maladie-invalidité.

On 30 January and 10 February 1967, the Belgian Conseil d'Etat submitted to the Court of Justice a request for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of Article 45 of Council Regulation No. 3 concerning social security for migrant workers. ⁽¹⁾

Case 7/67 — Milchwerke H. MÖHRMANN und Sohn, KG, Appeldoorn, v. Hauptzollamt Bad Reichenhall.

On 21 February 1967, the Court of Justice received a request for a preliminary ruling submitted by the Finanzgericht München; this concerns the interpretation of Article 12(2) of Council Regulation No. 13/64/CEE on the progressive establishment of a common organization of the markets in milk and milk products. ⁽²⁾

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Economic and Social Committee held its 60th plenary session in Brussels on 22 and 23 February 1967 under the chairmanship of M. Major.

⁽¹⁾ See official gazette No. 34, 27 February 1967.

⁽²⁾ Ibid. No 50, 18 March 1967.

During this session the Committee unanimously adopted opinions on the following proposals:

1. Proposal for a Council regulation on the abolition of discrimination in transport rates and conditions. (See Ch. IV, sec. 37)

The Council had referred this proposal to the Committee on 1 March 1966.

2. Proposal for a Council regulation on the harmonization of certain social provisions in road transport. (See Ch. IV, sec. 38)

The Council had referred this proposal to the Committee on 29 July 1966.

3. Proposals for Council directives on:

1. measures to combat potato wart,
2. measures to combat potato-root eelworm.

The Council had referred these proposals to the Committee on 27 October 1966.

4. Proposal for a Council directive amending the Council directive on the approximation of the legislation of Member States concerning permitted colouring matters for use in food for human consumption.

The Council had referred this proposal to the Committee on 8 December 1966.

5. Proposal for a Council directive on the use of certain preserving agents for the surface treatment of citrus fruits and on measures of control for the detection and identification of preserving agents in and on citrus fruits.

The Council had referred this proposal to the Committee on 8 December 1966.

During this session the Committee heard:

- i) an address by M. Marjolin on the economic situation in the Community, and
- ii) an address by M. Levi Sandri on the progress of the Community's work in the social field.

MONETARY COMMITTEE

The Monetary Committee held its 90th session on 15 and 16 February 1967, with M. van Lennep in the chair. The Committee continued the discussion on its general report for 1966. In addition, it examined certain problems relating to the international monetary system.

The alternate members of the Monetary Committee met on 24 February 1967 to settle certain details of the Monetary Committee's 9th annual report.

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS

Staff movements

Appointments

M. Raymond Rifflet has been appointed Chief Executive Assistant to M. Rey, member of the Commission, following the retirement of M. Lucion. Like his predecessor, M. Rifflet was one of the militant Europeans of the earliest days. He was an expert in the Belgian delegation at the negotiations on the Treaties establishing the EEC and Euratom. M. Rifflet is, *inter alia*, a member of the Administrative Boards of the College of Europe, Bruges, and the Centre international de formation européenne of which the European Communities and the Governments of the Member States are patrons.

M. Edoardo Volpi, Head of the Budget Division of the Directorate concerned with Budget and Finance, has been appointed Head of the Companies, Insurance and Banking Division of the Directorate concerned with Right of Establishment and Services in the Directorate-General for the Internal Market.

Retirement

M. Pierre Lucion, Chief Executive Assistant to M. Jean Rey, member of the Commission, left the EEC on 15 February 1967, having reached the retiring age.

The Commission received M. Lucion on this occasion and expressed its gratitude for the devotion and assiduity that he had shown in his work and for the outstanding services that he had rendered the Community since its inception in 1958.

By virtue of Article 54 of the Statute of Service, the Commission conferred upon M. Lucion the rank of honorary Director-General.

Alteration of the Commission's departmental organization

On 22 February 1967 the Commission decided to make certain changes in the staff organization of the Directorate-General for External Relations. The new distribution for this Directorate-General is to be found in the Annex to this Bulletin.

