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This issue covers the activities of the European Communities in December 1968.

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Industrial policy : problems and outlook

by *M. Guido COLONNA di PALIANO*,
member of the Commission.

The completion of the customs union on 1 July 1968 is an important date in the evolution of the integration process. Since then goods have moved freely within the Community area without any longer running up against tariff obstacles. This does not yet mean that the conditions of supply can be considered equal to those in a domestic market, but in establishing a unified consumer market fundamental progress has been achieved. This broadening of the market has not so far been paralleled by a similar process of broadening the structures of production. Roughly speaking, while the market has taken on continental dimensions, the industrial set-up — with some exceptions — continues to be on a national scale. The first task of an industrial policy, therefore, is to close this gap between the market and the structure of production.

This objective is, however, only one aspect of a much more general problem, namely the need to promote the adaptation of our system of production to the real situation and to the requirements of the great industrial transformation we are living through. The main features of this profound transformation are well known. The last decade has seen above all a lively intensification of international competition, confirmed by the decisions reached in the Kennedy Round. While Community firms can count on more and more outlets for their products, they will also have to face up to increasingly intense international competition, which will often take the form of firms in some non-member countries, in particular the United States, setting up new establishments within the Community area. Nor should it be forgotten that international competition will become keener because we will have to help the developing countries increase their share of international trade by buying larger quantities of their products. At the same time we are witnessing, and shall continue to witness in the future, a profound change in the pattern of demand. The increase in private incomes has brought

about some saturation of demand for the products of various industries, such as some consumer durables and foodstuffs, accompanied by a corresponding growth of demand for other goods and services. Lastly, and this is probably the salient point, the faster and faster pace of innovation requires us to work out an industrial strategy recognizing the fundamental importance of research and the development of new techniques and products. Intellectual investment seems destined to absorb an ever larger share of total resources and to constitute the true key to the future.

Considered from this angle an efficient industrial policy is no more than an attempt to cope with the problems raised by what is now customarily known as the second Industrial Revolution.

In order to face up to such complex requirements the Community's industrial policy must be developed along two basic lines.

First of all, the general conditions or setting must be established to help and encourage the structural adaptation of firms. It will be necessary not only to make the general economic policies of our Member States more and more mutually consistent and homogeneous but also to take action on a whole number of specific problems. For this purpose the removal of the various factors responsible for fragmentation of the market is of great importance. It will be necessary, for example, to eliminate the technical obstacles and taxes that still hinder free movement, whether of goods or of firms. At the same time it will be necessary to encourage firms to adopt an optimum size, either by using the indirect means provided by the Treaty — I am thinking in particular of the establishment of a true common market for capital — or by providing, where needed, new, specific legal instruments such as the European company. Likewise we shall have to be careful to create the necessary conditions so that the movement towards industrial combination, which is gathering momentum, acts as a factor promoting the integration of our structure of production. For this purpose it seems essential that the process should transcend the national context and give rise to cross-frontier forms of combination. The prospects of the success of an industrial policy, furthermore, are closely bound up with the development of all the other common policies — I have in

mind, in particular, competition policy, energy policy, regional policy and research policy — with which it is in a state of permanent interaction.

The second fundamental guideline of our work is the preparation of specific measures for individual industries. While it is true that if the general conditions for development are achieved Community firms will for the most part be able to cope successfully with competition both inside and outside the Community, it is just as true that some industries need the intervention and support of the public authorities. From this angle two classes of enterprise raise specific problems for which solutions cannot be expected from the play of market forces alone; I refer to traditional enterprises threatened with decline and the advanced technological industries.

Traditional industry — by this expression I mean industry born of the first Industrial Revolution — must, if it is to survive, constantly adapt itself to the new conditions of production and marketing. These conditions are changing with growing speed as a result of both technical progress and the appearance on the world market of new countries producing and exporting manufactures. Faced with this situation and the ensuing need for rationalization and conversion, the Member States have made provision for various types of intervention measures in these industries, measures which often have the effect of artificially maintaining existing structures rather than promoting adaptation to new circumstances. The primary objective of an industrial policy in such industries is, therefore, to bring about adequate co-ordination of national intervention measures with the object of at least making them mutually consistent. Otherwise — and there is a wealth of examples — a tendency exists for the Member States to engage in a perilous rivalry in propping up certain sectors of their respective industries. Such rivalry is not only liable to distort the conditions of competition and even jeopardize the very unity of the market, but also may lead the Member States to deprive the growing industries, the industries of the future, of too large a share of their resources to the advantage of the declining ones.

As regards the technologically advanced industries, it is enough to say that there the current pattern of the market exercises a

secondary influence only. The establishment of the common market and the free movement of goods, therefore, are not able to provide the fundamental stimulus required. Tariff preference in itself does not guarantee sufficient outlets to ensure that production is profitable. In this field, on the other hand, the "guaranteed" market in the shape of public contracts is of fundamental importance, and so a Community policy for these industries is virtually obliged to tackle the problem of creating a Community-scale guaranteed market through concerted action in the matter of public contracts. There is no need to point out that the elaboration of such a policy raises a whole number of very delicate political problems and directly impinges on the question of enlarging the Community.

With the completion of the customs union the main emphasis of Community work is tending to shift from the subject of freedom of movement to structural problems. This is true for industry no less than for agriculture. Europe's future will depend largely on its capacity to provide valid and timely solutions to this order of problems.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis L. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

I. Introduction to the Second General Report on the Activities of the Communities in 1968

It is no easy task to summarize the essential points among the activities of the European Communities in 1968. This is not just because the richness and diversity of life cannot be neatly tucked into the limits set by arbitrary datelines, but even more because the existence and development of the Communities during the last twelve months have been fraught with astonishing contrasts: difficulties, delays and disagreements on major aspects of Community life have alternated with major advances, with not inconsiderable successes, and with a great many undertakings whose diversity cannot fail to strike the reader of this General Report.

This being so, the Commission believes that, instead of trying to make a general appraisal of all that has happened in the Community, it should single out the fields where it considers there are grounds for satisfaction with the progress achieved and those where, on the contrary, there is cause for concern, and close with a few general opinions on the state of the Community.

Reasons for satisfaction

There can be no question here of examining chapter by chapter each of the fields in which advances have been made; they are indeed far too numerous. The public will concentrate more easily on the outstanding difficulties and spectacular disagreements than on the slow but certain progress of Community life. The Report itself is a mine of information in this respect, and only a few essential points will be touched on here.

Customs union was completed when customs duties within the Community were abolished on 1 July 1968. The common external tariff was introduced and the first instalments of the reductions resulting from the multilateral negotiations held in Geneva during May 1967 were put into effect. The problems still pending in the sphere of customs harmonization, important as they may be, are not such as to detract appreciably from the value of these fundamental results.

Despite the political difficulties between them at various points in the year, the Member States have been able to work together on the building of economic union and to take some important decisions in this field.

The Community has, for instance, passed to the single market stage for all the leading agricultural products. The common prices which had been fixed beforehand have come into force, so that from 1 July 1968 it has been possible to move most agricultural products freely, from country to country.

In transport, there has been the progress expected since work in this field was given fresh impetus at the end of 1967. On the economic and technical plane, as in the social field, the decisions taken in 1968 represent a considerable step forward which will make it possible to continue with the elaboration of the common policy.

In 1968 one of the great objectives of the Rome Treaty, the free movement of workers within the Community, was also achieved. All discrimination in employ-

ment, pay and working conditions based on nationality has thus disappeared. This completes the process which began when the Treaty came into force and progressed through the successive stages of the 1961 and 1964 regulations.

Particular mention should also be made of several important decisions that have been taken in the commercial policy field with an eye to the 1 January 1970 deadline.

After a long period of inaction it was at last possible, at the end of 1968, to resume — with the full co-operation of the Commission — the work begun by the Group on scientific and technical policy.

In addition to these Council decisions, mention should be made of the action by several Member States in 1968 to adapt their internal legislation to the decisions taken by the Council in 1967 with a view to adoption of the tax on value added. This is one of the cornerstones of the Community's whole fiscal policy.

The Commission has itself taken action on a large number of matters and has submitted proposals and memoranda to the Council on several fundamental questions.

In the spring it specified the main lines of the policy it intends to pursue in the various sectors of industry (industry in general, traditional branches in difficulty, growth industries).

In the nuclear field, it submitted a White Paper to the Council concerning the industrial exploitation of the results of research, the problems faced by the Community because of its technological backwardness, and the possible solutions.

In the tax field the Commission has completed its studies of common fiscal arrangements to be applied when an enterprise domiciled in one Member State merges with or acquires holdings in an enterprise domiciled in another Member State. It has worked out and submitted to the Council the main lines of a common fiscal system for use in all Member States. The aim is to enable firms in the Community to adapt themselves without fiscal handicaps to the common market and to competition within the Community or elsewhere.

In the field of competition, application of the regulations in force has made it possible to pigeon-hole a great number of files and so to make a considerable reduction in the backlog of cases pending. Moreover, the Commission has made it perfectly clear that it views co-operation between enterprises with favour.

The merger of the Executives has produced its first effects in the field of energy. Taking over the studies in hand where the former Executives left off, the Commission has drafted and sent to the Council a general memorandum covering all sectors and proposing first guidelines for the Community policy on energy.

Finally, the Commission has drawn up a memorandum setting out, for the Community institutions and the public at large, the essential problems of agricultural structure within the Community. Once the consultations which have just begun are completed this memorandum will serve as a basis for specific proposals, discussion of which will more than fill the year 1969.

To these internal measures must be added the policy pursued by the Community with regard to the Associated African States and Madagascar. The Community's work in Africa is one of its great achievements, and co-operation between the European and African peoples is developing in an exemplary manner in the frame-

work of the Yaoundé Convention. There could be no better proof of the success of this Convention than the unanimous decision to renew it taken both by the Member States of the Community and by the eighteen Associated States.

The Commission has made precise proposals to the Council as to what the new Convention should contain. It is striking to see that the disagreement between the Member States in Europe has no repercussions outside, and that the Community's work in Africa is pursued with all the necessary proficiency and drive thanks to the fruitful co-operation of the Community institutions amongst themselves and with the Member States. In this field the European Parliament plays a very effective role, a point which should once again be emphasized.

This list is in no way exhaustive. It merely highlights a few sectors in which progress has been more obvious than in others. However, we should not forget the less spectacular but extremely necessary action which the Commission has to undertake whenever a Member State encounters great difficulties in its economy or in some particular sector. We need only point to the decisions which the Commission took following the difficulties experienced by France in May and June 1968, and which constituted a correct application of the provisions of the Treaties of Rome and Paris.

Mention should also be made of the day-to-day aspects of Community activity, the application of the regulations in force, the pursuit of the negotiations with non-member countries, all of which add up to an immense amount of work for the Community institutions (Parliament, Council, Commission, Court of Justice) and constitute the daily life of the Community.

Reasons for concern

But the Community has had its due share of worries in 1968.

The first matter of grave concern is the political controversy which has arisen between the Member States concerning the enlargement of the Community. The disagreement which crystallized in the Council discussion of 19 December 1967 was not resolved in 1968. It has caused the Council and the Commission to lose valuable time, since the greater part of the Council's discussions have been devoted to it. The negative attitude adopted in this field by one Member State has evoked negative reactions by its partners in a number of other spheres. The blocking of the enlargement of the Community has provoked the blocking of the negotiations with the Mediterranean countries and of progress in the technological field. After months of irritating discussions it was only slowly that the atmosphere improved, in the second half of the year and that the efforts made in the spring to work out a temporary compromise solution began to bear fruit.

