

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY

BULLETIN

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Bulletin reports every month (10 issues yearly) on the activities of the Economic and Social Committee, a Community consultative body. It is edited by the Secretariat-General of the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities (2 rue Ravenstein, B-1000 Brussels) in the official Community languages.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
Press, Information and Publications Division

Rue Ravenstein 2
B-1000 Bruxelles

Tel. 519 90 11

Telegrams: ECOSEUR
Telex: 25 983 CESEUR

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239th Plenary Session

The Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities held its 239th Plenary Session at the Committee's Brussels headquarters on 17 and 18 September 1986. The Session was presided over by the Committee Chairman, Mr Gerd Muhr.

Commissioner Abel Matutes took part in the debate on the importance of technological research and development to small and medium-sized enterprises.

Extracts from Mr Muhr's keynote address to the September Plenary Session which marked the end of his term as Committee Chairman

The last two years have been stirring times hallmarked by radical change within the Community and its partners. The economy has improved considerably, growth rates have picked up and the collapse in oil prices has significantly helped the balance of trade in most Member States. The one black-spot is unemployment with virtually no improvement in the intolerable jobless figures throughout the Community.

I have constantly stressed that youth employment and long-term unemployment are socio-political dynamite which all political and economic leaders must endeavour to defuse in order to safeguard the democratic and economic freedoms. I can only reiterate this call here today.

Internally the Community's geographical boundaries have been finalized, for the foreseeable future, with the accession of Spain and Portugal. With the European Act, the Community has broken new institutional ground, for the first time since the signature of the Rome Treaties. We have played our part in these ventures, by using our personal contacts to pave the way for Spanish and Portuguese membership and by our contributions to the preparatory work on the European Act.

Needless to say, we took the initiative in other areas, including the November 1984 Conference on New Technologies and the follow-up work. I see this as an appropriate response to one of the major challenges of our time.

Throughout the years we have, quite logically, concentrated increasingly on external relations. As the world's major trade block the Community must foster international links and contacts. I am firmly convinced that we, as representatives of the major interest groups can play a key role in efforts to avert political conflict with our partners by alerting them to our specific European problems.

Once our contacts with the ACP states and EFTA had been put on a firm footing I decided to pursue contacts with the Community's non-European major partners and I would like to pay tribute to the enthusiastic support which I received in this venture from my Vice-Chairmen and the Bureau of the Section for External Relations.

Terrorism

Speaking at the Committee's Plenary Session in Brussels on 18 September, the Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities, Mr Gerd Muhr, had the following to say to Committee members:

'I am certain you will join me in expressing the Committee's sympathy to our French colleagues.

We all support those who refuse to capitulate to terrorism. Democratic societies would cease to exist if they failed to wage war on terrorism'.

Mr Muhr also extended the sympathy of ESC members to all those directly affected by the events.

OPINIONS ADOPTED

1. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COMMUNITY IN 1985

As in previous years the Commission has asked the Committee to issue an Opinion on social developments in the Community over the past year, taking as its basis the Commission's Report on Social Developments in 1985.

Gist of the Committee Opinion¹

The setting-up of a European Employment Fund, the importance of the dialogue between the two sides of industry in the Community, encouraging the revitalization of the basic values of the European Commu-

¹ CES 760/86.



Mr Gerd Muhr, President of the Economic and Social Committee

ity as recommended by the Single European Act — these are the proposals put forward by the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities in its Opinion on Social Developments in the Community in 1985.

In this Opinion the Economic and Social Committee looks at the personal, social and economic repercussions of unemployment, the scourge of our society. Among other things it notes that:

- the geographical spread of unemployment is uneven;
- 37.1% of the under-25s are unemployed in the Community (compared with 38.8% in 1984);
- the unemployment rate among women was 12.1% in December 1985 (compared with 11.7% in December 1984);
- the handicapped, who constitute 10% of the population of the Community and represent a potential pool of productive talent, are in a highly disadvantaged situation;
- older workers encounter serious difficulties in re-entering the labour market after losing their jobs.

At present unemployment is a priority problem and a Community strategy for combatting it is a must. Therefore the Committee once again stresses the interdependence of economic and social policy and the need to preserve social cohesion and solidarity as essential elements in the kind of sustained economic growth which can create jobs and constructively reduce the inequalities in living conditions.

The Committee considers that any strategy for employment must be set in a social framework and ethic so as to ensure a flexible approach, based on consensus. For this reason it wholeheartedly endorses the Council Declaration of June 1984¹ stating that 'the success of a proper economic policy is an essential requirement for the implementation of an adequate social policy. An effective social policy is a necessary support for economic policy' and expresses itself in favour of gradually promoting a 'European social area'. Yet despite this, Community legislation in the social field made no significant advances in 1985. How can this situation be remedied?

The Committee proposes that:

- consideration should be given to setting up a European Employment Fund for cooperation in the field of growth and employment, based on new facilities for job-creating investment credit especially in the small business sector. This Fund would be complementary to the European Social Fund;

¹ Conclusions of the Council of 22 June 1984, OJ C 175, 4.7.1985, p. 1.

the dialogue between the two sides of industry be given the appropriate commitment and legal instruments so that positive progress can be made;

finally, the revitalization of the fundamental values of the Community by means of the Single European Act should lead to a genuine European political, social and economic union.

This Opinion was adopted by a large majority, with two votes against and fifteen abstentions. The Rapporteur-General for this Opinion was Mr De Bruyn (Belgium — Various interests).

2. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EC, THE USA AND JAPAN (Own-initiative Opinion)

Gist of the Committee Opinion¹

Given the growing trade imbalance which is a feature of EC-Japan and USA-Japan relations, Japan should assume greater responsibility for the world economy and world trade in general, and take the domestic economic and monetary measures needed to correct this imbalance, thereby obviating retaliatory measures by Japan's trading partners. The Japanese economy should be integrated more fully into the world economy as regards not only imports of manufactures, services and certain raw materials, but also exports of technology and capital.

Japan should put into effect its undertaking to open up its markets to the European Community so as to reduce the disproportion between imports and exports. If Japan does not increase its imports from the Community, the latter will be obliged to take the necessary measures such as the introduction of a special tariff or other trade sanctions, to curb Japanese exports.

US rules restricting the transfer of technology are a basic problem area in EC-USA relations, affecting Community exports to third countries. As an increasing proportion of new technologies such as micro-electronics, data-processing, automation, biotechnology, aerospace and telecommunications can be put both to civil and military use, the USA believes that control and embargo must also extend to civil technologies and components originating in the USA. The US Administration should revise these provisions.

Each country must take into account the effects its domestic economic policy decisions have on its external economic relations. This applies

¹ CES 764/86.

particularly to agricultural policy but it also holds good for budget, regional, credit and industrial policy. The USA, Japan and the European Community must together face up to the fact that because of their economic strength they have a responsibility for the operation of the international monetary and trading system, for employment, and for the growth of the world economy.