VIII. European Investment Bank

Loan agreements

Turkey

On 2 February 1967, the European Investment Bank concluded two loan agreements, with the Republic of Turkey, for the financing of projects in the private industrial sector through the intermediary of the Industrial Development Bank of Turkey.

The first is a contract for the enlargement and modernization of a textile factory at Adana (in Southern Turkey), the country's main cotton centre. This project will be executed by the "Güney Sanayi ve Ticaret İşletmeleri AS" Co. Ltd., one of the leading private Turkish textile enterprises.

The financed project aims essentially at improving and diversifying production and is altogether in line with the efforts made by the Turkish textile industry to up-grade products and improve their competitive position by lowering cost through increased productivity. Investments will enable the creation of some 1 500 new jobs.

The fixed investments of the project amount to Lit 81 million (9 million units of account), of which 4.4 million units of account are to be paid in foreign currencies. The Bank will be contributing to their financing by a loan equivalent to 0.4 million units of account.

The contract has been concluded for a period of 30 years, with a 7 years' period of grace. The rate of interest is 4.5% per annum.

The funds will be re-lent to the beneficiary under the conditions usually practised in Turkey for the financing of long-terms loans.

The second agreement is an outline contract aimed at simplifying the procedure for financing industrial projects in the private sector.

It involves an amount equivalent to 5 million units of account. This sum will be gradually appropriated, in the course of 1967, for the execution of investment projects in the financing of which the Bank will decide to participate at the request of the Industrial Development Bank of Turkey.

These amounts are lent to the Turkish State for a period of 30 years, with a 7 years' period of grace, at a rate of interest of 4.5% per annum. They will be re-lent to the beneficiary by the Industrial Development Bank of Turkey under Turkish market conditions.

The European Investment Bank is performing these operations under its Special Section for the account of member countries and in accordance with the terms of the mandate it received in order to apply the finance protocol annexed to the Agreement of Association between the EEC and Turkey.

Miscellaneous

Visits to the Commission

Visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Liège

On 15 February 1967 His Royal Highness the Prince of Liège paid a visit to the headquarters of the Commission where, in the absence of President Hallstein, who was indisposed, he was welcomed by M. Robert Marjolin, Vice-President of the Commission, by M. Mansholt, Vice-President, and by MM. Rey, von der Groeben, Schaus, Rochereau and Colonna di Paliano, members of the Commission.

The Prince of Liège, whose visit was a private one, discussed various problems of European economic integration with the Commission. M. Marjolin, Vice-President, and M. Rey then presented to him the heads of department and senior officials of the Commission.

The Prince's visit closed with a lunch given in his honour by the Commission.

Visit of a member of the Brazilian Government

On 2 February M. Martins, the Brazilian Minister of Industry and Commerce, who was in Europe on official business, was received by the Commission's Director-General for External Relations, M. Herbst, with whom he discussed Brazil's economic and commercial relations with the Community.

Meeting attended by Ministers of Ivory Coast

The Joint Ivory Coast-EEC Committee met in Brussels on 2 and 3 February 1967 to examine the problems, particularly social problems, connected with the scheme to plant 32 000 ha of oil palms, which the Community is financing in Ivory Coast. The meeting was attended by two Ministers from the Ivory Coast: M. Konan Bedié, Deputy Minister for Finance and Economic Affairs, and M. Mohamed Diawara, Deputy Minister of Planning. Also present were M. Aoussou Koffi, the Ivory Coast Ambassador in Brussels, M. Fraisse, Director-General of Sodepalm, and M. Rochereau, the member of the Commission with special responsibility for overseas development, assisted by M. Hendus, Director-General for Overseas Development, and M. Ferrandi, Director of the European Development Fund.

Family budgets in France

The Statistical Office of the European Communities has published the sixth of a series of surveys of family budgets that it has conducted in co-operation with the national statistical institutes in the six Member States.