The second matter for concern is the spread of these disagreements to other sectors. The Commission has noted, and regrets, a general deterioration of the atmosphere within the Community. There has been less goodwill, and conciliatory solutions have become more difficult to work out; the advocacy of purely national interests has become quite open. It took a year and a half to establish the procedures for providing food aid to the developing countries, the principle of which was accepted by the Community in May 1967. In dealing with agricultural regulations, customs regulations or regulations in the field of commercial policy, Member States have too often made their agreement conditional upon the satisfaction of immediate interests and failed to consider those of the Community as a whole. It would be

vain to conceal the fact that this attitude has not only struck specialists discussing these matters within the institutions, but has been very widely noted by public opinion both inside and outside the Community, and has done nothing to reinforce the latter's authority in Europe and throughout the world.

The third cause for concern is unquestionably the Euratom crisis. It is perfectly understandable that Member States should disagree on the programme of work to be accomplished by this Community institution, since the basic elements of nuclear research and its industrial follow-up have changed greatly since the European Atomic Energy Community was established, and their disagreement is even more understandable when it is remembered that in most of them the national programmes themselves are the subject of difficult rethinking. But the real cause of the crisis is the absence of any genuine political will for joint action. It is deeply disquieting that once again agreement has proved possible only on a provisional programme for one year — and even then half the projects are to be paid for by only five of the Member States out of six — while the 1969 research budget is still not adopted. If the Member States should get into the habit of financing only those projects which are of direct concern to them, the result would be a rapid and serious deterioration of Community action.

The interest of the Community as a whole must come first; and so it was not without a feeling of bitterness and impatience that the Commission participated in the deliberations at the end of the year when the Member States were discussing the reduction of their joint effort in the first large technological centre created by the Community. And this at the very time when American cosmonauts were flying round the moon and striving to outbid their Soviet rivals in the conquest of space!

Finally, economic and monetary anxieties have been caused by the problems that 1968 has brought to the fore. These difficulties have drawn attention to the divergences which have become apparent in the last two years in the economic development of the various member countries and which make closer co-ordination of their economic and monetary policies necessary.

Moreover, the machinery for prior Community consultation established in 1964 did not function satisfactorily during the monetary crisis in November. The Commission would, however, emphasize that Community consultations were constant and fruitful during the conference of the Group of Ten in Bonn.

The Commission regrets that the unity of views and action which had been reinforced since 1966 in the field of international monetary relations, and which had produced considerable results, was not maintained in the spring of 1968.

It is illogical that at a time when customs union has been achieved, the common agricultural market is functioning and the future of international monetary relations is fraught with uncertainty, the Member States should not strengthen their economic and monetary solidarity. Opinion in our six countries feels this need more every day; in the building of our Community it is one step forward which we can postpone further only at our peril.

Concluding remarks

Concluding this introduction, the Commission believes that it is in duty bound to draw the attention of the Parliament — for which the Report is first and foremost intended — and of public opinion throughout the Community to a few fundamental points.

The difficulties through which the Community is passing — and which get a little too much of the limelight — should not blind us to the patient and unremitting work of construction which is being performed.

The reader of this Report cannot but be struck by the scale of what has been accomplished in so many and varied fields. It would be a mistake to think that the Community is paralysed, and equally mistaken to believe that it has come to a halt with the establishment of customs union and the operation of certain agricultural markets. The force impelling our six Member States to integrate their economies and their social structures has, happily, so far proved more powerful than the obstacles encountered on the road to integration.

It is in the nature of things that there should be disagreements between Member States; they stem from the diversity of traditions and mental attitudes and from certain interests, and are the fruit of free discussion within a democratic organization. What is not reasonable is that the States should have so much difficulty in coming to terms on their sometimes divergent immediate interests and in framing common solutions acceptable and profitable for all.

The Commission does not claim to be perfect and cannot be surprised when the other institutions also have their problems. It can, however, only regret that the Council should sometimes give the impression of being an international conference at which national delegations are negotiating with each other, whereas in reality it is one of the government organs of a Community of 180 million inhabitants which must be guided efficiently, in the same way as any one of our member countries.

For a Community in the making, a Community which still has to assert itself, efficient guidance is a vital necessity. It is unacceptable that important problems should remain unsolved for years on end. There is nothing to be gained by retarding or blocking decisions which will eventually have to be adopted anyway. Is it good sense to hold up completely, despite the Opinion issued by the Commission, the start of work on enlarging the Community, when all parties state that they want this enlargement and know that it will ultimately come about? Was it wise to block, despite the Opinion issued by the Commission, the procedures for negotiations with the Mediterranean countries, which eventually had to be resumed after all? Was it wise, despite the Opinion issued by the Commission, to let the Community lose a year in which it could have been working on a common technological policy — one of the most urgent questions of today? All this loss of time has been to no purpose and has profited nobody, and it would have been better to realize that at the start rather than at the end. Can it be hoped that the lesson of these experiences will not be completely wasted in the years ahead?

Finally, the Commission would like expressly to remind the reader how important it is for the life of the Community that its institutions should function normally. Quite apart from the institutional developments which are becoming increasingly necessary as the Community advances, the Commission is astonished at the lengthy battles it has to fight merely in order that its functions under the Treaty shall be respected and that nothing be done to whittle them down. At a time when all the Member States declare that they wish to strengthen the Community, it must be clearly realized that the way to any such strengthening is primarily through respect for the institutions, their reciprocal powers and their methods of deliberation and decision.

If the Communities were to be reduced to a vague intergovernmental organization, their effectiveness would be immediately and irretrievably jeopardized.

Alone of all the large European organizations, the Communities have succeeded in building up and administering common policies, and this they owe essentially to their institutional machinery. The same men who did not succeed in framing and implementing common policies in the amorphous framework of other organizations have managed to do so in the framework of the Community, which provided them with the necessary institutional instruments.

II. The economic situation in the Community in 1968 and the outlook for 1969

The annual statement on the economic situation in the Community was made by M. Raymond Barre, Vice-President of the Commission, to the European Parliament in Strasbourg on 22 January 1968. M. Barre reviewed the economic situation in 1968, outlined the prospects for 1969 and explained the guidelines advocated by the Commission.

For the Community, and for the world in general, there were many important events in 1968 and no lack of surprises.

In January, when presenting to this House its annual statement on the Community's economic situation, the Commission felt some concern as to the consequences of the devaluation of sterling and the implications of the programme to redress the American balance of payments just announced by the President of the United States. Two months later lively international speculation made an end of the gold pool and led to the establishment of a two-tier gold market. In May and June, France was in the throes of a grave social crisis which brought the country to a standstill for several weeks and seriously disturbed the balance of its economy.

In spite of these difficulties and the temporary and limited safeguard measures accorded to France, customs duties between the member countries of the Community were abolished and the common customs tariff introduced on 1 July 1968.

During the summer the international monetary situation gradually calmed down again and the outlook improved following the Basle agreements on the conversion of the sterling balances. But suddenly, in November, widespread speculative movements were unleashed in expectation of a revaluation of the Deutsche Mark. Until the conference of the Group of Ten in Bonn and the decisions taken by the German and French Governments eased the strain, the Community was beset by appreciable difficulties.

All these events have left their mark. To a great extent they determine the economic outlook for 1969 and the orientation of economic policies within the Community.

The 1968 balance-sheet

Although 1968 was a troubled year, economic expansion, living standards and employment nevertheless made very substantial gains.

After the subdued business climate of 1967, there was definite growth, the pace of which bears comparison with that of the Community's "vintage" years — 1959 and 1965. The Community's gross product in real terms increased in 1968 by more than 5%, whereas growth had fallen below 3% in 1967. This result is all the more remarkable since the gross national product increased by only 3.7%

in France, where the losses of output caused by the strikes could not be completely made good. In Germany, on the other hand, the rise in gross national product was well above the forecasts worked out at the beginning of 1968. According to the information at present available it was probably 7% in real terms.

In the Benelux countries, where business was stimulated by the expansion in Germany, growth rates were 6% for the Netherlands and 4.5% for Belgium and Luxembourg. Only in Italy did growth fail to match the forecasts, but the rate of more than 5% in 1968 compares well with those achieved in the other countries.

Expansion was rapid not only in annual terms but also in respect of the trend through the year. Thus, a provisional estimate puts at 4% the underlying growth rate of the Community's industrial production between the third and fourth quarters of the year. This pace had never been achieved since 1958. True, it is a reflection of exceptionally lively expansion in Germany and France, but the results of the Benelux countries and Italy are also very favourable.

Employment reacted with the usual time-lag to the acceleration of production. During the first six months there was an increase in hours worked in most of the countries. As the year wore on the number of persons employed began to increase at a more rapid pace.

Unemployment declined everywhere. In Italy, where the rather slack business trend during the first half-year had led to a slight increase in the number of job applications during the summer months, the employment situation improved at the end of the year. In France, where the number of unemployed seemed to be relatively high before the events of May and June, an appreciable reduction in unemployment and even shortages of skilled manpower have recently been observed.

An examination of the various factors which have stimulated expansion shows first of all that, contrary to forecasts, the Community has again benefited from strong world demand, particularly in the first quarter of 1968: the measures to curb domestic demand and correct the United Kingdom and United States payments balances could not be taken within the time limits planned or their effects were late in making themselves felt.

In addition several fortuitous factors, in particular the steel and copper strikes in the United States, temporarily swelled the volume of Community exports. In these circumstances, the Community's sales of merchandise went up by 10% in value for 1968 as compared with 1967, the forecast having been about 6%.

However, increased domestic demand was the principal factor of expansion in all the Community countries. In Germany, at the beginning of the year, the economy was already in a phase of strong stock-building and rapidly swelling order books pointed to a considerable increase in the production of capital goods. When this in fact occurred, it was accompanied by export gains, not only to non-member countries but also to the other Community countries. These factors combined had boosted employment, incomes and, finally, household consumption, which steadily increased. A similar trend was discernible in the Benelux countries. The pattern was less regular in France and Italy. In the former the year had begun in a climate of balanced expansion and in May the economic outlook was very favourable. After the paralysis due to the strikes, followed by the holiday period, domestic demand made progress which was all the more rapid since wage increases and higher social transfers greatly swelled the disposable income of households. In

Italy, on the other hand, the pace of household consumption and industrial investment was slow until the summer. Subsequently, however, under the impact of certain measures to stimulate the economy, investment activity spurted, particularly in construction, while consumption was also stronger.

Finally, the very important part again played by the increase in trade between the Member States in spreading the lively development of economic activity throughout the Community should be stressed. Statistics for the first ten or eleven months of the year (according to country) show that intra-Community trade increased in value by 15 to 16% in relation to 1967. The progress of exports was around 14% in Germany and France and 18% in the Benelux countries and Italy. Germany stepped up purchases from the other Community countries by 21% and France by 19%. Only Italy is substantially below the average, with the business slowdown in the first half of 1968.

However, these remarkable figures must not be allowed to mask the divergences that have been discernible as between the member countries for two years now in price, costs and payments trends.

If we leave out of account the special case of France, economic expansion during 1968 did not impair the price climate in the various Community countries. Consumer prices in Italy were almost completely stable; the rate at which prices rose slowed down in Belgium and Luxembourg and the new tax on value added (TVA) partly accounted for the higher prices in Germany. In the Netherlands, however, the rise in consumer prices was still appreciable (about 4%, as in 1967). Finally, in France, after the events of May and June, the upward movement spurted sharply, even though the increase observed since mid-year (about 3.5%) is within official limits.

The trend of unit wage costs was satisfactory in most Community countries. According to tentative estimates, unit costs in industry remained more or less stable everywhere except in France. A comparison covering the last three years shows that costs have been rising appreciably faster in France than in the other countries.