All participants in world trade have an interest in maintaining and strengthening the legal framework of GATT, in preventing the creation of new trade barriers and in avoiding recourse to unilateral or bilateral solutions. In this context the agreements concluded between the USA and Japan on trade liberalization or restraint in specific areas (semi-conductors, telecommunications, medical equipment, pharmaceuticals and electronic products) must not be allowed to work to the disadvantage of the Community. Bilateral trade agreements of any kind have a tendency to distort trade flows to the detriment of third countries not party to the agreement in question.

Bilateralism and the sectoral approach to world trade undermine multilateralism and the most-favoured-nation principle, the twin pillars of a world trade system designed to promote prosperity. Although bilateralism and the sectoral approach have not so far been regulated by international agreements (grey areas), they are at variance with an efficient international division of labour on the basis of the most favourable locations for production.

The Community must implement the common trade policy provided for in the EEC Treaty as rapidly as possible. Consultation procedures should be set up between the Community, the USA and Japan at all levels, including the socio-economic organizations. Such consultations should of course take into account not just the true interests of the European Community, the USA and Japan but also the interests of other trading partners and the developing countries, particularly the Mediterranean and ACP countries, for which the Community has a special responsibility.

This Own-initiative Opinion was adopted unanimously. The Rapporteurs for the Opinion were Mr Henry Curlis (Ireland — Workers) and Mr Hans-Werner Staratzke (Germany — Employers).

3. COMMUNITY RAIL POLICY

'Stocktaking and prospects for a Community rail policy' (Information Report)

Gist of the Information Report¹

Following its information reports on air and sea transport, the Economic and Social Committee unanimously decided to send the Commission and Council a similar report on rail transport.

The Report follows an Opinion which the ESC adopted unanimously on 1 June 1983 on a Proposal for a Council Resolution on the Common Policy for Inland Transport. It seeks to take stock of current Community rail policy instruments, analysing shortcomings and presenting technical, financial and social proposals.

The Report shows that there is considerable potential for providing high-quality, highly competitive goods and passenger services: high-speed trains, suburban networks in large cities, heavy goods shipments, more efficient wagon routing and express block trains operating between rail-road terminals are a few of the main examples of what can be achieved. Public opinion appreciates the railways' very high safety standards, the relatively little damage they do to the environment (space saving, absence of pollution), their low energy consumption, and the fact that they can provide high-speed and high-capacity mass transport. The time has thus come to formulate an overall Community rail policy, with special emphasis on a coherent multiannual infrastructure investment plan to fill the development gaps which are particularly acute in some regions of the Community. Crucial to this plan is the blueprint for a high-speed 200 km/h plus passenger network, consisting mainly of new lines.

The Committee feels that this policy should be based on:

existing regulations, as long as they are applied in their entirety and not in a fragmentary way;

making Member States responsible for decisions on the construction or improvement of rail infrastructure, while allowing railway undertakings the possibility of making proposals;

making Member States responsible for coverage of infrastructure expenditure, (to be achieved by making the undertakings pay dues for the use thereof);

the harmonization of certain social provisions governing working conditions;

¹ CES 348/86 fin + Appendix.

compliance with the regulations laid down for each mode of transport, both as regards technical standards and working conditions.

Within the context of such harmonization, the Twelve Railways Group — which accepts the principles of a market economy and free choice for the consumer — should for its part step up international cooperation and study new formulas for consortia, which involve giving much greater priority to marketing ideas in decisions on international services, and the pooling in some market sectors of revenue and expenditure or other similar arrangements. In the Committee's view, railways would then be better able to provide their customers and the community in general with high-quality, widely used services which pay their way.

The Rapporteur was Mr Querleux (France — Employers).

4. THE IMPORTANCE OF TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TO SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (Information Report)

The debate was attended by Mr Abel Matutes, Member of the Commission.

Mr Matutes warmly welcomed the Economic and Social Committee's Information Report. It would have a wide-ranging impact in the business world and on the Commission.

Everyone agreed that Europe's No 1 problem was unemployment. Small and medium-sized enterprises had been foremost in the field of job-creation since the onset of the economic crisis. As a consequence of the recognition of this fact to which the Economic and Social Committee had largely contributed, the Commission had drawn up an action programme for SMEs. The programme should be the basis of a permanent dialogue and a blueprint. It was pragmatic, listing the aims and how they should be achieved. Six major actions were foreseen:

- promotion of the business spirit, stressing the social role of SMEs and teaching its importance in schools and universities;
- cutting away administrative red tape, helping SMEs and allowing them to take advantage of the Community's internal market;
- making the tax framework more attractive;
- improving the social context;
- encouraging greater capital investment in new technologies, leading-edge sectors and services;

giving greater flexibility to SMEs, allowing them to adapt to rapid changes in markets without reducing the social protection of workers.

Just as future developments threatened to divide society into trained workers and workers without training, so they would create two categories of businessmen. For them, mastering of new information was of crucial importance. Innovation by Europe's SMEs, particularly in the scientific field, was essential.

Gist of the Information Report¹

The Committee advocates boosting the technological efficiency of SMEs, in order to help them to maintain and develop their competitiveness.

The Committee views the problem in terms of the link between the creation of technology which meets the needs of SMEs and the actual implementation of this technology by the SMEs with a view to marketing innovatory products.

The Committee reviews the situation of SMEs at Community and national level. It then analyses several areas where the Community and the Commission in particular, can help to create a more favourable environment for their activities. In addition to the completion of the Common Market, the Committee suggests that the Commission should be provided with the requisite funds to help finance innovation.

The Committee also considers that the Commission should review the scope for establishing a Community-level credit guarantee association in order to encourage SMEs to undertake R & D in certain advanced technologies.

The Commission should also consider the provision of low-cost loans to encourage SMEs to invest in the latest technology. This could be done via the EIB or by channelling a Community subsidy through banks in the Member States.

The Committee decided unanimously to forward the Report to the Council and the Commission.

The Rapporteur was Mr de Normann (United Kingdom — Employers).

¹ CES 896/85 fin + Appendix.



From right to left: Mr Abel Matutes, Member of the Commission and Mr Gerd Muhr, President of the ESC.

5. SOCIO-STRUCTURAL MEASURES

'Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulations (EEC) Nos 797/85, 270/79, 1360/78 and 355/77 on agricultural structures and on the adjustment of agriculture to the new market situation and the preservation of the countryside' (COM(86) 199 final)

Gist of the Commission proposal

The Commission is proposing a series of complementary measures concerning socio-structural policy in agriculture. The whole of this package is an integral part of the conclusions reached by the Commission in its 'Green Paper II' of December 1985, where it was noted that new market realities calling for a restrictive policy on prices required a strengthening of existing socio-structural policy.

The new measures proposed now are designed to encourage a reorientation of production as regards both quality and quantity. Account has been taken of the demographic situation in farming, especially the number of older farmers and the position of young farmers.