This sixth number, which has about 600 pages and is published in the "Social Statistics" series, concerns France. Industrial workers, employees and civil servants,

farmers and farmworkers to a total of 11 324 families contributed to the survey, which was carried out during the 1963/64 financial year.

These four occupational groups represent some 60-70% of the total population.

The survey shows that the pattern of expenditure expressed in absolute and relative figures differs greatly from one group to another. Employees and civil servants have the highest level of total expenditure: almost FF 19 000, as against approximately FF 13 100 for industrial workers, FF 8 800 for farmers, and FF 8 600 for farmworkers. In the case of the last two groups, however, the amount of their own produce that these families consume must be taken into account, since it affects the pattern both of their expenditure and of their consumption.

A collective report and economic analysis of all the surveys on family budgets in the Community will be published in a few months' time.

Resignation of the President of the ECSC High Authority

On 1 March 1967 M. Dino Del Bo tendered his resignation, for health reasons, as President and member of the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community.

Replying to the letter in which M. Del Bo informed it of his resignation, the EEC Commission expressed its regret and its esteem for the retiring President, and thanked him for the cordial co-operation that he had enabled it to enjoy with the High Authority.

ANNEXES

Amendment to the administrative directory of the Commission of the EEC

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DIRECTORATE A

*GENERAL AFFAIRS, MULTILATERAL
COMMERCIAL POLICY*

	Theodorus HIJZEN*
1. General Affairs, Protocol	Gerhard BERGHOLD
2. Relations with Customs and Trade Organizations, USA	Pierre SCHLÖSSER
3. Relations with International Organizations	Marc COLOMB de DAUNANT

DIRECTORATE B

*WESTERN EUROPE — MEMBERSHIP AND
ASSOCIATION*

1. Relations with Council of Europe, WEU, OECD, EFTA, UK, Denmark, Ireland	Francesco FRESI
2. European countries (Northern and Central Europe)	Adolfo COMBA
3. European countries (Southern Europe)**	Jean PETIT-LAURENT

* Also Special Representative of the Commission for GATT trade negotiations.

** Relations with non-European Mediterranean countries come within the terms of reference of this Division in so far as the object is association.

DIRECTORATE C

COMMERCIAL POLICY TOWARDS DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Mattia di MARTINO

1. Principles of commercial policy towards developing countries, Asia
2. Africa, Middle East, Latin America Philipp MASSERER
3. Commercial policy in the primary products sector Hugo de GROOD

DIRECTORATE D

GENERAL COMMERCIAL POLICY

Wolfgang ERNST

1. Principles, unification of policy (Art. 110 et sqq.), instruments of policy Joseph SCHNEIDER
2. Agricultural Problems, Canada, Australia, New Zealand Friedrich KLEIN
3. Industrial problems (development of trade, safeguard clauses), Japan, Hong Kong Robert BOSMANS
4. European countries (Eastern Europe) Franco GIANFRANCHI

Liaison Office at OECD (Paris)

Adolphe DE BAERDEMAEKER
Director,
Permanent Delegate of
the Commission to OECD

Liaison Office at GATT (Geneva)

Pierre NICOLAS

RESOLUTIONS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

(January-February 1967)

Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the EEC Commission's proposal to the Council for a directive on the approximation of the legislation of Member States concerning wheeled farm tractors (maximum speed, seats for persons other than the drivers, and load platforms)

The European Parliament,

[...]

1. *Urges* the Executive to draw up, as soon as possible, a rational programme for the application of Article 100 of the Treaty establishing the EEC, in order that such regulations of the Member States as manifestly have the most direct incidence on the establishment and functioning of the com-

mon market may be harmonized as a matter of priority;

2. *Calls upon* the Executive, in addition, to define the maximum length and breadth of the load platforms of agricultural tractors, and to revise the definition of these vehicles so as to make it as complete as possible;

3. *Approves* the EEC Commission's proposal;

[...]