Finally, there are disparities in current payments trends. Despite the exceptional upsurge of production, it did not prove possible to reduce Germany's external surplus in 1968. Similarly, in Italy, the weakness of imports in the first half-year inhibited the tendency for the surplus to contract which had emerged in 1967. True, heavy capital exports enabled both these countries to offset — and sometimes more than offset — the surplus on current payments, but their basic external position nevertheless looks very strong. On the other side of the picture the French payments balance, after being in equilibrium in the early part of 1968, subsequently deteriorated. For 1968 as a whole this need cause no anxiety, since the decline in the external balance (transactions) probably did not exceed \$ 500 million. However, the variation in actual payments was larger because of "leads and lags" in the settlement of claims and debts. The sharp rise in production also impairs the prospects of a return to equilibrium in the balance of payments.

These divergences are a source of concern and their elimination must be a major policy goal in the Community.

The outlook for 1969

Action in 1969 must fit into the context of the economic outlook for world business and for the Community.

On the external plane the current efforts of the United States and the United Kingdom to throttle back domestic inflation and ensure or consolidate the equilibrium of their payments balances will tend to curb the expansion of world trade: it seems out of the question that the increase in the value of merchandise imports could again reach 23% in the United States and 6% in the United Kingdom or that the growth rate of Community purchases from non-member countries could be much above the 10% registered in 1968. In these circumstances the Community's sales abroad will develop at a slower pace than in 1968. A slowdown of this kind was already seen to be in the offing when the seasonally corrected figures for the autumn of 1968 were analysed.

Within the Community, however, the outlook for expansion in the coming months is still extremely favourable. In Germany, order-books are long enough to ensure vigorous growth of investment in capital goods and heavy spending on stocks. There is also much evidence to suggest that household consumption will play an increasingly important part in the expansion of the economy. The outlook in the Benelux countries is much the same, although investment will probably be less dynamic than in Germany.

In France the wave of consumption unleashed by the wage rises will continue to affect sales in the early months of 1969 and the business polls show that managements are planning heavy capital goods investment in 1969. The situation will, of course, have to be reviewed later in the year when the effects of the measures taken last November have been fully felt and the trend of wages has, as is hoped, slowed to a more moderate pace.

Finally, in Italy, where, mainly because of official measures to stimulate public and private investment, domestic demand, which had been very slack, staged a recovery in the second half of 1968, it can be expected that household consumption, too, will make a heavier contribution to business activity in 1969.

All these forecasts taken together would seem to indicate that the gross Community product in real terms will increase by about 5.5% in 1969. The growth rate could be nearly 5% in Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands, and more than 6% in France and Italy.

Although continuing expansion at a very satisfactory pace would seem to be a fair assumption for the Community as a whole, the outlook for 1969 shows quite clearly that in most member countries the defence or the re-establishment of basic equilibrium will call for efforts varying according to the relevant situations.

At the present time the utilization rate of productive capacity differs sharply from one country to another. Germany now has only very limited manpower reserves and the immigration of foreign workers is being stepped up. In the Netherlands, where the regional incidence of unemployment is very uneven, strain could appear on the labour market in 1969. On the other hand, the number of unemployed in Italy, although expected to fall, will still be fairly high, while uncertainty continues in France as regards the possible impact of a return to internal and external balance on the pace of growth and level of employment in the course of 1969.

Furthermore, in the field of prices and costs, it is not certain that the divergent trends in the Community in 1968 will now converge towards rates of increase compatible with internal and external stability. Although the measures taken in several countries — Germany, France and, more recently, the Netherlands — have created circumstances under which it is possible to apply the brakes, the risk of "skidding" has not been entirely dispelled.

Finally, any harmonious development of expansion in the Community must entail, in 1969, an appreciable reduction in certain current-account surpluses and deficits. The forecasts at present available for 1969 do in fact point to a trend in this direction. The sustained expansion of the German economy, which is approaching the level where greater recourse to foreign supply seems to be inevitable, and the fiscal measures taken last November, justify predictions that imports will climb sharply and export growth lose some momentum. The brisker expansion of the Italian economy also justifies the hope of a reduction in the current-account surplus. Lastly, the set of measures adopted by the authorities in France in November 1968 should bring about a gradual improvement in the external position of that country, although the balance of payments situation may be troublesome in the initial stages.

The improvements expected presuppose, however, that the measures already adopted in the member countries will in fact be maintained in conformity with the programmes envisaged and, where necessary, adapted to the business trend.

The main lines of short-term economic policy

The international and Community outlook I have just discussed explains the main lines of short-term economic policy which the Commission of the European Communities considers desirable and which it submitted to the Council of the Community last December.

In the first place it is essential to ensure that growth continues in the Community. This means that if the world business situation should prove to be less dynamic than at present foreseen, perhaps because of a stricter economic policy in the United States, the Community countries would have to use a stronger expansion of internal demand to forestall any slowdown of economic activity. A concerted growth policy for the Community as a whole would also make a considerable contribution to the expansion of international trade.

Even if the hypothesis of a weaker world business situation is ignored, the maintenance of a rapid pace of expansion — more especially in those countries with current-account surpluses — is necessary if the Community economy is to develop harmoniously. Thus, through the interplay of intra-Community trade, these countries will provide considerable support for the other Member States whose external position is less firm. This being so, the Commission recommended to the Council on 12 December 1968, that whatever happened the growth of the gross Community product should not be allowed to fall below 5% in 1969. This rate is feasible and consonant with stability, given available technical capacity, manpower reserves and the latitude with regard to imports of which the Community countries dispose in varying degrees.

During this year the Federal German Republic will bear a special responsibility and would need to achieve a growth rate at least equal to that of the Community considered as a whole, i.e. 5%. This pace of growth is all the more necessary because, although the tax measures decided on in November last can have an inhibiting effect on economic activity, they also create new opportunities for the expansion of production. Without vigorous growth the problem of the German payments balance surplus is likely to remain acute and to cause further difficulties at Community and international level. The development of household consumption, the expansion of public spending and the maintenance of a considerable volume of long-term capital exports should enable the economy of the Federal Republic to make a contribution to the Community and the rest of the world compatible with the scale of its economic power.

Italy, too, has major expansion potential thanks to its current-account surplus. In this country also a more rapid growth in the consumption of households should favour fuller utilization of productive resources.

In the Netherlands the foreseeable development of domestic demand has rightly raised fears as to price trends and the payments balance. The measures taken by the Dutch authorities in December 1968 and January 1969 show that they are determined to apply a more restrictive budgetary and monetary policy without slowing down economic growth unduly.

In the Community countries growth should therefore be the result of an expansion of domestic demand adapted to the situation of each one of them. The main domestic demand control instrument should be budget policy, which, according to the case, should provide the necessary drive or restraint. Monetary policy will need to be implemented so as to avoid any escalation of interest rates in the Community, such as the increases in recent months in France and then in the United States could lead us to fear. The trend towards stable interest rates should be safeguarded in the Community whenever this is possible.

Finally, it is indispensable that the trend of wages in the member countries should be kept within the limits of what the economy can really bear. In some countries — the Netherlands and, even more, France — caution is essential. In others, where wage increases have been only very moderate in previous years, better remuneration within reasonable limits would not be incompatible with the demands of stability. In this field experience shows that although excessive increases can disturb the balance of the economy, wage rises which are too small sometimes tend to provoke dangerous explosions later. In the various Community countries there is a case for agreements between the two sides of industry for a progressive rise in wages and salaries which would ensure a fair share in the fruits of growth without the basic balance of the economy being disturbed.

In France the wage trend will have a crucial effect on the outcome of the economic contest now being fought out. The competitive capacity of the French economy was jeopardized by the jump in production costs in 1968. It can only be restored by an all-out drive to step up production and productivity, great vigilance with regard to prices and particular moderation in increasing incomes. Everything must be done to achieve restoration of balance in the coming months so that the French economy may resume regular growth on more healthy bases. Not until the end of the spring will it be possible to measure exactly the results of the economic policy now being applied. Between now and then nothing can or should be taken for granted. It would in particular be dangerous if the — wrong — view that there might be a conflict between monetary requirements and the imperative need for the full utilization of resources were to gain acceptance. It would be better to remember, in the light of much experience, that, far from allowing of easy remedies, monetary adjustments demand austerity, that the internal and external stability of a currency is no more than a reflection of the basic equilibria of the economy and that there can be no lasting full employment and sustained growth if the stability of the currency is not defended. For the French economy there is a great deal at stake, but if unwavering determination to achieve clear objectives is shown, there is no reason why France should not weather the storm.

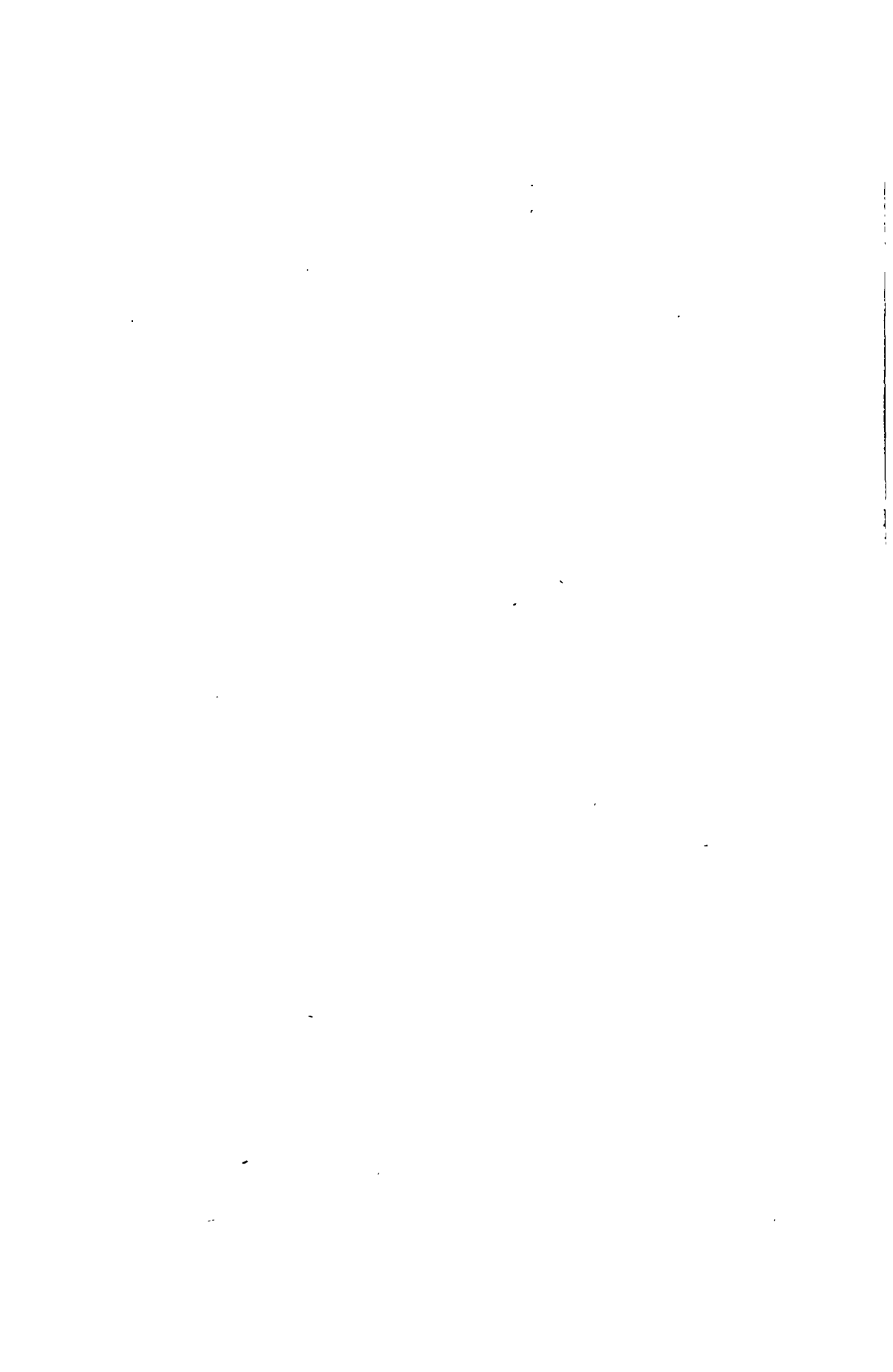
The growing interdependence of the economies of the member countries shows how vital the reinforcement of Community solidarity in economic and monetary matters is for the present and the future.