The measures, which are closely linked to one another, can be classified in the following categories:

- A. Introduction of an early retirement scheme** for farmers between the ages of 55 and 65. Such a scheme should help agriculture to adjust by offering alternative income sources to farmers:
 - (i) either by enabling land which is currently productive to be made fallow;
 - (ii) or by replacing old farmers with young ones.The scheme would apply both to farmers and to farm workers aged between 55 and 65.
- B. Strengthening of the aid scheme for young farmers entering farming** set up by the amended regulations adopted in March 1985; under the scheme, young farmers under 40 setting up on their first farm may benefit from a system of subsidies per hectare to encourage them to reemploy or diversify production.
- C. Extension and strengthening of measures to favour farming in upland and other less-favoured areas.** It is planned to extend and beef up the compensatory allowances already provided for by existing regulations. This should not only help to keep farmers in such areas but also aid the redeployment or diversification of production.
- D. Measures to safeguard the environment.** Measures are proposed to encourage farmers to adapt their methods to the higher standards required as regard protecting the environment and maintaining the

countryside. These too would help to switch production and enable land to be used in accordance with CAP objectives.

- E. **Services to aid adjustment.** It is planned to step up the Commission's efforts to give farmers the services they need when adjusting their farming methods. Existing training measures are to be stepped up, in some cases knowledge is to be publicized more fully, and agricultural research is to be used more to help find solutions to problems.
- F. **Accompanying measures.** These cover the exploitation of products and include measures to strengthen those taken in 1985 to encourage the replacement of farmland by forests, particularly in connection with a farmer's early retirement.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Committee welcomes the Commission proposal despite clearcut reservations and on condition that it is regarded solely as a first step towards a socio-structural policy forming a consistent part of the CAP. In the Committee's view, the proposed measures are so restricted in scope that they cannot provide a solution to either the imbalance between supply and demand on markets or the Community's socio-structural difficulties.

The above Opinion was adopted unanimously. The Rapporteur was Mr Zinkin (United Kingdom — Employers).

6. DUTY FREE FUEL/VAT EXEMPTION

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 83/181/EEC determining the scope of Article 14(1) (d) of Directive 77/388/EEC as regards exemption from value-added tax on the final importation of certain goods'

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 68/297/EEC on the standardization of provisions regarding the duty-free admission of fuel contained in the fuel tanks of commercial vehicles' (COM(86) 388 final)

Gist of the Commission document

Council Directive 83/181/EEC of 28 March 1983² fixes the minimum amount of fuel (200 litres) contained in the tanks of commercial motor vehicles which should be exempted from value-added tax on admission

¹ CES 766/86.

² OJ L 105, 23.4.1983, p. 38.

at the Community's internal frontiers. The minimum amount of fuel contained in the tanks of commercial vehicles which Member States were required to admit tax and duty free was fixed at 200 litres by Council Directive 68/297/EEC of 19 July 1968¹ as amended by Council Directive 83/127/EEC of 28 March 1983². This amount was raised to 600 litres³ in 1985 for vehicles suitable for and intended for passenger transport.

The Commission now proposes that the same minimum amount should also apply to vehicles suitable for and intended for the transport of goods; in other words, as of 1 October 1986, a minimum amount of 600 litres in the tanks of commercial vehicles should be exempted from VAT and admitted tax and duty-free at the Community's internal frontiers.

As the capacity of standard fuel tanks in lorries does not exceed 600 litres, the Commission proposals will effectively abolish checks on the amount of fuel contained in lorries' tanks at intra-Community frontier crossing points.

The Commission initiative is part of the package of measures designed to facilitate border traffic, which is one aspect of completing the internal market.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion⁴

The Committee approves the Commission's initiative and considers that the proposals constitute another major step towards the elimination of technical and administrative barriers to trade in the Community.

The Opinion, drawn up by Mr Binnenbruck (Germany — Employers) was adopted unanimously.

¹ OJ L 175, 23.7.1968, p. 15.

² OJ L 91, 9.4.1983, p. 28.

³ Cf. Council Directive 85/347/EEC and 85/346/EEC of 8 July 1985; OJ L 183, 16.7.1985, pp. 21 and 22.

⁴ CES 759/86.

7. YES FOR EUROPE

'Proposal for a Council Decision adopting an action programme for the promotion of youth exchanges in the Community — YES for Europe — 1987-89' (COM(86) 286 final)

Gist of the Commission's proposal

The development of youth exchanges is directly related to the objectives of the Community in the area of economic and social policy and cultural cooperation, particularly as regards the removal of obstacles to the free movement of persons, as well as the preparation of young people for adult and working life. The proposal needs to be seen in the context of current efforts to develop a sense of European awareness and solidarity and to create a 'People's Europe'.

The objectives of the programme are as follows:

to promote youth exchanges in the economic, social, cultural and sporting fields within the European Community, to increase the number of young people involved and to balance the flow of youth exchanges as between Member States;

to promote improvements in the quality of youth exchanges, in particular through assistance with the preparation and organization of exchanges, so as to maximize the benefit to the young people concerned and also enable them to play an active role in setting up exchanges;

to encourage diversification in youth exchanges and in particular to extend participation to young people from all kinds of social, economic and cultural backgrounds and from all regions of the Community;

to identify ways and means of overcoming the various financial, legal and administrative obstacles which may inhibit participation in or the organization of youth exchanges;

to identify progressively gaps and new priorities in existing arrangements for exchanges which could require supplementary action either within Member States or at Community level.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Committee welcomes the proposal, which complements other EC exchange schemes and is consistent with the goal of building a 'People's Europe'.

¹ CES 769/86.

It specifically supports key components of the programme as regards:

- qualitative and quantitative improvements to exchange schemes;
- the target group (embracing all young people living in the EC);
- the wide variety of schemes covered;
- structured learning experiences.

The Committee urges the Commission from the very start of the programme to develop European machinery, in addition to the national agencies foreseen, especially for the implementation of multilateral schemes. It further hopes that a European advisory committee will be established and that at the review stage consideration will be given to the setting-up of a European Agency.

This Opinion, drawn up by Mr Schwarz (United Kingdom — Various interests) was adopted unanimously.

8. COMMUNITY ACTION IN THE FIELD OF TOURISM

'Commission Communication to the Council on the Community action in the field of tourism' (COM(86) 32 final)

Gist of the Commission proposal

The document 'Community Action in the field of tourism' is in effect the follow-up to the original document on the 'Initial guidelines for a Community policy on tourism' (COM(82) 385 final) on which the Committee issued an Opinion in October 1983.

The new document summarizes the situation to date, lists fields in which action can be expected in the future and incorporates three specific proposals on:

- better distribution of tourism — (the problem of seasonality);
- standardized information on hotels;
- consultation and coordination procedure between the Member States and the Commission.

The new document has taken up a number of the recommendations put forward by the Committee in its original Opinion, and these are set out in tabular form in a separate paper being distributed to the Members of the Study Group.