Resolution on prospects for the European social policy following the meeting of the Council of Ministers held on 19 December 1966

The European Parliament,

Having regard to the report made on behalf of its Social Committee by MM. Dittrich and Troclet;

Referring to the debates that took place during its session of November 1966 and to the resolutions adopted on that occasion, in which the Council's inactivity in the social field and as regards health protection was sharply criticised (1);

1. *Takes note* that the six Social Affairs Ministers met on 19 December 1966;

2. *Welcomes* the initiative:

i) of the President of the Council, who presented a Memorandum concerning social policy in the EEC which may help to give a fresh impetus to Community action in the social field;

ii) of the EEC Commission which, in pursuance of its duty to promote close collaboration between the Member States in the social field, submitted to the Council, at the end of the session of 10 December, "guidelines" that are deserving of detailed study;

3. *Notes* that the concrete results of this session are disappointing, both as regards general principles and at the practical social level, in that:

i) the only formal decision taken to assist redundant Italian sulphur-mine workers departs considerably from the opinion previously rendered by the European Parliament;

ii) no decision was taken on a number of important and urgent measures — including the reform of the European Social Fund — concerning which the Council has before it proposals from the Executive and opinions rendered by the Parliament and by the Economic and Social Committee, some of which were submitted over two years ago;

4. *Vigorously protests* against the tendencies that became apparent during this session of the Council of Ministers and would lead to a deterioration of the Community machinery:

i) by generalizing the intervention and extending the powers of the Committee of Permanent Representatives;

ii) by not taking sufficient account of the opinions and proposals of the European Parliament and of the other Community bodies;

(1) See official gazette No 232 of 16 December 1966.

iii) by giving preference to *ad hoc* bilateral or multilateral procedures rather than to Community measures that are consonant with the Treaties and find their political and legal justification in the commitments therein undertaken by the Member States;

5. *Expresses its surprise* that the Council of Ministers should call in question the measure providing for collaboration in the matters referred to in Article 118 of the Treaty, the procedures to be followed and the instruments for its implementation, notwithstanding the fact that, as early as October 1963, "a common viewpoint emerged between the representatives of the Governments" with regard to the implementation of this Article;

6. *Hopes that* during its next session — which, according to its own undertaking, should have been held before the end of January 1967 — the Council will:

i) take decisions on all the social matters and matters concerning health protection on which proposals are at present before it;

ii) adopt an extensive programme of action to be taken, as a matter of priority, in the social field and on health protection;

iii) fix a time-table for its future sessions that will provide for meetings to be held at regular intervals;

7. *Requests* the Commission of the European Economic Community to arrange for an inquiry to be carried out among industrial firms in each of the six Community countries, into closures, conversions, mergers and combinations that are liable to cause unemployment in industrially underdeveloped rural areas, and subsequently to propose measures that will ensure re-training and compensation for workers who are laid off.

8. *Considers it essential* that workers and employers be asked to co-operate to an appropriate extent in the elaboration of the common social policy;

[...]

Resolution on industrial accident prevention in the Community

The European Parliament,

Having regard to the work of the seminar on the prevention of industrial accidents which was organized by the EEC Commission and held in Brussels from 14 to 16 June 1966,

Considering that the Community must effectively co-ordinate its measures for the prevention of industrial accidents and adopt harmonized provisions,

Having regard to the report of its Health Protection Committee,

1. *Welcomes* the initiative taken by the EEC Commission in organizing a seminar on the prevention of industrial accidents, as a first step towards co-ordinated regulations on all the matters that arise at Community level with regard to the prevention of accidents;

2. *Considers it necessary* that the EEC Commission should organize European meetings, at regular intervals and in collaboration with the International Labour Office, to discuss the problems of accident prevention and industrial safety;

3. *Calls upon* the EEC Commission to adopt directives and recommendations to standardize the arrangements for individual protection of workers in the various trades;

4. *Suggests* that the EEC Commission should instruct a committee to establish uniform Community standards for the inspection of safety arrangements, and that the Commission should, where necessary, work out provisions for new forms of inspection;