The Community has reached a stage where all the progress already made could easily be endangered if the member countries do not agree on the priorities to be

given in the short and medium term to the main objectives of economic policy, if they do not concert their action in such a way as to ensure the convergence of the national trends towards common objectives, if they do not develop reciprocal co-operation in monetary affairs so that minor hitches do not imperil the balance and continuous growth of the Community as a whole. Is it not a sign of the times that the May-June crisis in France and the monetary disturbances in November brought into full light the risks to which the customs union, whose achievement we celebrated on 1 July 1968, might be exposed? Today it is no paradox to say that we must advance further if we are not actually to lose ground. It is with this in mind that in February the Commission will submit to the Council proposals for strengthening economic and monetary co-operation in the Community.

The solidity of the European venture may be put to the test by internal difficulties in the Community, but also by external events. The international monetary system will remain vulnerable until such time as respect for the rules of the game which govern its machinery has been permanently restored. In the event of an international crisis the possibility cannot be excluded that certain countries may be led to adopt a floating exchange rate. This solution is moreover being openly canvassed in certain circles which are not merely academic. At the risk of looking like a die-hard conservative I do not hesitate to say that the system of floating exchange rates would tend to disintegrate international trade and depress the international economy. It is also fashionable to advocate a widening of the margins within which currencies may fluctuate or the "crawling peg". Everybody knows that all these devices are gimmicks which would mask rather than solve the real problems. In any case it is clear that in one or the other of the eventualities which I have just mentioned the cohesion of the Community could be called into question if a common attitude were not laid down and observed by the member countries and if fixed parities were not maintained between their currencies. It is high time for the Community to tackle these problems, without ostentation but also without undue diffidence.

Nineteen sixty-nine may well be a difficult year. But each and every difficulty can be overcome if our six countries are aware of what they can accomplish together and if they retain the will to act together to maintain the Community to which they have pledged themselves.



III. The contribution of the Member States' courts to the development of Community law

One of the most striking features of Community life is the creation of a growing body of Community law flowing from the Treaties of Paris and Rome and the acts of the institutions established by them. Speaking in Luxembourg on 23 October 1968, at a ceremony to mark the 10th anniversary of the Court of Justice,¹ M. Robert Lecourt, the Court's President, said that the concept of a common market entailed a threefold need: for a law applicable equally to all, for a uniform interpretation of that law and for its primacy over all domestic sources of law. It was felt that the contribution which the member countries' courts have made to the development of Community law should be discussed in the present Bulletin. As this was the topic that M. Karl Roemer, Advocate-General, selected for his address on the occasion of the 10th anniversary, the address — with some minor deletions — is given below.

(...)

An examination of judgments handed down in member countries shows how intensively the domestic courts have to explore Community law and thus to collaborate in its application.

The beginnings of this trend date back to 1953. At that time, only one Treaty, that of the ECSC, was involved. Soon after the Treaties of Rome came into force in 1958, the trend continued in this new field, its first manifestation being a ruling by a Dutch Court on the rules of competition contained in the EEC Treaty. The courts of other Member States were quick to follow this lead and today it can be said that, as far as the number of rulings are concerned, the contribution made by the case-law of the Member States' courts to Community law is as large, if not larger, than our own. It is a long time since the rules of competition were the only ones to present intricate problems which were brought before the member countries' courts. The list has been extended and now includes subsidies and dumping, transport law, the many agricultural market organizations, rules on free movement of goods and obstacles to this in the form of customs duties, quantitative restrictions, monopolies and rules on industrial property rights, not to mention the problem of tax equalization in cross-border trade, freedom of establishment and free movement of workers.

(...)

Naturally, there is no question of our making a critical assessment of the member countries' case-law. This lies outside our province and would, in any event, betray the Court's fundamental attitude to member countries' courts, imbued as it is with a spirit of collaboration. Instead, I will try to pinpoint some essential features of the formidable array of domestic rulings— this means, of course, that I will not be able to deal with the question exhaustively — and some basic ideas which could well be significant for the future development of the Community and which have a special bearing on our own duties as a Court.

¹ See Bulletin 12-68, Ch. III.

(...)

The essential function of Community law is to ensure uniformity of conditions where, and to the extent that this is necessary for the functioning of the Common Market. But there can be no uniform development of the law unless the interpretation of Community law and the control of its application are, ultimately, in the hands of a single court. This is why the procedure of application for preliminary rulings is of such importance. Together with other less important procedural devices, it provides a solid link between the ECJ's law-making and that of the courts of the member countries. Legal practice in the Member States shows quite clearly that if no procedure of this kind existed, if the member countries' courts were to function independently, there would be a real and serious danger of market conditions developing along diverging lines; and this would happen even if the local courts were to do their utmost to interpret Community texts objectively and in a spirit of loyalty to the Community. Not only have we seen different interpretations emanating from the tribunals of one and the same Member State but also rulings differing from those handed down by courts in other Member States. If I might refer again to the rules of competition: in the beginning some courts found in favour of their direct applicability while others took the opposite view, two points at issue being the role of competition from near substitutes and the relationship between competition law and trade mark and patent law. I am thinking too of the controversy — particularly lively in Germany — surrounding the application of provisions dealing with tax arrangements in cross-border trade. In this matter too, different solutions were found to the problem of the direct applicability of the Treaty provisions, the details of tax arrangements, and the problem of the relationship between these and the customs provisions of the Treaty and the levies introduced under the agricultural market organization.

It is no exaggeration, then, to say that the procedure of application for preliminary rulings is a vital part of the machinery of legal protection instituted by the Treaties (and it must be recognized that the ECSC Treaty is only inadequate in so far as it confers no powers of *interpretation* on the Court of Justice). Today, fortunately, after an early phase of diffidence, the Member States are realizing more and more clearly the value of the preliminary question. We get the impression, in any event, that it is growing in importance, so much so that at the present time the preliminary question accounts for more cases before the Court than other forms of litigation.

A second important conclusion to be drawn from an examination of cases in the member countries is that the domestic courts frequently give our rulings, particularly our preliminary rulings, an effect far beyond the scope of the particular case we have dealt with. Indeed, many local judgments refer quite simply, without any discussion, to rulings of the Court of Justice. The first time that this happened was after the Bosch ruling on the applicability of Article 85 of the EEC Treaty. The same thing happened later following other rulings on exclusive agreements, preliminary rulings on the social security of migrant workers, a judgment on the aid provisions of the EEC Treaty, rulings on its fiscal provisions on the tariff rules of Article 12, or following remarks by the Court on the scope of the obligation to state grounds for decisions, etc. It is not unusual to find verbatim quotations from our rulings, a development which must surprise judges trained in a tradition which abhors borrowing if this kind. Where, as is often the case, the reason for referring to our cases is expressly stated, it is not unusual for the local courts to hold that the binding force of the Court's preliminary rulings is not limited to the individual cases in point. The *Bundesgerichtshof* (German Federal Supreme Court) holds this view, and the *Bundesverfassungsgericht* (German Federal Constitutional Court) agrees, even in respect of a mere *obiter dictum*. A Dutch court

has found that the rulings of the Court of Justice are "law-creating" outside the specific request for a preliminary ruling.

The fact that judges have shown such respect for the Court's rulings and abide loyally by them is highly significant and encouraging for the future development of European law. This is not altered by the fact that our rulings have been explicitly criticized in certain instances. No one here at the Court is so presumptuous as to interpret such critical comment, in a field as new as ours, as anything other than a sincere contribution to the accomplishment of a common task. There is no need to worry about criticism of this kind unless it compromises the uniformity of law. This has not been the case, however, in any of the instances which come to our attention. The comments have been on marginal points, without any direct bearing on the judgment, which is probably why the courts in question have refrained from submitting their dissenting views to the Court in the form of a further preliminary question.

This readiness to pass judgment with one eye on what is happening in Luxembourg does however have one obvious drawback which cannot be ignored; this occurs when the "*acte clair*" theory,¹ which normally applies to administrative or legislative rules or rulings, is applied to judgments of the Court in cases where the local court might well have doubted whether the specific problem had in fact been dealt with exhaustively and clearly in an earlier procedure. This can result in involuntary inconsistencies in rulings, as we have seen in many rulings on cases involving border tax arrangements or the notion of "pending validity" which came up in our ruling in the Bosch case. In the last analysis, all that can be done is to encourage the courts to use the preliminary question as much as possible. It is conceivable, however, that less encouragement will be needed in time as the procedure becomes as common in all Member States as it now is in those which have similar arrangements for internal use, as for example the preliminary question to the Constitutional Courts in Germany and Italy.

As for the attitude of local courts to the rulings of the Court of Justice — and this is a third important point — I would like to speak in particular of judgments which are concerned with defining the nature of the Communities and their legal order, in line with, or at least by reference to, our rulings. Thus, a judgment handed down by a civil court in Italy in 1964 held that the European Communities are sovereign, autonomous bodies, vested with new powers which the Member States themselves had never enjoyed. Similarly, a judgment of the *Bundesfinanzhof* (German Federal Revenue Court) in July of this year affirmed that the EEC Treaty created a new and autonomous sovereign power, to which the Member States had "submitted their national territories". A 1965 judgment of the Frankfurt *Verwaltungsgericht* defined the EEC as "an original type of quasi-state entity, with federal and confederal structures", within which the various institutions exercise genuine, mutual control over each other. The *Bundesverfassungsgericht* however, speaks of a "community *sui generis*" and states that with it a new power, a specific supra-national authority, came into being, in favour of which the Member States alienated some of their sovereign rights and which is independent and distinct from the public authority exercisable in the individual Member States. Similarly, the law of this Community is regarded as an "innovation in international law". It is emphasized again by the *Bundesverfassungsgericht* that Community law and the domestic law of the Member States are two independent, distinct legal orders. The autonomy of Community law is stressed, the Treaty is regarded as the basic

¹ i.e. the principle that where the wording of a document is clear, there is no reason why a court should refer the matter elsewhere for interpretation (Ed.).

law of the Community and it is pointed out finally that derived Community law is also a legal order as such, its rules belonging neither to international law nor to the member countries' law. Or it is affirmed (for example, by the *Bundesfinanzhof*) that in the EEC, legislative acts are created outside, and independently of, the legal and constitutional orders of the individual Member States.

There is no denying that these findings are truly courageous and progressive. The significant thing however — and this brings me to my final point — is that these are not mere theories but have served as a basis for conclusions of great importance. I am thinking now of the impressive array of judgments which confirm the Court's views on the primacy of Community law where there is a conflict between it and domestic law. The most recent of these is, if memory serves, a judgment handed down by the *Bundesfinanzhof* of 11 July 1968. The *Bundesverfassungsgericht* made a similar pronouncement in 1967, when it affirmed that "the Member States cannot waive the acts of the Community". The same principle is echoed in several judgments handed down by other German, Dutch, Belgian and French courts, which speak either of the primacy of Treaty law or of the primacy of derived Community law and, accordingly, of the invalidity, repealing, or amending of conflicting domestic law, including subsequent domestic law. The grounds on which two judgments are based deserve special mention here. Thus, in a judgment handed down on 9 April 1963, the Bremen *Finanzgericht* (Revenue Court) affirmed that "where EEC law and domestic law are simultaneously in force, in the same way as federal law and the law of the Länder are simultaneously in force, supranational law prevails over domestic law in the event of a conflict, just as federal law prevails over the law of the Länder". The Frankfurt *Verwaltungsgericht* (Administrative court) also found that "Community law takes precedence over federal law" and it went on to say that "the *raison d'être* and the aim of the EEC, namely, to create a uniform law in certain areas which is to be applicable in all Member States, would be endangered if the Member States could amend this uniform law at a later stage". There is no better definition, to my way of thinking, of one of the fundamental objectives of Community law.