The Committee's new Opinion therefore will have to cover developments on tourism generally since its last Opinion, and comment on the three specific proposals.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Committee welcomes the Commission Communication 'Community action in the field of tourism', though it would have preferred a precise programme with deadline dates for action on the lines of that recently proposed by the Commission for completing the internal market and giving fresh impetus to the consumer protection policy. The Committee draws attention to various problems connected with tourism (economic aspects and social, regional, transport, consumer protection and environment policies). Further, the Committee recommends the setting-up of a Committee on Tourism, comprising people working in this sector, which would provide a link between Community bodies and the tourist sector.

This Opinion, drawn up by Mr Brassier (France — Various interests) was adopted unanimously.

9. UCITS

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 85/611/EEC as regards jurisdiction in disputes arising from the marketing of units of undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS) (COM(86) 193 final)

Gist of the Commission proposal

During the discussion by the Council of the proposal for a Directive coordinating the rules relating to undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS), a wish was expressed that an article be inserted in the Directive concerning jurisdiction in disputes arising from the marketing of UCITS units in a Member State other than that in which the UCITS is situated. Since it was not possible to agree in time on the wording of this article, the Council, wishing to enable the Directive to be adopted before the end of 1985, requested the Commission to submit a proposal to it at a later date.

The proposal was to cover the purchase of UCITS units by persons acting in a non-professional capacity and its purpose was to secure such purchasers the right in all cases to bring disputes relating to the marketing of units before the courts of the Member State in which the units were purchased.

¹ CES 753/86.

It is with a view to accomplishing that task that the Commission is submitting to the Council this proposal for a Directive, which should be regarded as a supplement to Council Directive 85/611/EEC of 20 December 1985.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

According to the provisions in force, particularly Section VIII of the Council Directive of 20 December 1985 coordinating the laws, regulations and administrative provisions concerning certain undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS), a purchaser of UCITS units may bring disputes relating to compliance with the provisions contained in Section VIII before the relevant court in the country where the UCITS' head office is located.

The Committee Opinion approves the possibility of disputes being brought before the courts in a Member State where units have been acquired, which may be a state other than that in which the UCITS has its headquarters or the purchaser his or her domicile.

It considers, however, that the proposal does not apply if the units were acquired on a stock exchange. While the stockbroker is an agent within the meaning of commercial law, when a purchase is made on a stock exchange, the purchaser does not know who the other party is.

This above Opinion was adopted unanimously. The Rapporteur was Mr De Bruyn (Belgium — Various interests).

10. CABOTAGE — INLAND WATERWAY

'Proposal for a Council Regulation laying down the conditions under which non-resident carriers may transport goods or passengers by inland waterway within a Member State' (COM(85) 610 final)

Gist of the Commission document

The purpose of the Commission proposal is to allow inland waterway operators to offer their services on other Member States' domestic markets. This practice is known as cabotage. The present proposal supersedes one submitted in 1967² which was amended in 1969.³ The freedom to engage in cabotage already exists in part but is not fully

¹ CES 758/86.

² OJ C 95, 21.9.1968.

³ COM(69) 311 fin of 25.4.1969.

applied. Whereas Belgium grants total freedom, in Germany cabotage is limited to the Rhine basin and certain Ruhr canals. In the Netherlands there are temporary restrictions on waterways which do not belong to the Rhine system, while in France non-resident operators are limited to one national haul after an international one. Under the terms of the proposal, all these restrictions are to be lifted by 1 January 1988.

The new proposal goes further than the one submitted in 1967, since it covers the carriage of goods and passengers. Non-resident operators will be obliged to comply with the laws, regulations and administrative provisions in force in the Member State where they operate and will be subject to the same conditions as resident operators.

Operators should normally be Member State nationals, but this provision may be waived.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Committee is convinced that, as part of the common transport policy and with a view to the completion of the internal market, it is essential to also lift restrictions on the freedom to provide inland shipping services.

It believes, however, that the Commission proposal does not meet some of the requirements.

In addition to proposing a number of alterations in its Opinion, the Committee believes it is especially necessary to harmonize divergent regulations in the different Member States (concerning, for example, tariffs, access to a particular market sector, freight offices and rotation systems and indirect taxation such as VAT) or to examine these regulations with a view to establishing how far harmonization is required.

The above Opinion was adopted by 91 votes to 10 with 3 abstentions. The Rapporteur was Mr Fortuyn (Netherlands — Employers).

¹ CES 765/86.

11. EUROPEAN MARKET IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

'Proposal for a Council Recommendation on the coordinated introduction of the Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) in the European Community' (COM(86) 205 final)

Gist of the Commission document

The present proposal forms a major part of the overall short-, medium- and long-term policy aimed at ensuring that the Community will be equipped with efficient telecommunications networks, services and markets as it enters the 'information age'. The aims of this policy are:

- to create a Community market for telecommunications terminals and equipment (RACE programme, etc.);
- to give the Community's less-favoured regions better access to advanced services and networks (STAR programme);
- to agree on joint stands within the international organizations dealing with telecommunications;
- to improve the development of advanced telecommunication services and networks (this being the aim of the present proposal) in order to smooth the way towards integrated broadband communications. The ISDN is a natural development of the existing telephone network: it should not be independent of this network, but should support its phasing-out, working with it and with certain specialized networks.

The ISDN will offer a wide range of new services, such as high quality telephone, high speed facsimile and telex, combined transmission of voice and data, and a large number of sophisticated supplementary services (informing an engaged subscriber of another incoming call, indicating to a called user information from the calling user, indicating the charge for the call, etc.).

The Recommendation proposes the following:

precise definition of interfaces, in particular between public and private networks, i.e. compatibility of terminals; cooperation between manufacturers to create a single market in terminals, leading to economies of scale in a market larger than those of the United States and Japan;

a coordinated approach to the introduction of the ISDN (Community-wide instead of national development);

sufficient accessibility of the new services as the basis for a Community-wide market. A minimum number of subscribers (about 5% of the 1983 telephone subscribers in each country) must have access. It will take a minimum of five years to do this. Full and complete CEPT specifications for the first services and standards must thus be ready by the end of 1986.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Committee gives its express support to the proposal because users will be provided with vast new possibilities for satisfying their growing demand for information, and the large markets created will give the telematics industry the chance to increase production, reduce prices and thus improve sales in the face of US and Japanese competition.

However, it thinks that the Commission's plan to create a cross-border Integrated Services Digital Network could be implemented more readily if the proposal were to take the form of a Directive instead of a Recommendation.

The Committee considers that because of the considerable investment required to change over from analogue to digital transmission and switching, there is a danger that the gaps between the more and less developed regions of the Community will widen. Therefore, the possibility of Community funds being used to even out the advances made in the Community should be considered. It points out in this connection that the funds earmarked for the STAR programme should not be reduced but that their deployment should be carefully linked to the introduction of the ISDN.