5. *Requests* the EEC Commission to adopt, as soon as possible, harmonized regulations for the creation and use of safety signals;

6. *Proposes* that the EEC Commission should set up a panel of experts to examine at regular intervals all the problems arising in connection with films on industrial safety; the EEC Commission should take the necessary measures in the light of the results obtained by this panel;

7. *Expressly urges* the EEC Commission to request the Council of Ministers to authorize

the creation of new posts in its Industrial Health and Safety Division, so that this Division may be substantially reinforced and enabled to carry out, without delay, the ever-increasing number of tasks falling to it in connection with the harmonization of provisions for the prevention of industrial accidents;

8. *Encourages* the EEC Commission to promote the development of safety-consciousness

and to expedite and intensify its work on the prevention of industrial accidents, and assures it of its wholehearted support in this connection;

9. *Requests* the EEC Commission to do everything in its power to meet the requirements mentioned in the report of its Health Protection Committee as speedily as possible;

[...]

Resolution on problems relating to the organization of the world sugar market

The European Parliament,

[...]

1. *Welcomes* the Community's offer, which testifies to its desire to negotiate a world sugar agreement — the more so since other important countries have not yet submitted any offer;

2. *Notes*, however, that the Community's offer — which is based on two points: a world reference price and the binding of support margins — is not in itself sufficient to bring about a really effective agreement to stabilize, and in the long term reorganize, the world sugar market in the light of the accepted principles for the improvement of world trade, including agricultural trade;

3. *Considers* that these objectives cannot be attained unless responsibility for surpluses is borne by the partners jointly and specific measures are taken to help the developing countries;

4. *Deems it necessary therefore* that, in addition to the Community's offer, the negotiations should also concern:

i) re-organization measures worked out for each of the parties to the agreement on the basis of a rate of self-sufficiency to be fixed by a convention;

ii) the creation of an international Fund for sugar, which would mainly be maintained by levies, the resources thus constituted being, exceptionally, set against the development aid

provided by the industrialized countries whose contribution to this Fund is particularly large;

5. *Recalls* that, in order to attain the objectives of the agreement, it is important to specify:

i) equivalent obligations for the industrialized countries, but

ii) differentiated obligations for the developing countries;

6. *Stresses* once again the importance that should be attached to the fact that this agreement would make it possible effectively to promote the execution of multilateral programmes for development aid and food aid;

7. *Considers it advisable* for the negotiations for a "general sugar arrangement" to take place in GATT, without however jeopardizing the conclusion of the Kennedy round negotiations within the appointed time; and that the Kennedy round negotiations should at least provide a definition of the essential objectives, principles and points which will subsequently make it possible for agreement to be reached at a world sugar conference;

8. *Requests* its competent Committee to follow developments in these matters and if necessary present a further report on the subject;

[...]

PUBLICATIONS OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Items concerning the activities of the European Economic Community published in the official gazette of the European Communities between 22 February and 16 March 1967