Nevertheless, I am bound to draw your attention to the fact that domestic rulings do not yet show full unanimity on this basic issue. I have in mind the opinion of one Chamber of the Baden-Württemberg *Finanzgericht* which admits the primacy of subsequent domestic laws on the basis of the "*lex posterior*" theory, which has been so roundly condemned by Ipsen. I am also thinking of judgments handed down by the French and Italian courts of last instance which seem to adopt the same approach.

We look forward to a change in this legal thinking for the obvious reason that differences of opinion on issues involving the very essence of the Communities are a serious matter with grave implications for Community citizens.

What conclusion can we draw from these few remarks? Everyone will agree, I am sure, that, on the whole, the record is a good one. We feel that so far the law has played its role in developing and strengthening the Communities in a satisfactory manner. Where the domestic courts have participated in developing and applying Community law, it must be said that they have shown a readiness to take over the new law and implement it in a spirit of great loyalty to the Community. All this, and the way in which co-operation has developed between the domestic courts and our Court justifies us in the belief that, in the years ahead, the judicial authorities — those of the Member States and of the Community — will not prove an obstacle to the great task of uniting Europe, but will do everything in their power to ensure the success of the Communities' future development.

IV. Renewal of the Yaoundé Convention and Parliamentary Conference of the EEC-AASM Association

The Yaoundé Convention of Association between eighteen African States and the EEC, embodying the principles set out in Part Four of the Treaty of Rome, came into force on 1 June 1964, and negotiations for its renewal began several months ago. The Bulletin of the European Communities has already discussed the memorandum on this subject which the Commission submitted to the Council on 3 April 1968¹ and has also given space to the Associated States' hopes and anxieties about the renewal of the Convention.² Similarly, it seems appropriate that the Bulletin should publish the views expressed by M. Edouard Ebagnitchie, rapporteur for the Joint Committee, before the Parliamentary Conference of the Association, together with the text of the resolution adopted at the end of the Conference. The Conference, which is made up of members of the Parliaments of the Associated States and the Community countries, met in Tananarive, Madagascar, from 10 to 15 January 1969. It was attended by M. Henri Rochereau, member of the Commission, M. H.J. de Koster, representing the Council of the Communities, and M. Mohamed Diawara, President of the Association Council.

Extracts from M. Ebagnitchie's report

"General agreement between all parties on the renewal of the association was reached at a meeting of the Association Council in Kinshasa on 23 July 1968. The significance of this political decision should be stressed as a cause for satisfaction", because it "expresses the political willingness of those involved to press ahead with this joint undertaking".

General problems

"The first question to be answered is this: ought we to negotiate a convention which differs considerably from that signed in Yaoundé, or ought we to conclude an agreement of the same type? In other words, should we think in terms of an outline agreement, to which revisable protocols would be annexed, or a refurbished convention which would take the experience of the past into account?

"It will be remembered that this question has already come up for discussion in the Joint Committee. The general consensus seems to be in favour of a convention similar to that signed in Yaoundé, which would safeguard the fundamental principles governing the association. But some provisions, chiefly those dealing with trade and procedures for granting financial and technical assistance, would need

¹ Bulletin 6-68, Ch. V, sec. 80.

² Bulletin 12-68, Ch. IV.

to be revised. The statement made by the Gabon Minister of Economic Affairs in Libreville on 24 June illustrates this position in a way which is very much to the point: 'It would' he said, 'be a serious mistake to plunge into an article-by-article revision of the Yaoundé Convention. This would involve us in interminable negotiations. There must be no attempt to bring about a drastic change in EDF investment arrangements. The only way to ensure that the timetable for the negotiations is complied with is to concentrate on a few real, essential issues and refrain from trying to turn everything upside down.'

"Moreover, while it feels that other States should be free to accede to the new convention (under Article 58), the Joint Committee agrees with the European Commission that, as things stand at present, separate association agreements, in whatever form is most appropriate, with one or more States having a comparable economic structure and production, would be preferable to any single association agreement."

As regards the period of validity of the new convention, there are arguments to support two possibilities: "First, a five-year period would allow of an earlier adjustment to changed situations, with regard to both world trade and developments in the Associated States themselves. The experience of the Yaoundé Convention, on the whole, has been that adjustments become necessary even before the end of five years. Furthermore, there is a danger that the total amount of financial aid to be fixed for the entire period, would be virtually the same whether this period were five or seven years. Lastly, with a longer period, currency depreciation would reduce the real value of financial aid.

"Second, there is something to be said for a seven-year period too. A longer period would avoid the need for negotiations at too short an interval — there would only be four years between negotiations with a five-year Convention. Experience acquired during the operation of the first two conventions has highlighted the dangers of a break in continuity, which has repercussions on the legal aspect and on financial aid. Furthermore, with a seven-year period the Associated States would have an idea of the amount of aid available to them over a longer period, and this would enable them to draw up development plans.

"The Joint Committee felt that it did not have to decide on this issue. Since the information at its disposal was inadequate, it left the final choice to the Conference — or perhaps to the team negotiating the new convention.

"A final word on these general problems: the Associated States attach great importance to the fact that the association has its origins in the Treaty of Rome, and Part Four of that Treaty in particular. In his report on the Association Council's first year in office M. Pedini indicated that, for the European Community, the association was of a permanent and institutional nature. The Commission of the Communities said the same in its Memorandum to the Council; it stressed the significance and political importance of the association, describing it as 'an essential element in the construction of the Community'. The Joint Committee feels that the preamble to the new convention should reaffirm the permanent nature of the association.

Institutional problems

"There is no need to point out that the institutional structure provided by the Yaoundé Convention is significant and original. With this structure, it has

proved possible to create a genuine atmosphere of mutual co-operation within the framework of the association. The institutional provisions of the Convention should, therefore, be renewed.

Because the Association Council's role and powers of decision are essentially political, its members should be those ministers who, by reason of their departmental responsibilities, are best informed on association problems. The ministers responsible should attend all meetings of the Council, despite any prior agreement reached by the two sides and expressed by their respective spokesmen. Similarly, the Association Committee should retain its present level of representation, since it must function efficiently if continuous co-operation is to be ensured. Moreover, it would be well if the Committee had the power to charge joint groups of experts to study specific problems at technical level whenever the need arose.

"To turn to another topic, the new convention should formally recognize the headquarters of the Associated States' co-ordinating agencies (Co-ordinating Council and Co-ordinating Committee) and the Joint Secretariat of the Association. A special Protocol could deal with the privileges and immunities of members of the Co-ordinating Secretariat permanently resident in Brussels, thus guaranteeing their independence in office, and lay down rules concerning any property, funds or assets held by the Association Council or the Association Committee.

"It is well-known that the consultations and exchange of information formally provided for by the Convention, particularly by Articles 11 and 12, have not been entirely satisfactory to all parties. The Joint Committee trusts, therefore, that the new convention will contain improved procedures in this connection so as to promote effective dialogue between the two sides enabling them to give genuine consideration to each other's interests. Amongst other things, under the procedure provided for in Article 11, the EEC should have to inform the Associated States' Co-ordinating Committee of its intentions even before consultation in the strict sense takes place.

"Finally, it should prove possible to take over existing provisions on the right of establishment, services and capital as they stand since these have caused no special difficulties.

General trade problems

"The preferences accorded to the Associated States on the EEC market replaced bilateral arrangements, such as the franc area preferences, with guaranteed prices, which were very much to the advantage of the Associated States. As the Commission noted in its Memorandum to the Council, Community preferences have not enabled the Associated States to export more than other developing countries to the Community. In some cases, indeed, the relative position of the Associated States, compared with that of other developing countries, has deteriorated. Because of this, the Joint Committee urged that at least those preferences which have not, in fact, hindered the normal development of trade between the Community and other developing countries be retained. Since the Associated States are among the least developed of the developing countries, for which UNCTAD advocated the adoption of special measures, the retention of these preferences is more than justified.

"As to the preferences which the Associated States accord the EEC — a normal arrangement in a free-trade area — the Associates feel that these constitute an element of balance and reciprocity and should therefore be retained. Should a

generalized system of preferences be introduced for manufactures and semi-manufactures from developing countries, as recommended by UNCTAD, the Associated States should preferably be accorded special treatment.

"As far as quantitative restrictions are concerned, the safeguard clauses in the present Convention should be retained and perhaps strengthened at national and regional level so as to allow the introduction of effective quota arrangements, under certain conditions, to afford a measure of protection to infant industries in the Associated States.

"As to trade with non-member countries, the arrangements set out in Article 12 of the Convention should be retained; no tariff reductions would be made before the matter was discussed within the Association Council.

"It would also be a good thing if, as the European Commission rightly proposed, the Community could in certain instances agree to waive the most-favoured-nation clause to encourage developments like industrialization agreements at sub-regional level between neighbouring African States.

"The new Convention should also seek fresh solutions based on the following general principles:

(i) The introduction of compensatory arrangements for the main sensitive products exported by the Associated States modelled on existing provisions for oilseeds; separate protocols could regulate specific cases, product by product, and some provisions of these protocols could be open to revision.

(ii) The acceptance of the concept of a remunerative price for producers in the Associated States, which would have to be taken into account in laying down the reference price for imports into the EEC.

(iii) Trade promotion and advertising campaigns to facilitate the marketing of products from the Associated States in Europe.

(iv) The retention and — if necessary — the improvement of tariff and quota advantages enjoyed by products from the Associated States on Community markets.

"Special market organization arrangements within the framework of the association should also be considered for certain products should there be no international commodity agreement. Similarly, it would be well if the new Convention were to initiate a review of the consumption taxes levied on tropical products in some EEC countries." M. Ebagnitchie said that "the best solution from the Associated States' point of view would clearly be the abolition, or at least the gradual reduction or pegging of these taxes. These specific taxes should, in any event, be replaced by *ad valorem* taxes without delay, although the argument put forward by the Governments of the EEC Member States — to the effect that consumption taxes are a matter pertaining to their own national, taxation and budgetary policies — deserves a hearing. In these circumstances, some thought might be given to the possibility of annexing a protocol to the new Convention expressing the Member States' willingness to peg and later reduce the taxes in question, in accordance with procedures to be defined.

Arrangements for products similar to and competing with European farm products

"There has been considerable criticism of the various EEC regulations on the importation of products similar to and competing with European farm products. The Community introduced these rules as its own common agricultural policy

became established. The Associated States, however, are not satisfied with the way in which Article 11 of the Convention has been applied. Frequently they have not been consulted until after the regulations had taken effect. Furthermore, the trade preferences now resulting from these arrangements are often only marginally better than the treatment accorded non-member countries. For instance, products from the Associated States do not enjoy free access to the EEC market; as a rule, the only concession is a small reduction in the amount of the levy. Since protection for the European agricultural market is calculated on the basis of world prices, the difference between Community and world prices means that the levy on products coming from the Associated States can be considerable. This problem is an important one for the Associated States because the products affected account for 45% of their exports to the Community. This is why these States would like to see an improvement on the arrangements laid down in Article 11."