The Committee would stress in particular the openings which reasonably-priced ISDN basic accesses may create for small and medium-sized enterprises. The high speed transmission and utilization of data and the numerous technical possibilities afforded will put SMEs in a better position to compete with large enterprises and will thus go some way towards putting them on an equal footing.

The introduction of the ISDN will also require workers to learn new job skills. This should be taken into consideration by the Commission in good time. Suitable openings for basic and further training should be created in the countries of the Community with the support of Community projects.

According to the Committee the development of the ISDN and the fully integrated broadband network will benefit the economy but may also

¹ CES 757/86.

pose considerable social problems and threaten privacy. It advocates more information from the relevant bodies and more public discussion on this subject so that the public's fears and mistrust can be dispelled and the requisite legal basis for the protection of privacy and personal data can be improved. The political feasibility of the new openings created by the ISDN will also depend on these matters being settled.

The above Opinion was adopted unanimously. It was drawn up by Mr Nierhaus (Germany — Workers).

12. INTERNAL MARKET — FOODSTUFFS

'Communication from the Commission to the Council and to the European Parliament entitled "Completion of the Internal Market: Community legislation on foodstuffs"'

Gist of the Commission document

In its White Paper on Completing the Internal Market by 1992, the Commission has recognized that a new approach is necessary based on the acceptance of possible divergent national standards within an overall framework of Community principles.

This new approach is considered to be particularly appropriate for foodstuffs and forms the basis of the document under examination.

Thus, in order to meet the 1992 deadline, a new orientation must be given to food legislation which will:

- draw a clear distinction between the so-called 'horizontal' questions which require Community legislation (e.g. public health) and the vertical questions which do not (e.g. the composition of foodstuffs);
- allocate tasks between the Council and the Commission under which the Commission is given powers to implement regulations established by the Council.

In application of this new programme, the document under examination sets out a detailed timetable of proposals for foodstuff legislation timed to meet the internal market deadline.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Committee welcomes the Commission's communication. It observes that food legislation must not be harmonized at the expense of human health or food quality.

¹ CES 762/86.

It considers an effective EC-wide system of informative labelling to be essential for consumer protection. It also thinks that the issue of further vertical Directives on foodstuffs will be unavoidable in a limited number of cases.

As regards the division of legislative powers between the Council and the Commission, the Economic and Social Committee takes the view that, under the new procedure, the Standing Committee for Foodstuffs should take its decisions by a qualified majority and that the ESC should be consulted.

This Opinion, drawn up by Mr Hilkens (Netherlands — Various interests) was adopted by a large majority, with two votes against and nine abstentions.

13. FOODSTUFFS: ADDITIVES

'Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning food additives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption'

Gist of the Commission document

This referral is one of four proposals put forward within the framework of the Commission's Communication entitled 'Completion of the Internal Market: Community legislation on foodstuffs' (COM(85) 603 final) and has to be considered in the context of this document.

These referrals are:

Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning food additives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption (COM(86) 87 final) — to which this memo refers;

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 79/112/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs for sale to the ultimate consumer (COM(86) 89 final);

Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (COM(85) 90 final);

Proposal for a Council Directive of the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to foodstuffs intended for particular nutritional uses (COM(86) 91 final).

It should be noted that:

- (i) all four proposals envisage the introduction of the 'Advisory Committee' procedure for the adoption of future specific Directives or for amendments to existing Directives. This procedure involves the use of powers devolved on the Commission under the new Article 100 A of the EEC Treaty;
- (ii) three proposals involve the detailed amendment of existing Directives. These are:
 - Foodstuffs: Labelling (COM(86) 89 final);
 - Foodstuffs: Materials into contact (COM(86) 90 final);
 - Foodstuffs: Particular uses (COM(86) 91 final);
- (iii) three proposals (but not the same three as listed under (ii)) establish lists of categories or sectors for which specific Directives have to be drawn up. These are:
 - Foodstuffs: Additives (COM(86) 87 final);
 - Foodstuffs: Materials into contact (COM(86) 90 final);
 - Foodstuffs: Particular uses (COM(86) 91 final).

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Committee regrets that only four Directives have been adopted so far on additives. It approves the present draft Directive, subject to various amendments of a technical nature. It also recommends that certain terms be clarified.

The above Opinion was adopted unanimously. The Rapporteur was Mr De Grave (Belgium — Workers).

14. FOODSTUFFS: LABELLING

- 'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 79/112/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs for sale to the ultimate consumer'**

Gist of the Committee's Opinion²

The Committee welcomes the Commission proposal, but thinks a few improvements could be made. In particular, it would like to see common principles and rules governing consumer information on meals

¹CES 754/86.

²CES 763/86.

provided by mass caterers, and feels that highly perishable foodstuffs should have a 'use before' rather than a 'best before' date.

The above Opinion was adopted by a large majority, with no votes against and four abstentions. The Rapporteur was Mrs Dore (France — Employers).

15. MATERIALS IN CONTACT WITH FOODSTUFFS

'Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs'

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Committee welcomes and approves the Commission proposal, subject to a number of amendments.

The above Opinion was adopted unanimously. The Rapporteur was Mr Antonsen (Denmark — Employers).

16. FOODSTUFFS: PARTICULAR NUTRITIONAL USES

'Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to foodstuffs intended for particular nutritional uses'

Gist of the Committee's Opinion²

Although the Committee approves the Commission proposal, it suggests a few minor amendments. In particular, it stresses the need to differentiate clearly between foodstuffs for particular nutritional uses which have a medical application and those which are for ordinary consumption.

The above Opinion was adopted unanimously. The Rapporteur was Mrs Williams (United Kingdom — Various interests).

¹ CES 755/86.

² CES 756/86.

17. SIMPLE PRESSURE VESSELS

'Proposal for a Council Directive on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to simple pressure vessels' — new principle designed to eliminate barriers to trade' (COM(86) 112 final)

Gist of the Commission proposal

This proposal for a Directive is the first to be sent to the Council by the Commission in application of the Resolution of 7 May 1985 on a new approach to technical harmonization and standards — an approach which was approved by the Committee in its April 1985 Opinion. The four basic principles underlying this approach are:

to limit legislative harmonization to the laying down, by means of Directives under Article 100 of the EEC Treaty, of the essential safety requirements with which products put on the market must conform;

to entrust the task of drawing up the technical specifications needed by industry, which must be consistent with the essential requirements established by the Directives, to organizations competent in the standardization area (CEN/CENELEC);

to ensure that these technical specifications are not mandatory and maintain their status of voluntary standards;

to oblige national authorities to operate on the presumption that products manufactured in accordance with harmonized standards (or, provisionally, with national standards) conform to the 'essential requirements' established by the Directive.

The present proposal for a Directive applies to simple pressure vessels falling mainly into three large categories of product: compressed air reservoirs, reservoirs for motor vehicles and containers for the storage of certain gases. It replaces the earlier proposal for a Directive on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States on certain types of simple pressure vessels, covering more or less the same ground as the present proposal, and on which the Committee issued a favourable Opinion on 12 December 1979.