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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- N° 121 de M^{lle} Lulling à la Commission de la CEE. Objet: Difficultés administratives à l'importation en république fédérale d'Allemagne de petits envois en provenance des Etats membres (No. 121 by M^{lle} Lulling to the EEC Commission: Administrative difficulties connected with importation into the Federal Republic of Germany of small consignments from other Member States) No. 34, 27.2.67
- N° 125 de M. Vredeling à la Commission de la CEE. Objet: Méthodes d'espionnage et contrôle douanier (No. 125 by M. Vredeling to the EEC Commission: Underhand methods in customs control) No. 34, 27.2.67
- N° 130 de M. Vredeling à la Commission de la CEE. Objet: Taxes compensatoires sur les tulipes, les narcisses et les jacinthes (No. 130 by M. Vredeling to the EEC Commission: Countervailing charges on tulips, narcissi and hyacinths) No. 34 27.2.67
- N° 128 de M. Spenale à la Commission de la CEE. Objet: Interdiction des prélèvements nationaux sur les relèvements de prix consentis dans le cadre de la politique agricole commune (No. 128 by M. Spenale to the EEC Commission: Prohibition of national measures which cancel out price increases authorized under the common agricultural policy) No. 45, 13.3.67
- N° 131 de M. Vredeling à la Commission de la CEE. Objet: Droit de statistique (No. 131 by M. Vredeling to the EEC Commission: Statistical tax) No. 45, 13.3.67
- N° 133 de M. Thorn à la Commission de la CEE. Objet: Répartition des adjudications du FED (No. 133 by M. Thorn to the EEC Commission: Distribution of contracts awarded by the EDF) No. 45, 13.3.67
- N° 134 de M. Moro à la Commission de la CEE. Objet: Contrôle de la mise en œuvre des projets du FED (No. 134 by M. Moro to the EEC Commission: Supervision of execution of EDF projects) No. 45, 13.3.67
- N° 135 de M. Lardinois à la Commission de la CEE. Objet: Interdiction par certains pays de la CEE d'importer et de transiter du bétail et de la viande en provenance des Pays-Bas (No. 135 by M. Lardinois to the EEC Commission: Prohibition by certain EEC countries of the importation or transit of livestock and meat from the Netherlands) No. 45, 13.3.67
- N° 137 de M. Vredeling à la Commission de la CEE. Objet: Gestion des contingents de la Communauté (No. 137 by M. Vredeling to the EEC Commission: Administration of Community quotas) No. 45, 13.3.67
- N° 138 du M. Vredeling à la Commission de la CEE. Objet: Formule relative à la procédure de vote au sein du Conseil (No. 138 by M. Vredeling to the EEC Commission: Form of words used in referring to voting procedure in the Council) No. 45, 13.3.67
- N° 140 de M. Vredeling à la Commission de la CEE. Objet: Représentation de la CEE à la session du Conseil de la conférence des Nations Unies pour le commerce et le développement (UNSTAD) [No. 140 by M. Vredeling to the EEC Commission: EEC representation at the meeting of the Board of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)] No. 45, 13.3.67

N° 144 de M. Vredeling à la Commission de la CEE. Objet: Prorogation de la suspension simultanée des droits de douane sur le thé, le maté et les bois tropicaux (No. 144 by M. Vredeling to the EEC Commission: Extension of the suspension or reduction of customs duties on tea, maté and tropical hardwoods)

No. 45, 13.3.67

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Règlement n° 31/67/CEE de la Commission, du 22 février 1967, diminuant le montant supplémentaire pour les œufs en coquille de volaille de basse-cour (Commission Regulation No. 31/67/CEE of 22 February 1967 reducing the supplementary amount on poultry eggs in shell)

No. 31, 23.2.67

Règlement n° 32/67/CEE de la Commission, du 22 février 1967, modifiant le montant supplémentaire pour les jaunes d'œufs liquides ou congelés (Commission Regulation No. 32/67/CEE of 22 February 1967 amending the supplementary amount for liquid or frozen egg yolks)

No. 31, 23.2.67

Règlement n° 33/67/CEE de la Commission, du 22 février 1967 diminuant le montant supplémentaire pour les pintades abattues (Commission Regulation No. 33/67/CEE of 22 February 1967 reducing the supplementary amount for slaughtered guinea-fowl)

No. 31, 23.2.67

Règlement n° 34/67/CEE du Conseil, du 21 février 1967, relatif à certaines mesures concernant l'importation de viande bovine congelée et de vaches vivantes destinées à la fabrication, en provenance des pays tiers (Council Regulation No. 34/67/CEE of 21 February 1967 on certain measures concerning imports from non-member countries of frozen beef and veal and of live cows for the food industry)

No. 33, 24.2.67

Règlement n° 35/67/CEE du Conseil, du 21 février 1967, modifiant le règlement n° 70/66/CEE en ce qui concerne l'exécution de l'enquête de base en France et en Italie (Council Regulation No. 35/67/CEE of 21 February 1967 amending Regulation No. 70/66/CEE with regard to the conduct of the basic survey in France and Italy)