M. Ebagnitchie said that, generally speaking, the Joint Committee agreed with the suggestions made by the Commission in its Memorandum to the Council. It felt that, for the new period, a system of price guarantees should be introduced resembling that already provided for oilseeds and based on the following principles: an agreed price would be fixed on the basis of production costs in the Associated States; this would be coupled with adequate trade preferences to give imports of these countries' products an advantage; in the event of prices falling below this level, subsidies would be paid. Practical implementing procedures for each product would be regulated by separate protocols, and some of the provisions of these would be open to revision.

Arrangements for processed agricultural products

"It is well-known that import arrangements for processed agricultural products originating in the Associated States has given rise to controversy and caused misunderstandings between the Associated States and the Community. The Associated States consider that these products are industrial products and should therefore benefit from the duty-free arrangements provided for in Article 2 of the Convention on entry into the EEC. The Community countries, on the other hand, consider that the provisions of Article 2 of the Convention no longer apply here since customs duties on imports of these products from non-member countries have been abolished and replaced by a system of levies. Article 11 of the Convention is in fact silent on this point, so that the provisions so far adopted for these products have been enacted in application of the Treaty of Rome rather than the Yaoundé Convention." In any event, the Joint Committee considers that duty-free admission should be the rule wherever possible. More particularly, it feels that existing arrangements for tapioca and chocolate should be taken over into the new Convention; and that countervailing charges affecting processed agricultural products on entry into the EEC should be abolished.

Financial and technical co-operation

"Because of the excellent record of EEC financial aid to the Associated States, the Yaoundé Convention provisions on financial and technical co-operation should be taken over in their entirety into the new Convention, subject to improvements being made in certain procedures for the grant of aid.

"The first question that arises in this connection is how much aid should be granted. At the suggestion of your rapporteur, the Joint Committee has approved the anal-

ysis made by M. Thorn in his report to the European Parliament: 'As regards the amount of the new EDF, the Community should at least maintain the present level of aid. This means that, in absolute figures, the aid should exceed the 730 million u.a. provided over five years for the eighteen Associated States under the existing Convention so as to allow for:

(i) the increase in gross national income in the six Community countries over the last five years (i.e. it should be in proportion to the increased prosperity of these countries);

(ii) the growth of population in the Associated States, which tends to bring down the amount of aid per head now provided;

(iii) the increase in prices for manufactures bought by the Associated States from industrialized countries and from the Community in particular;

(iv) currency depreciation.

"Increased Community aid would also be justified by the fact that overall aid — notably public aid — from Western countries to developing countries has been on the decline because of domestic commitments. Similarly, the proportion of multi-lateral aid has fallen while the proportion of bilateral aid has grown.'

"As to the breakdown of aid, there should be no radical change in the grants-to-loans ratio for the moment."

With regard to the allocation of EDF aid between the beneficiary countries, the rapporteur recalled that the Associated States held different views on this subject. "Some of them would like to see aid to economic (i.e. not social or administrative) investment being allocated in advance, preserving a 'proper balance' between the beneficiary countries; this would mean that each beneficiary country would know what aid would be available to it over the period covered by the Convention, which would be useful for the purposes of its development programme.

"This prior allocation of aid between the Associated States does in fact pose some extremely delicate and complex problems because it would be very difficult to find objective criteria that would ensure beforehand that aid was allocated 'properly and fairly'. It would therefore seem reasonable to continue allocating EDF funds as previously; in other words, it should be for the Commission, which administers the Fund, to assess whether or not the schemes submitted by the Associated States qualify for aid. This it would do on the advice of the EDF Committee and in accordance with general guidelines laid down by the Association Council.

"As for the allocation of aid to various sectors, the third EDF should concentrate more on industrialization programmes proper, which accounted for no more than 8.5% of operations under the second EDF. It should, as far as possible, go beyond the studies stage and make concrete use of the findings of the Commission's 1967 surveys on the industrial potential of the Associated States. Finally, technical assistance associated with investment should be retained in its three traditional forms (pre-investment, concurrent and post-investment assistance), as should general technical assistance (general surveys, provision of experts, training of cadres, full and part-time scholarships). For the EEC's work in this field has given every satisfaction.

Problems concerning a possible transition period

"The Joint Committee has urged again and again that the new association arrangements should come into effect when the current Convention expires. Since

December 1967, as we have seen, members of the Parliamentary Conference have been advocating the early implementation of the provisions on the renewal of the Convention, so that a break in continuity could be avoided.

"The Joint Committee urges that negotiations be brought to a conclusion in good time; the Association Council made the same recommendation in its Kinshasa resolution. However, because of the length of time needed to complete ratification procedures in the twenty-four signatory states, the Committee felt that it might be useful to make a brief reference to the possibility of a transition period and the adjustments this would entail, in accordance with the provisions of the second paragraph of Article 60 of the Convention.

"In 1963 there was a time-lag between the first Implementing Convention expiring and the second Convention getting under way. Because the credits allocated had not all been used up, it was possible to bridge the gap with no harm done. However, as the Commission of the European Communities has indicated elsewhere given the present rate of expenditure by the second EDF, it is to be expected that funds earmarked for grants will be exhausted by 31 May 1969, which would mean that the EDF's work would come to a standstill. Because of this, special measures must be taken in good time to ensure the continuity of financial and technical co-operation. The European Commission's budget should therefore include the funds needed to finance new scholarships for 1969/70; similarly, the programme of participation in trade fairs and exhibitions should not be interrupted.

"As for new investments, the Commission should be authorized to take advance financing decisions regarding the allocation of resources of the new Development Fund since no commitments will arise until the new convention comes into force. It would only be normal to expect that the institutional machinery set up by the Yaoundé Convention should continue to function. Similarly, provisions should be adopted to maintain the present level of trade.

Conclusions

"In view of the critical comments which have sometimes been made about the association, it is fortunate that an African rapporteur has been chosen to draw conclusions from four years' activity under the Yaoundé Convention, for this meeting of the Parliamentary Conference of the Association.

"This Convention is, as you know, the successor to the Implementing Convention annexed to the Treaty of Rome. This means that by now the association has accumulated almost ten years' experience of co-operation between the Six and the Eighteen. Our association draws its strength and dynamism from a factual situation and a multitude of old ties to which the agreements have, happily, given a legal form which is at once tight and flexible. Criticism of the Association Council and of the Association Committee should not blind us to the good record of these institutions in the year under review. It is true that many problems are still unsolved and that others are still being studied. Sound solutions have, however, been found to a good number of difficulties encountered by the Associated States, and new ones are becoming apparent; these, we trust, will produce concrete results at an early date".

In conclusion, M. Ebagnitchie said: "We are determined to preserve the association because it is a living reality. Since we are already agreed on the aim to be achieved — to raise the eighteen Associated States to the status of developed countries — we now need to adapt the means used and make them more effective. This clearly

calls for the improvement and strengthening of the association. The association should in the first place be regarded as a continuing task. Since uncertainty makes planning and constructing equally impossible, it is in all our interests that we should endeavour to make the association framework last, the details alone being subject to amendment at intervals by common agreement. This will be impossible unless a matching attitude of mind develops. The twenty-four partners have grown to an awareness of the common destiny binding them, and it can be expected that the reasonableness, generosity and solidarity which have been evident since the association began cannot fail to gain in strength so that the new association arrangements will meet the wishes of both parties in full."

Resolution adopted by the Parliamentary Conference of the Association

At the close of its proceedings, the Parliamentary Conference unanimously adopted a resolution proposed by the Joint Committee of the Association, of which M. Gaston Thorn (Luxembourg) had been elected President. In this resolution, which draws heavily on M. Ebagnitchie's report, the Conference...

"I. With regard to the institutions of the Association

1. Welcomes the increasingly fruitful dialogue between the partners to the Yaoundé Convention and the favourable record of the Association Council during the year under review;
2. Regrets, however, that the one meeting held by the Council — the Association's only political body with powers of decision — during the year was postponed several times, entailing a disruption of the institutional life of the Association and a considerable delay in opening the negotiations provided for in Article 60 of the Convention;
3. Again urges the Council to take suitable steps to avoid any delays in the operation of the institutional machinery of the Association; considers, in this connection, that the Council should ensure that its annual report reaches the Parliamentary Conference by June;
4. Notes, with regret, that resolutions passed by the Parliamentary Conference have not been examined by the Association Council and Committee and urges both bodies to study the resolutions carefully and notify the Conference of the outcome of their discussions;

II. With regard to Trade

5. Views with concern the decline in exports by the Associated States to the EEC in 1967 and in particular the sharp drop in exports of mining products, although it is aware that there was a slight slackening of economic activity in EEC Member States in 1967;
6. Notes with satisfaction the growing tendency for the Associated States to diversify their sources of supply in trade with the six EEC Member States, since this is in line with the aims of the Association;

7. Welcomes the first measures adopted by the EEC (Decision 491/67/CEE of 25 July 1967) on the grant of financial aid to oils and fats from the Associated States;

8. Deplores the fact that there has been a long delay in implementing this decision because ratification procedures in certain Member States of the EEC are slow;

9. Is deeply concerned at the measures which have been proposed to place the EEC's milk products market on a sound footing, since they might, by means of a charge on all imports of vegetable oils and fats and oilcake, seriously affect the flow of income to developing countries — and the Associated States in particular — from the sale of these products, which are often a major item in their total exports;

10. Regrets that work begun on the basis of conclusions unanimously adopted in March 1967 by the Council's Joint Experts Working Party on the marketing of products originating in the Associated States has produced no concrete results — apart from the launching of a programme for the Associated States' participation in trade fairs and exhibitions in Europe — and trusts that the study which has been commissioned on the establishment of a joint export agency may lead to action at an early date;

III. *With regard to financial and technical co-operation*

11. Welcomes the fact that the EDF has regularly committed funds in the form of grants and that the funds available for aid of this kind are likely to have been used up by the time the Convention expires;

12. Notes that the activities of the second EDF were oriented towards directly productive sectors but that the EEC's contribution to the establishment of new industries in the Associated States has not been very great, the vast majority of economic schemes being concentrated in the agricultural sector;

13. Draws the attention of the Association Council to the fact that the procedure with regard to commitment of loans is a slow one and that there is a danger that substantial sums will not have been allocated before the Convention expires;

14. Is concerned at the considerable time-lag persisting between the approval and implementation of projects;

15. Considers that decisions taken by the Commission of the European Communities in the light of the guidelines laid down by the Association Council are aimed at a more equitable allocation of funds with a view to promoting the harmonious and balanced development of all the Associated States;

16. Endorses the Council's resolution of 23 July 1968 on the general trend of financial and technical co-operation, both as regards investment and technical assistance and in the matter of training of cadres;

17. Stresses in particular the importance of training and of redoubling efforts in this sphere, notably by increasing the number of scholarships;

18. Regrets the restrictive and formalistic interpretation given by the six EEC Member States to the provisions of Annex VI to the Final Act of the Convention, concerning a review of financial aid;

IV. *With regard to the Association's external relations*

19. Welcomes the fact that, during the second session of the United Nations' Conference on Trade and Development, the partners of the Association consulted and harmonized their points of view in accordance with Protocol No. 4 to the Convention;

20. Trusts that co-operation of this kind will continue and develop in the future, notably in the negotiations on the introduction of the system of generalized preferences recommended by UNCTAD for manufactures and semi-manufactures from developing countries;

21. Considers that the Association does not and should not constitute an obstacle to the introduction of this system of generalized preferences, which should not, in any event, undermine the duty-free arrangements enjoyed in the EEC by products exported by the Associated States, which are classed with the least developed of the developing countries in the terms of Resolution 24(II) of the second session of UNCTAD;