The present Commission proposal adheres as closely as possible to the outline contained in Annex II to the Council Resolution on the new approach.

It should, however, be borne in mind that the 'outline Directive' simply names the certification procedures without providing any information

as to their scope or nature. This shortcoming is remedied in Articles 8 to 15 of the proposal, which provides an outline certification system that can serve as a basis for all the other future proposals based on the new approach.

For the financing of work that the Commission intends to assign to the CEN and CENELEC concerning European standards, and to contractors for studies or the provision of services, concerning national standards — commitment appropriations of 300 000 ECUs for the period 1986-88 (European standards) and 250 000 ECUs in 1987-88 (national standards) respectively, are provided for. The Commission is now drawing up a standardization programme for the product and basic standards needed for pressure vessels. After consultation with the circles concerned, the Commission will give standardization remits to the competent European standards institutions, on the basis of this programme.

As regards ways of proving conformity, the new approach states that as a general rule, the manufacturers must be left the choice between obtaining the conformity mark from an approved body (which will probably always be the best solution for many small and medium-sized firms) and setting up and applying a quality-assurance system under the supervision of the authorities and accepting responsibility for the declaration of conformity. The Commission believes that these two solutions to the problem of ensuring safety must lead to equivalent results, and therefore proposes an adaptation period of up to four years to facilitate the development and introduction of the techniques required for the monitoring of production surveillance.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Economic and Social Committee notes that this proposal adopts a new approach to the question of technical harmonization which signifies a further step towards the elimination of barriers to trade.

However it considers the field of application specified to be insufficient and urges that a list of pressure vessel materials be dispensed with so as to avoid problems with adaptation to technical progress. In the Committee's view it would hardly be reasonable to submit a decision to the Council every time the scope of the Directive has to be extended to cover newly developed materials; the Committee therefore suggests that the possibility be studied of authorizing the Commission to lay down the materials to be used in pressure vessels without consulting the Council.

¹ CES 761/86.

The Committee is not convinced of the need for the proposed transitional arrangements. It believes there is a risk that discrimination based on standards will in fact continue to be possible during the transitional period, for example in the area regulated by the Low-Tension Directive. At the same time there would be no incentive for countries with existing standards to develop European standards.

The Committee therefore proposes that the transitional period be dispensed with and every effort be made to promote the early establishment of European standards. It calls on the Commission to submit a timetable drawn up in consultation with CEN/CENELEC as provided in the Council Resolution of 7 May 1985 so that the parties concerned will know when the European standards will be entering into force.

The above Opinion was adopted by 100 votes to none with 7 abstentions. This Opinion was drawn up by Mr Flum (Germany — Workers).

18. SCOPE OF DIRECTIVES ON ANNUAL AND CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 78/660/EEC on annual accounts and Directive 83/349/EEC on consolidated accounts as regards the scope of those Directives' (COM(86) 238 final)

Gist of the Commission proposal

The requirement that annual accounts be drawn up in accordance with Directive 78/660/EEC (the 4th 'Company Law' Directive) is based in particular on the fact that companies established in the form of public or private limited companies offer no safeguards to third parties beyond the amounts of their net assets. However a similar result may be achieved by the creation of partnerships, limited partnerships or unlimited companies in so far as their members with unlimited liability are themselves established as public or private limited companies. A substantial and constantly growing number of these types of undertaking are being seen inside the Community, particularly in the form of limited partnerships. It would contradict the spirit and the aims of the 4th Directive if such undertakings were not to be subjected to the same accounting requirements as the companies expressly mentioned in the Directive.

The aim of the present proposal is therefore to extend the scope of the 4th Directive to include these companies.

The proposal is also intended to ensure that parent undertakings taking the form of partnerships, limited partnerships or unlimited companies,

all the unlimited members of which are themselves public or private limited companies, are also covered by the obligation to draw up consolidated accounts in accordance with Directive 83/349/EEC of 13 June 1983 (the 7th 'Company Law' Directive).

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Committee approves the proposal, which supplements the 4th Directive of 25 July 1978 on annual accounts and the 7th Directive of 13 June 1983 on consolidated accounts. The proposal extends the field of application of these Directives to partnerships, limited partnerships and unlimited companies in which all the members with unlimited liability are themselves public or private limited companies.

The Committee agrees with the Commission that the aim of the proposal is fully justified by the existence within the Community of a large and steadily growing number of partnerships, limited partnerships and unlimited companies. Failure to subject these companies to the same accounting requirements as public or private limited companies would be contrary to the spirit of the 4th and 7th Directives.

Finally, the Committee notes that the large number of small firms which would be affected by the proposal will still qualify for the exemptions for small firms laid down in Articles 11 and 27 of the 4th Directive and Article 6(1) of the 7th Directive.

The above Opinion was adopted by 81 votes to 18 with three abstentions. The Rapporteur was Mr d'Elia (Italy — Workers).

19. TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

**'Communication from the Commission to the Council —
Medium-term transport infrastructure programme and the
Proposal for a Council Regulation on Financial support in
the framework of a medium-term programme for transport
infrastructure' (COM(86) 340 final)**

Gist of the Commission document

A Community action on transport infrastructure has been developed continuously over the last few years. Budget resources have been made available since 1982². In 1984 the Council decided to consider a study of

¹ CES 768/86.

² 1982: 10 million ECU; 1983: 15 million ECU; 1984: 80 million ECU; 1985: 90 million ECU; 1986: 65 million ECU.

a medium-term programme which concentrated on significant projects, objective criteria and funding methods. The Commission sent its first report on the subject to the Council on 14 December 1984 (cf. COM(84) 709 final).

The purpose of this Communication is to set out the broad lines of a medium-term transport infrastructure programme. The main components are:

- the objectives which the programme is to achieve, namely: the improvement of communications in 'land-sea' corridors; reduction of the costs inherent in transit traffic, in cooperation with any non-Member States concerned; the integration of the peripheral regions into the Community's network; the construction of links offering a high level of service between the main cities (high-speed rail links);

- the criteria for assessing the Community interest of projects and ranking them in order of priority; these criteria include the socio-economic profitability of projects on the national and Community levels; the Community interest of the projects; the consistency of the project with other Community measures; the complementarity of the project with projects undertaken at national level;

- the network of principal links of Community interest with an indication of probable developments in the next ten to fifteen years;

- the use of public and private financial sources — including the Community financial instruments — to undertake the programme;
- the strategy proposed for the first measures, taking account of the budget resources available and the major projects of immediate interest.

The Community's primary role is to ensure good coordination when new projects are to be undertaken in the Community's transport network and to encourage those schemes which are necessary for the Community's development, but it should also be in a position to encourage certain projects in the medium-term programme by providing some financial support.