No. 33, 24.2.67

Règlement n° 36/67/CEE du Conseil, du 21 février 1967, modifiant les annexes du règlement n° 111/64/CEE en ce qui concerne les produits relevant de la position 17.02 A (Council Regulation No. 36/67/CEE of 21 February 1967 amending the Annexes to Regulation No. 111/64/CEE with regard to the products under heading 17.02 A)

No. 33, 24.2.67

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No. 33, 24.2.67

Règlement n° 38/67/CEE de la Commission, du 27 février 1967, portant fixation des prélèvements dans le secteur de l'huile d'olive (Commission Regulation No. 38/67/CEE of 27 February 1967 fixing levies in the olive oil sector)

No. 35, 28.2.67

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No. 37, 1.3.67

- Règlement n° 41/67/CEE de la Commission, du 28 février 1967, portant modalités d'application du règlement n° 215/66/CEE relatif au régime applicable aux aliments composés à base de produits laitiers et au lait en poudre destiné à l'alimentation du bétail (Commission Regulation No. 41/67/CEE of 28 February 1967 laying down implementing provisions for Regulation No. 215/66/CEE on the arrangements applicable to compound animal feedingsuffs with a basis of milk powder and other milk products) No. 39, 2.3.67
- Règlement n° 42/67/CEE de la Commission, du 1^{er} mars 1967, portant, pour le deuxième trimestre 1967, adaptation et fixation des prix d'écluse et fixation des prélèvements envers les pays tiers dans le secteur des œufs de volailles (Commission Regulation No. 42/67/CEE of 1 March 1967 adjusting and fixing the sluice-gate prices and fixing the levies for eggs imported from non-member countries during the second quarter of 1967) No. 39, 2.3.67
- Règlement n° 43/67/CEE de la Commission, du 1^{er} mars 1967, portant modalités d'application du règlement n° 216/66/CEE, relatif aux aliments composés pour animaux, à base de céréales (Commission Regulation No. 43/67/CEE of 1 March 1967 laying down implementing provisions for Regulation No. 216/66/CEE concerning compound animal feedingsuffs with a basis of cereals) No. 40, 3.3.67
- Règlement n° 44/67/CEE du Conseil, du 21 février 1967, concernant certaines mesures d'organisation commune des marchés, dans le secteur du sucre pour la campagne 1967/1968 (Council Regulation No. 44/67/CEE of 21 February 1967 on measures relating to the common organization of sugar markets for the 1967/68 marketing year) No. 40, 3.3.67
- Règlement n° 45/67/CEE de la Commission, du 3 mars 1967, modifiant le règlement n° 157/64/CEE en ce qui concerne les produits relevant de la position 17.02 A du tarif douanier commun (Commission Regulation No. 45/67/CEE of 3 March 1967 amending Regulation No. 157/64/CEE with regard to the products under CCT heading 17.02 A) No. 41, 4.3.67
- Règlement n° 46/67/CEE de la Commission, du 9 mars 1967, modifiant le règlement n° 56/66/CEE en ce qui concerne le calcul du montant maximum des restitutions à l'exportation des fromages du groupe n° 7 vers les pays tiers (Commission Regulation No. 46/67/CEE of 9 March 1967 amending Regulation No. 56/66/CEE with regard to the calculation of the maximum refund on exports of Group 7 cheeses to non-member countries) No. 45, 10.3.67
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b) aux thermomètres médicaux à mercure en verre du type à maxima,
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- Avis de la Commission, du 3 mars 1967, adressé au gouvernement du royaume de Belgique au sujet du projet d'arrêté ministériel relatif aux conditions de compétence professionnelle exigée pour la délivrance d'une autorisation générale de transport international (Commission Opinion of 3 March 1967, addressed to the Belgian Government, concerning the draft ministerial decree on the professional qualifications required for a general international transport licence) No. 47, 15.3.67