V. *With regard to the renewal of the Convention of Association*

22. Welcomes the agreement reached within the Council on the renewal of the Association and the implementation of Article 60 of the Convention;

23. Emphasizes to the Association Council the necessity of bringing the negotiations to a conclusion within the shortest possible period of time and urges the twenty-four States to effect the necessary ratifications quickly, using emergency procedures if necessary;

24. Considers that, as far as form and principles are concerned, the new Convention should follow the pattern of the Yaoundé Convention;

25. Considers it essential that Community preferences be retained, since they have not hindered the normal growth of EEC trade with other developing countries;

26. Asks that the new Convention incorporate improvements on the present arrangements designed notably

(i) to improve procedures concerning consultation and exchange of information so as to encourage effective dialogue which would make it possible to give genuine consideration to the interests of all parties;

(ii) to make a fresh approach to trade which could lead to a substantial increase in the Associated States' exports to the EEC, the growth of trade under preferential arrangements being one of the fundamental aims of the Association;

(iii) to introduce with this in mind and in accordance with the proposals submitted by the Commission of the European Communities arrangements to ensure that

a) in the case of products from the Associated States which are similar to and competitive with European agricultural products, import arrangements offer more effective economic and trade advantages than those resulting from the application of Article 11 of the Yaoundé Convention;

b) in the case of other products not covered by world agreements, financial support is provided making it possible to regulate prices and eliminate short-term fluctuations in world prices;

(iv) to recognize the notion of a remunerative price for producers in the Associated States, allowance being made for this in implementing these arrangements;

(v) to carry out a detailed study of the stabilization arrangements for the main tropical products to be introduced within the framework of the Association;

(vi) to produce a more precise definition of the concept of similarity and competitiveness in the case of agricultural products;

(vii) to make special arrangements, modelled on those for frontier traffic, for exports of agricultural products from Madagascar to Reunion;

(viii) to ensure that all agricultural products processed in the Associated States enjoy intra-Community treatment, the EEC Member States being free, should their domestic markets be disturbed, to have recourse to safeguard clauses, as the Associated States do;

(ix) to eliminate existing discrepancies between the import treatment that the different Member States accord products from the Associated States;

(x) to begin a revision of consumption taxes which are levied on tropical products in certain EEC Member States by placing a ceiling on revenue from them and gradually reducing the rate of tax;

(xi) bearing in mind the growth of gross national product in EEC Member States, the increase in prices of goods exported from Europe, the higher cost of investment schemes, the deterioration in the terms of trade in the Associated States and the growth of their population, to increase the resources of the European Development Fund, which should have at least 1 000 million u.a. at its disposal for a five-year period;

(xii) to maintain the present grants - to - loans ratio, any sum unexpended on loans to be allocated as grants one year before the new Convention expires;

(xiii) to retain the present system of allocating aid between the beneficiary countries, the administrators of the Fund being urged, with a view to ensuring the harmonious and balanced development of all the Associated States, to make more allowance for factors delaying the effect of aid in certain countries, for different levels of development and for the special circumstances of the most isolated countries;

(xiv) to make procedures for granting aid more diversified so as to make a more determined effort to promote industrialization and the development of directly productive industries;

(xv) to review terms on which the European Investment Bank can act, giving it broader facilities to enable it to do more to promote investment in the Associated States; action by the EBI should also be based on the profitability of projects rather than on the creditworthiness of the Associated States;

(xvi) to examine, with a view to finding solutions which best meet the interests of the Associated States, the various aspects of introducing a multilateral guarantee against non-economic risks to protect private investment from the EEC;

27. Considers that the new Convention should give particular encouragement to the regionalization of development programmes, notably through

a) a joint commitment of the signatories to promote regional groupings, particularly economic or trade groupings;

b) a range of incentives, in the field of technical and financial co-operation, to give additional encouragement to the regionalization of productive schemes, particularly industrial ones;

28. Stresses the need for a more determined and sustained effort to encourage industrialization in the Associated States, notably

(i) by making specific reference to this in all basic provisions of the new Convention which deal with economic development;

(ii) by making provision for ways and means that can be applied more intensively and with greater diversification and in particular — once the necessary studies have been made — for capital formation by enterprises, while retaining unity of approach and action under the political authority of the Association Council;

(iii) by making it possible for new industries in the Associated States to expand their production — at both national and regional level;

(iv) by intensifying the effort already begun and, where necessary, by finding new ways of promoting the improvement of infrastructures linked to industrial enterprises and the training and settlement of the workers and staff of these enterprises;

(v) by seeking to collaborate activity with national and international agencies concerned with industrial development;

29. Requests that, if traditional provisions prove necessary, steps be taken in good time to ensure continuity of co-operation, especially in the matter of financial aid and technical assistance, the Commission of the European Communities being authorized to take advance financing decisions to be met from the resources of the new EDF and to finance the continuation of the scholarships scheme and the trade fairs and exhibitions programme."

V. Establishment and operation of the single market

FREE MOVEMENT OF GOODS

Common customs tariff

Tariff changes

1. On 20 December 1968 the Council, acting on a Commission proposal, adopted a regulation¹ amending the Council regulation of 28 June 1968 on the common customs tariff (CCT). The new text, which came into force on 1 January 1969, adds to CCT heading 45.04 (agglomerated cork) a special subdivision, with an autonomous duty reduced from 20% to 11%, for washers intended for the manufacture of crown corks. Other changes in the regulation concern the correction of certain errors and inaccuracies in the text and are of a purely formal nature.

On the same date the Council also made certain relatively minor amendments¹ to the wording of 12 subheadings in Chapter 73 (iron, steel and articles thereof). A particular feature of the subheading in question is that two of them fall within the province of the EEC Treaty, four are mixed, i.e. governed at the same time by the ECSC and EEC Treaties, and the remaining six come under the ECSC Treaty. To arrive at a simultaneous amendment of the 12 subheadings, the Council had therefore to follow two different procedures: one for EEC subheadings, requiring a regulation under EEC Treaty Article 28, and the other for ECSC subheadings, calling for a decision of the representatives of the ECSC member Governments meeting in the Council. Both acts came into force on 1 February 1969.

Suspension or reduction of certain duties

2. On 20 December 1968 the Council adopted a regulation¹ suspending or reducing the autonomous CCT duties on some 120 products or groups of products, most of which have already been subject to a similar measure in previous years. In almost all cases they are raw materials used in the manufacturing industries, principally for plastics, pharmaceutical products, insecticides, etc. Customs duties are either suspended or reduced in accordance with the possibilities of Community production or substitution of products manufactured in the Community. The period of validity of the regulation is normally for the whole of 1969; nevertheless, for certain products it has been restricted to six months. It is two years for deuterium and compounds thereof. The regulation also includes the 14 products for which duties had already been suspended or reduced in 1968 in order to abolish the national tariff quotas granted to certain Member States in previous years (salmon, pilchards, anchovies, etc.).

¹ Official gazette No. L 308, 23.12.1968.

Tariff quotas¹

3. During December 1968 the Commission and the Council decided to open, increase or prolong a whole batch of tariff quotas for the most diverse products. Thus, on 19 and 20 December 1968,² the Commission decided in accordance with EEC Treaty Article 25 to increase:

(i) From 700 to 1 100 tons the tariff quota at 6.5% duty granted Italy for the period 1 November 1967 to 31 October 1968 for certain varieties of sugar beet (CCT heading ex 12.03 A);

(ii) From 3 000 to 3 600 tons the tariff quota at 4% duty granted Germany for the period 1 August to 31 December 1968 for black halibut (CCT heading ex 03.01 B I f);

(iii) From 45 000 to 50 500 tons the tariff quota granted for 1968 to Italy for fresh, chilled or frozen tunny for canning (CCT heading ex 03.01 B I b)), the additional quota of 5 500 tons being subject to a duty of 0.5%;

(iv) From 30 to 37 tons the tariff quota at 3.5% duty granted for 1968 to Germany for all-silk yarn, not put up for retail sale (CCT heading ex 50.04).

To take account of the commitments undertaken by the Community in the GATT multilateral negotiations, the Council adopted:

(i) On 10 December 1968, a regulation increasing from 750 000 to 845 000 tons for 1968 the volume of a Community tariff quota for newsprint.³ Of this 95 000-ton increase, 35 000 tons are allocated to the Netherlands and 60 000 tons to Germany;

(ii) On 20 December 1968, a regulation⁴ amending the previous text of 23 January 1968 concerning the Community tariff quota of 20 000 head of heifers and cows of certain mountain breeds (CCT heading ex 01.02 A II b) 2).

During the same session, the Council also adopted a number of other regulations⁵ opening, apportioning, and laying down the procedure for administering Community tariff quotas for 1969 for the following products:

(i) Eucalyptus tanning extracts: 250 tons at 4.6% duty; the first instalment of 150 tons is apportioned between the Member States; the second instalment of 100 tons is held in reserve;

(ii) Newsprint: 750 000 tons duty free, the amount being definitively apportioned between the Member States;

(iii) A certain type of unbleached flax yarn: 500 tons at 2.6% duty, the first instalment of 275 tons being apportioned between the Member States and the remainder held in reserve;

(iv) Ferro-silicon: 20 000 tons duty free, with definitive apportionment between the Member States;

(v) Ferro-silico-manganese: 50 000 tons duty free, with 45 500 tons apportioned between the Member States and the remainder held in reserve;

¹ For ECSC products, see Ch. VIII, sec. 92 below.

² Official gazette No. L 18, 24.1.1969.

³ *Ibid.* No. L 299, 13.12.1968.

⁴ *Ibid.* No. L 307, 21.12.1968.

⁵ *Ibid.* No. L 310, 27.12.1968.

(vi) Ferro-chromium containing by weight not more than 0.10% carbon and 31% to 90% inclusive of chromium — overrefined ferro-chromium: 3 000 tons duty free, with definitive apportionment;

(vii) Crude aluminium: 130 000 tons at 5% duty, 111 500 tons of which are apportioned between the Member States, the second instalment being held in reserve;

(viii) Crude magnesium: 10 400 tons provisionally duty free, 900 tons of which are for crude magnesium containing by weight not less than 99.80% pure magnesium, and 9 500 tons for crude magnesium containing by weight less than 99.80% pure magnesium; these amounts are apportioned definitively between the Member States;

(ix) Woven fabrics of silk or of waste silk other than noil (CCT heading ex 50.09) and woven fabrics of cotton (CCT heading ex 55.09), woven on hand looms, each of an amount equivalent to 1 000 000 u.a. The first instalment, equivalent to 550 000 u.a. for each of these Community tariff quotas, is apportioned among the Member States; the second instalment, in each case of a volume equivalent to 450.000 u.a., is held in reserve.

Again on 20 December 1968, the Council adopted two regulations opening, apportioning and laying down the procedure for administering Community tariff quotas for 1969 for certain types of cattle:¹

(i) Heifers and cows, other than animals intended for slaughter, of the grey, brown, yellow or spotted Simmental and Pinzgau breeds: 20 000 head at 6% duty, the first instalment of 14 000 head being apportioned between Germany (7 000 head), France (2 750 head) and Italy (4 250 head);

(ii) Bulls, cows and heifers, other than animals intended for slaughter, of spotted Simmental, Schwyz and Fribourg breeds: 5 000 head at 4% duty, 4 100 head of which are apportioned between Germany (200), France (100) and Italy (3 800).