The sums involved in developing the transport infrastructure would be more than 20 000 million ECU. Where Community subsidies are to be paid, these should amount to 15-25% of a project. For major infrastructure projects, the Community's intervention should be determined at a level which would provide the necessary catalytic effect. A major part of the resources allocated to the medium-term infrastructure programme, amounting to about two-thirds, should be devoted to these big projects. The projects already under way with help from the 1982-84 budgets should continue and be combined with measures to encourage the development of bigger second category projects.

The Commission also proposes a general regulation to provide the Community with a permanent facility to offer a financial stimulus to the conception and undertaking of projects in the medium-term programme. This replaces the proposals submitted by the Commission in 1976 (OJ C 207 of 2 September 1976, pages 9-10) and 1983 (OJ C 36 of 10 February 1984, pages 3-5).

The regulation comprises:

- the basis for Community action in relation to the medium-term transport infrastructure programme;
- the criteria for the selection of infrastructure projects;
- the objectives and forms of financial support envisaged;
- the procedure for introducing a request for financial assistance and its contents.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Committee approves this proposal, which comes out in favour of a coherent Community policy based on clearly defined aims and criteria, even though this policy relates to shorter periods of time than those envisaged in the 1976 and 1983 proposals. The Committee has in fact always been in favour of this kind of global approach and a longer-term financial instrument, or even a special fund (Infrafonds).

The Committee regrets, however, that the Council lacks the political will to adopt a longer-term coherent Community policy which would cut out the yearly round of haggling over each individual project. It would urge the Council to adopt the proposal swiftly so that a medium-term programme and framework regulation can be established.

The above Opinion was adopted unanimously. The Rapporteur-General was Mr Rouzier (France — Workers).

¹ CES 767/86.

External relations

Activities of the Chairman

Mr Muhr met Mr Vanderveken, Secretary-General of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, on 20 August 1986.

Mr Muhr, accompanied by Mr Schoneweg, his Chef de Cabinet, attended the 22nd Congress of the International Social Security Association in Montreal on 4-9 September 1986.

From 9 to 13 September 1986 Mr Muhr and the Secretary-General, Mr Louet, accompanied by Mr Schoneweg, paid a fact-finding visit to Israel. They had talks with leaders of the Histadrut trade union Confederation and of the Manufacturers' Association, representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of Agriculture and members of Israel's economic and social committee.

Other activities

Mr Etty, a Member of the Committee, attended the conference on cancer held in Lisbon by the ETUC on 8 and 9 July.

Mr Roseingrave, a Committee Member, represented the Committee at the conference on small and medium-sized enterprises held in Washington on 17-21 August 1986.

Mr Emo Capodilista, Committee Vice-Chairman, attended the conference of the Deutscher Raiffeisenverband in Karlsruhe on 11 September 1986.

Programme of future work

Dumping of waste at sea

Roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles

GSP 1987

Report on competition

Financial integration

Integrated operations

Island regions (Information Report)

Next Plenary Session

The inaugural session of the Committee's 8th four-year term of office will be held in Brussels on 21, 22 and 23 October 1986.

LIST OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS APPOINTED FOR THE OCTOBER 1986 — SEPTEMBER 1990 TERM OF OFFICE

BELGIUM

- M. Paul Arets¹
Directeur du Département social, Fédération des entreprises de Belgique (FEB)
- M. Armand Colle
Président national de la Centrale générale des syndicats libéraux de Belgique (CGSLB)
- M. Marc Cortois¹
Conseiller au Service d'étude de la Confédération des syndicats chrétiens de Belgique (CSC)
- M. Alfred Delourme
Secrétaire général de la Fédération générale du travail de Belgique (FGTB)
- M. André De Tavernier
Directeur du Service d'études économique et sociologique de l'Union des agriculteurs belges
- M. Antoine Donck¹
Directeur-coordonateur de la Confédération nationale de la construction
- M. Jozef Houthuys
Président de la Confédération des syndicats chrétiens

¹ new members.

- M. Alfons Margot
Secrétaire général de l'Union nationale chrétienne des classes moyennes
- M. Jean Pardon¹
Directeur du Département juridique et fiscal — Association belge des banques (ABB)
- M. Georges Proumens¹
Délégué auprès des Instances européennes — Groupe l'Oréal
- M. Roger Ramaeckers
Secrétaire général de la Fédération belge des coopératives (FEBECOOP)
- M. André Vanden Broucke
Président de la Fédération générale du travail de Belgique (FGTB)

DENMARK

- Cand. polit. Karen Gredal
Næstformand i forbrugerrådet
- Bo Green, H.A.¹
Grosserer-Societetet
- Cand. polit. Frithiof Hagen¹
Arbejderbevægelsens Erhvervsråd
- Afdelingschef E. Hovgaard Jakobsen
Landbrugsrådet
- Cand. polit. Paul Kaaris
Industrirådet
- Sekretær Bent Nielsen
Landsorganisationen i Danmark (LO)
- Økonom Preben Nielsen
Landsorganisationen i Danmark (LO)
- Svend Skovbro Larsen
Funktionærernes og Tjenestemændenes Fællesråd
- Afdelingschef, advokat Hans Christian Springborg¹
Dansk Arbejdsgiverforening (DA)

¹ new members.

FRANCE

- M. René Bernasconi
Président de la Confédération générale des petites et moyennes entreprises (CGPME)
- M. Roger Burnel
Président de l'Union nationale des associations familiales (UNAF)
Membre du Bureau du Conseil économique et social
- M. François Ceyrac
Président d'honneur du Conseil national du patronat français (CNPF)
- M. Jean-Claude Clavel¹
Directeur des Affaires européennes et internationales de l'Assemblée permanente des chambres d'agriculture (APCA)
- M. Michel Collas¹
Président de la Chambre syndicale de la sidérurgie
Membre délégué du CNPF aux affaires européennes
- M. Jean-Pierre Delhomenie¹
Secrétaire confédéral de la Confédération française démocratique du travail (CFDT)
- M. Guy Drilleaud
Secrétaire général de la Confédération française des travailleurs chrétiens (CFTC)
- M. Maurice Droulin
Administrateur de la Fédération nationale des syndicats d'exploitants agricoles (FNSEA)
- M. André Dunet
Collaborateur du bureau de la Confédération générale du travail (CGT)
- M. André Laur¹
Président de la Confédération nationale de la mutualité, de la coopération et du crédit agricoles (CNMCCA)
- M. Jean Marvier
Vice-président de la Confédération nationale de l'artisanat des métiers (CNAM)
- M. Bernard Mourgues
Secrétaire confédéral de Force ouvrière
- M. Gilles Nugeyre¹
Vice-président du Centre national des jeunes agriculteurs (CNJA)

¹ new members.