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- Communication faite conformément à l'article 19, paragraphe 3, du règlement n° 17 concernant une notification (IV/26045) [Communication under Article 19(3) of Regulation No. 17 concerning a notification (IV/26045)] No. 42, 7.3.67

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- Avis d'appel d'offres n° 569 (appel d'offres par consultation publique) de la République du Niger pour un programme financé partiellement par la CEE (Call for supply tender No. 569 issued by the Republic of Niger for a programme financed in part by the EEC) No. 33, 24.3.67
- Avis d'appel d'offres n° 570 de la République du Sénégal (Call for tender No. 570 issued by the Republic of Senegal) No. 33, 24.3.67
- Avis d'appel d'offres n° 571 (appel d'offres par consultation publique) de la République du Congo (Call for supply tender No. 571 issued by the Congo Republic) No. 35, 28.2.67

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Demande de statuer à titre préjudiciel faite par ordonnance de la Troisième Chambre du Conseil d'Etat de Belgique, dans l'affaire Guerra Teresa, veuve Pace Pietro, à Leno (Brescia), contre l'Institut national d'assurance maladie-invalidité, à Bruxelles (affaire 6-67) [Request for preliminary ruling made by the Troisième Chambre du Conseil d'Etat of Belgium *in re* Guerra Teresa, widow of Pace Pietro, of Leno (Brescia), v. Institut national d'assurance maladie-invalidité, of Brussels (Case 6-67)]

No. 34, 27.2.67

Issues of the agricultural supplement of the official gazette containing the tables appended to the Commission's decisions fixing cif prices, premiums to be added to levies, the amounts to be added or deducted in computing refunds for cereals, and free-at-frontier cereal prices :

Supplement No. 7, 22 February 1967

Supplement No. 8, 1 March 1967

Supplement No. 9, 8 March 1967

Supplement No. 10, 15 March 1967

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1031
Ninth Report on the Activities of the Monetary Committee
1967. (d, f, i, n, e). Limited distribution

1027
Exposé sur l'évolution de la situation sociale dans la Communauté en 1965 (joint au « Neuvième rapport général sur l'activité de la Communauté » en application de l'article 122 du Traité) (Report on the Development of the Social Situation in the Community in 1965 — appended to the "Ninth General Report on the Activities of the Community" in pursuance of Article 122 of the Treaty)
1966. 325 pp. (d, f, i, n). 10s.9d.; \$1.50; Bfrs. 75

8195
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1967. 18 pp. (d, f, i, n, e). Free

8202
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1967. 100 pp. (f). 10s.9d.; \$1.50; Bfrs. 75

4001
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8191
CEE Informations. Marchés agricoles. Prix (CEE Information. Agricultural Markets. Prices)
Bi-monthly. Nos. 3 and 4/1967. (d/f/i/n). Limited distribution

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Bi-monthly. Nos. 1 and 2/March 1967. (d/f/i/n). Limited distribution

(1) The abbreviations after each title indicate the languages in which the documents have been published : f = French, d = German, i = Italian, n = Dutch, e = English.

8160

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Joint Information Service

Publications by offices in capital cities

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The Hague: Europese Gemeenschap No. 91, March 1967

Paris: Communauté européenne No. 104, March 1967

Rome: Comunità Europea No. 3, March 1967

London: European Community No. 3, March 1967

Washington: European Community No. 101, March 1967

Also Spanish edition: Comunidad europea, No. 3, March 1967

Statistical Office of the European Communities

— General Statistical Bulletin, No. 3/67

— Commerce extérieur : Statistique mensuelle (Foreign Trade: Monthly Statistics), No. 3/67

— Associés d'outre-mer : Statistique du commerce extérieur (Overseas Associated Areas: Foreign Trade Statistics), No. 2/67

— Statistiques de l'énergie (Energy Statistics), No. 1/67

— Statistique agricole (Agricultural Statistics), No. 9/66, No. 10/66