



*European Communities  
Commission  
Press Release*

20 Kensington Palace Gardens  
London W8 4QQ  
Telephone: 01-727 8090

March 9, 1977

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING, BERLIN

The European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training was officially opened in Berlin on March 9.

The ceremony was attended by Mr Hendrikus Vredeling, Vice-President of the Commission, responsible for Employment and Social Affairs, Mr Klaus Schütz, Governing Mayor of Berlin, and Mr Jean Degimbe, Director-General for Social Affairs of the Commission and Chairman of the Management Board of the Centre.

The establishment of the Centre was proposed as part of the Social Action Programme adopted by the Council of Ministers in 1974 and was decided by Regulation (EEC) No 337/75 of February 10, 1975.

The Berlin Senate has made a considerable financial contribution to the Centre and has also given it support in other ways.

The purpose of the Centre is to assist the Commission in encouraging, at Community level, the promotion and development of vocational training and continuous further training.

Its scientific and technical activities will contribute towards the implementation of a common vocational training policy in the Community. The Centre's main tasks will be to compile selected documentation relating to the present situation, the latest developments and research in the relevant fields; to contribute to the development and coordination of research in the above fields; to disseminate all useful documentation and information; to encourage and support any initiative likely to facilitate a concerted solution of vocational training problems, and to provide a forum for all those concerned with vocational training.

In carrying out its tasks, the Centre will establish appropriate contacts, particularly with specialized bodies, whether public or private, national or international, with public authorities and educational institutions, and with workers' and employers' organizations.

In 1976 special attention was paid to the problem of unemployment among young people with reference to vocational training, and to the difficulties of the transition from school to work. After preliminary discussions in May, a conference was held on these subjects in December 1976 from which pointers for the Centre's future activities emerged.

In 1977 the Centre will also tackle the following projects and subjects:

- a three-day conference in Berlin from April 27 - 29 on the compilation of selected documentation and the presentation of information,
- vocational training to meet industry's requirements arising from technical progress,
- vocational training with reference to equal opportunities for women,
- vocational training with reference to better opportunities for migrant workers,
- compilation of a glossary of the main terms used in vocational training.

.-.-.-.-.