- M. Robert Pelletier
Secrétaire général de l'Association française des établissements de crédit
- M. François Perrin-Pelletier¹
Membre du conseil exécutif du Conseil national du patronat français (CNPF)
Conseiller du directoire de la Société Peugeot
Secrétaire général du Comité des constructeurs d'automobiles du Marché commun
- M. Jacques Ribière¹
Directeur général de la Compagnie générale maritime et financière
- M. Jean Rouzier
Secrétaire confédéral de Force ouvrière (CGT-FO)
- M. Michel Saïu
Secrétaire national de la Confédération générale des cadres
- M. Henry Salmon¹
Architecte
Membre du bureau du Conseil économique et social français
Secrétaire général de l'Union nationale des associations de professions libérales (UNAPI)
- M. François Staedelin¹
Expert du secteur économique de la Confédération française démocratique du travail (CFDT)
- M. Jacques Tixier
Collaborateur du Bureau confédéral de la Confédération générale du travail (CGT)
- M. Gabriel Ventejol
Président du Conseil économique et social français
- M. Roland Wagner
Président de la Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de Strasbourg et du Bas-Rhin
- M. Joseph Yverneau
Administrateur de la Fédération nationale des syndicats d'exploitants agricoles (FNSEA)

GERMANY

Herr Ulrich Berger
Stellvertretender Bundesvorsitzender des Deutschen Beamtenbundes

¹ new members.

- Herr Dr. Klaus Boisseree¹
Mitglied des Hauptausschusses der Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Umweltfragen
- Herr Dr. Paul Broicher
Europabeauftragter des Deutschen Industrie- und Handelstages
- Frau Helga Elstner¹
Senatorin a.D.
Mitglied der Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Verbraucher
- Herr Eike Eulen¹
Mitglied des Geschäftsführenden Hauptvorstandes der Gewerkschaft Öffentliche Dienste, Transport und Verkehr
- Herr Paul Flum
Leiter der Abteilung „Besondere Aufgaben“ beim Bundesvorstand der IG Metall
- Herr Michael Geuenich
Mitglied des Geschäftsführenden Bundesvorstandes des DGB
- Herr Wolfgang Haas¹
Präsident der Bundesbahndirektion Saarbrücken
- Frau Dr. med. Hedda Heuser
Mitglied des Präsidiums des Deutschen Ärztetages
- Herr Heinz-Adolf Hörsken¹
Hauptgeschäftsführer der CDA-Sozialausschüsse
- Herr Johannes M. Jaschick
Hauptgeschäftsführer und Präsidialmitglied der Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Verbraucher e.V.
- Herr Bernd Kröger¹
Hauptgeschäftsführer des Verbandes Deutscher Reeder
- Herr Werner Löw
Geschäftsführer der Bundesvereinigung der Deutschen Arbeitgeberverbände
- Herr Willi Lojewski
Vorsitzender der Gewerkschaft Gartenbau, Land- und Forstwirtschaft
- Herr Dr. Klaus Meyer-Horn¹
Europabeauftragter des Deutschen Sparkassen- und Giroverbandes
- Herr Gerd Muhr
Stellvertretender Vorsitzender des Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbundes (DGB)

¹ new members.

- Herr Dr. Herbert Nierhaus
Mitglied des Bundesvorstandes der Deutschen Angestellten-
Gewerkschaft (DAG)
- Herr Dipl.-Vw. Jens Petersen¹
Hauptabteilungsleiter im Bundesverband der Deutschen In-
dustrie (BDI)
- Herr Klaus Schmitz
Leiter der Abteilung Strukturpolitik beim Bundesvorstand des
Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbundes (DGB)
- Herr Dr. Rudolf Schnieders
Generalsekretär des Deutschen Bauernverbandes
- Herr Paul Schnitker¹
Präsident des Zentralverbandes des Deutschen Handwerks
- Herr Dr. Jürgen Stahlmann
Hauptgeschäftsführer des Bundesverbandes des Deutschen Groß-
und Außenhandels
- Herr Dr. Hans-Jürgen Wick
Generalsekretär des Deutschen Raiffeisenverbandes e.V.
- Herr Prof. Dr. Klaus Benedict von der Decken
Direktor am Institut für Reaktorbauelemente der Kernfor-
schungsanlage Jülich GmbH

GREECE

- ο κ. Αθανάσιος Αλεξόπουλος¹
Α΄ Αντιπρόεδρος Βιοτεχνικού Επιμελητηρίου Αθήνας
- ο κ. Στυλιανός Μπαζιάνας
Πρόεδρος Γενικής Συνομοσπονδίας Αγροτικών Συλλόγων Ελ-
λάδας
- η κα Άννα Μπρεδήμα
Δικηγόρος
Σύμβουλος Ένωσης Ελλήνων Εφοπλιστών
- ο κ. Γεώργιος Μπρεγιάννης¹
Γραμματέας Οικονομικού Γενικής Συνομοσπονδίας Εργατών
Ελλάδας
- ο κ. Γεώργιος Ντάσης
Ειδικός Συνεργάτης Γενικής Συνομοσπονδίας Εργατών Ελ-
λάδας

¹ new members.

- ο κ. Φιλώτας Καζάζης
Σύνδεσμος Ελληνικών Βιομηχανιών
- ο κ. Δημήτριος Κίτσιος
Πρόεδρος Εκτελεστικής Επιτροπής της ΑΔΕΔΥ
- ο κ. Αθανάσιος Πετρόπουλος¹
Εμπορικός Σύλλογος Αθήνας
- ο κ. Σωτήρης Πολύζος¹
Α΄ Αντιπρόεδρος του Διοικητικού Συμβουλίου της ΠΑΣΕΓΕΣ
- ο κ. Γεώργιος Ραυτόπουλος
Πρόεδρος Γενικής Συνομοσπονδίας Εργατών Ελλάδας
- ο κ. Νικόλαος Βασιλαράς
Μέλος του Εμπορικού και Βιομηχανικού Επιμελητηρίου Ρόδου
- ο κ. Θεόδωρος Βλασσόπουλος¹
Οικονομολόγος
Μέλος του Διοικητικού Συμβουλίου του Ελληνικού Κέντρου Παραγωγικότητας

IRELAND

- Mr John F. Carroll
General President
Irish Transport and General Workers Union
- Mr Donal Cashman
Honorary Officer (ex President)
Irish Farmers Association
- Mr John Donovan Coyle¹
Deputy President
Chambers of Commerce of Ireland
- Mr Henry J. Curlis
General and Municipal Workers Union
- Mr Sean Kelly
Honorary Officer (ex President)
Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers Association
- Mr John N. Kenna
Director of Transport and Foreign Trade
Confederation of Irish Industry
- Mr Patrick Murphy
Assistant General Secretary
Federated Workers' Union of Ireland

¹ new members.

- Mr A. Gordon Pearson
Member of National Executive Council
Federated Union of Employers
- Mr Tomás Roseingrave
Consultant with and former National Director
Muintir na Tire

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At its meeting on 16 September 1986, the Committee Bureau decided to propose to the Council that Mr Adriano Graziosi be appointed Director-General at the Committee.

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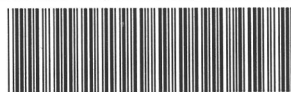
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