Finally, the Council on 20 December 1968 adopted in the framework of the Ankara Agreement of Association between the EEC and Turkey, three regulations¹ opening, apportioning and laying down the procedure for administering certain Community tariff quotas during 1969 for the benefit of Turkey, for dried figs, dried grapes, hazel-nuts, unmanufactured tobacco and certain textile products.²

Harmonization of customs legislation

4. At its session of 9/10 December 1968, the Council resumed its examination of the five proposals for directives submitted by the Commission on the above subject and noted that agreement existed on the substance of the various texts pending, but deferred formal adoption because the reservation of one Member State made the final decision subject to agreement on another point. The five proposals on which agreement in substance was reached concerned: customs warehousing procedure, deferred payment of customs duties, charges having equivalent effect and agricultural levies, the inward processing traffic system, free zone procedure, and the regulation on Community transit.

¹ Official gazette No. L 311, 28.12.1968.

² See Ch. VII, sec. 68 below.

The Commission also transmitted to the Council, which had discussed the matter at its session of 30 July 1968,¹ a proposal on methods of detecting any diversion of customs revenue and, where necessary, of offsetting it.² When a product comes from a non-member country into a Member State and CCT duties are levied on it before it is reconsigned to a second Member State, where it is consumed, the second Member State does not receive the customs duties payable and therefore suffers a loss. Completion of the customs union to cover the majority of products has aggravated this situation, which will persist until Article 201 of the Treaty (concerning the Community's own resources) is implemented. The measures recommended by the Commission will be essentially of a provisional nature, since Article 201 of the Treaty lays down that the Commission shall submit proposals to the Council after studying, once the common customs tariff has been applied, how customs revenue can provide the Community with its own resources. The measures will be applied in the second half of 1969 only. During that period, the Member State which last receives a product from a non-member country shall, on verifying that the product has been forwarded after being cleared in a first Member State, calculate the amount of customs duty diverted, using as simple and accurate a method as possible. At the end of the period, the Commission's customs department will be informed of the amounts thus calculated by tariff item and by Member State. The Commission will make the necessary proposals regarding compensation. There will also be an auditing committee to check all these figures.

German and French government measures

5. The Commission studied the measures introduced or proposed by the German and French Governments, principally to meet the international monetary difficulties.³ In the case of Germany (temporary reduction of import charges and of refunds on exports), the Commission considered that the measures introduced were in accordance with the GATT rules and did not conflict with the line of thought championed by the Community as regards TVA in the GATT framework, in so far as they involved a linear reduction of charges and refunds.

On 4 December 1968 the Commission also adopted a decision authorizing France to introduce certain safeguard measures in accordance with EEC Treaty Article 108(3).⁴ This decision, which is a partial amendment of the one taken by the Commission on 23 July last, mentions in the motivation the worsening of the aggregate balance of payments with the rest of the world, which together with speculative movements has led to large-scale outflows of capital, necessitating the emergency reintroduction of exchange restrictions by the French Government. It emphasizes that the mutual aid granted by the Council on 20 July 1968 remains in force and that the other Member States, as well as certain non-member countries, have placed at France's disposal a large amount of financial aid. The Commission in its decision nevertheless considers it obvious that the drastic programme of economic and financial restrictions undertaken by the French Government although not contravening the EEC Treaty rules needs to be accompanied by certain waivers. It has therefore authorized France to "maintain the restrictions and controls reintroduced as a matter of emergency on 25 November 1968 until such time as the measures to restore full balance to the French economy have removed the risk of capital movements".

¹ See Bulletin 9/10-68, Ch. II, sec. 1.

² Official gazette No. C 5, 18.1.1969.

³ See Bulletin 1-69, Ch. II.

⁴ Official gazette No. L 295, 7.12.1968.

France is thus authorized (i) to forbid or make subject to prior exchange control authorization the conclusion or execution of transactions and transfers connected with capital movements; (ii) to make imports and exports of payment media needed for business travel subject to restriction or prior authorization; (iii) to require the domiciliation with approved agents of imports and exports of goods and (iv) to make payment within 180 days of the arrival of exported goods at destination obligatory.

COMPETITION POLICY

Articles 85 and 86 of the EEC Treaty

Commission notices concerning sales conditions and agreements between firms

6. In a notice published in the official gazette,¹ the Commission announced that it intended to approve the general conditions applying to the sales of Kodak products and services in Europe. After modification at the Commission's request, these conditions appeared to be no longer incompatible with Article 85(1) of the EEC Treaty so that it had become possible to grant negative clearance. Kodak Pathé S.A., Paris, and the four Kodak companies in Stuttgart, Brussels, Milan and The Hague impose these conditions on their direct buyers (intermediaries, retailers or consumers). In accordance with some of the changes obtained by the Commission, the products sold by a Kodak establishment set up on Common Market territory for export to customers established in one of the other five member countries must be invoiced by the establishment that has sold them, with the latter charging the prices applying on its domestic market. Details are given on the conditions governing resale and on the conditions concerning prohibition of exports or resale for export.

7. In a second notice,¹ the Commission announced its intention to approve agreements, due to expire on 31 December 1971, concluded between the firms Dunlop, Paris, and Pirelli, Milan. Under these agreements, the two motor-tyre manufacturers are helping each other to penetrate the French and Italian markets by eliminating the transport costs and tariffs which add to the prices of imported products. The products are therefore manufactured directly in the country in which they will be sold: in France by Dunlop (with distribution through Pirelli-France) and in Italy by Pirelli for account of Dunlop (with distribution on the Italian market through Società Italiana Dunlop). At the Commission's request the parties deleted the clause which pledged Pirelli France and Dunlop Italiana not to conclude similar agreements with other manufacturers of motor-tyres in France or Italy; this clause was replaced by a priority right.

8. In a third notice,¹ the Commission stated that it intended to authorize the agreement concluded in January 1968 between the French firm Clima Chappée, Labuissière, and the German company Buderus'sche Eisenwerke Wetzlar. The agreement is designed to rationalize the production and the marketing in the two

¹ Official gazette No. C 136, 19.12.1968.

countries of the air-conditioning, ventilating and heating equipment which the two firms manufacture or intend to manufacture. The firms have agreed to specialize in production, investment and research, with each of them concentrating its activities on a certain range of equipment. Equipment manufactured by either party and exported to the country of the other party will be sold only to this party, and the purchaser is bound to supply and sell on his market only this equipment. As in the case of the agreement between the firms Jaz S.A. and Peter-Uhren GmbH,¹ the Commission's decision to publish this notice shows that it takes a favourable view of specialization agreements of this type, which extend beyond the scope of the Notice of 29 July 1968 on co-operation between enterprises, provided the agreements enable the parties involved to rationalize their production operations and strengthen their competitiveness on a larger market and provided consumers benefit from the resulting improvements in quality and price.

The Consultative Committee on Cartels and Monopolies

9. At its 25th meeting, held on 20 December 1968, the Consultative Committee on Cartels and Monopolies gave its opinion on the preliminary draft of a decision, for adoption by the Commission, to approve a decision adopted by a Dutch association of paint manufacturers concerning in particular the undertaking to be given by its members to export only products which meet certain minimum quality requirements.

Article 65 of the ECSC Treaty

Extension of the authorization of a joint sales arrangement

10. On 19 December 1968² the Commission decided to extend by a period of three years, i.e. until 31 December 1971, its decision of 4 November 1959 (already extended in 1961 and 1966) authorizing the joint selling of fuels of the Houillères du bassin de Lorraine and the Saarbergwerke A.G. by the Franco-German joint stock company Saarlor. The Commission took the view that the reasons which had led the High Authority of the ECSC to authorize the joint selling agreement since 1959 still applied and that the agreement did not infringe the provisions of Article 65 of the ECSC Treaty concerning agreements among enterprises and concerted practices liable to distort the normal operation of competition. In 1967, the sales effected by Saarlor accounted for 16.7% of the production of the Saarbergwerke and 3.4% of the production of the Lorraine basin.

FREEDOM OF ESTABLISHMENT AND FREEDOM TO SUPPLY SERVICES

Distribution and use of toxic products

11. The Commission has laid before the Council a proposal for a directive to introduce freedom of establishment and freedom to supply services in respect of

¹ Official gazette No. C 122, 23.11.1968, and Bulletin 1-69, Ch. V, sec. 9.

² *Ibid.* No. L 7, 11.1.1969.

the distribution of toxic products,¹ and a proposed directive covering transitional arrangements in this field and in that of the occupational use of the products involved.

The proposed directives cover all toxic products with the exception of pharmaceutical products, ionizing substances and moribific agents. As they relate to the distribution (wholesale and retail trade, intermediaries) and the occupational use of toxic products, they complement the directives adopted by the Council on 7 July 1964, which had introduced freedom in the exercise of activities in the manufacture of chemical products other than medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations.

Once the Council has adopted the new proposals, nationals of the six Community countries, and companies incorporated under the law of a Member State and having their registered office, head office or principal place of business within the Community, will enjoy the same rights with regard to the distribution and occupational use of toxic products in other Member States as nationals or companies of those Member States.

Under the proposed directive covering transitional arrangements, a person may exercise the activities concerned in the countries where there are rules on the distribution and occupational use of toxic products provided he has previously exercised those activities, in a self-employed or managerial capacity, during an unbroken period of five years in a Community country other than the host country.

APPROXIMATION OF LEGISLATION

Direct insurance other than life assurance

12. On 17 June 1966 the Commission submitted to the Council a proposed directive co-ordinating the laws and regulations governing access to direct insurance activities other than life assurance. Acting under Article 149 of the EEC Treaty, it laid before the Council, on 13 December 1968, an amended proposal taking account of the Opinions rendered by the European Parliament,² and the Economic and Social Committee.³ Of the amendments made, the most important are intended to reduce the percentage of the absolute minimum of guarantee funds which will be required of all companies engaged in insurance other than life assurance, to reduce the margin of solvency required of these companies where they are engaged in health insurance and are run along lines similar to those on which life assurance companies are run, to extend the time-schedule in the transitional measures to enable Community insurance firms to adapt gradually to the financial requirements in the Commission's proposal.

Medium and long-term industrial credit : legal harmonization of security arrangements

13. The Commission has approved a work programme in this field to enable credit operations at Community level to be carried out as simply and cheaply as possible. In this context, it has decided to ask a specialized institute to make a comparative-

¹ Official gazette No. C 12, 4.2.1969.

² See Bulletin 5-68, Ch. IV, sec. 12.

³ See Bulletins 6-67, Ch. III, sec. 8 and 7-67, Ch. VI, sec. 9.

law study on the subject. The study will have to cover personal guarantees, mortgages, etc., and other forms of guarantee (promise of guarantee, negative pledge). The results of this study will, beyond the immediate objective pursued, be available for use in other work concerning the approximation of legislation, as for instance in connection with the law of bankruptcy.

VI. Towards economic union

ECONOMIC, MONETARY AND FINANCIAL POLICY

Council meeting on economic trends

14. On 12 December 1968 the Council held a meeting the main topic of which was economic trends.

M. Raymond Barre, Vice-President of the Commission, made a statement outlining the policy that the Community might pursue in order to deal with the current economic and monetary problems. M. J. Serisé, the Chairman of the Short-term Economic Policy Committee, and M. E. van Lennep, the Chairman of the Monetary Committee, also addressed the meeting.

The communiqué published after the meeting reported that on the basis of these statements, the Council had had a thorough exchange of views on the economic situation and the prospects for 1969 and that certain common guidelines had been worked out. The Council recognized the need for greater approximation of economic policies within the Community and for investigation of the possibilities of stepping up monetary co-operation.

After hearing an introductory statement by M. Klaus Dieter Arndt, Chairman of the Medium-term Economic Policy Committee, the Council approved the second medium-term economic policy programme (subject to editing of the text in the four Community languages).

The Council took note of the Budget Policy Committee's opinion on the flexibility of central government spending. After analysing the flexibility of various categories of government expenditure, the opinion goes on to suggest that ways and means of varying such expenditure be worked out and that the use which could be made of this instrument of economic policy in the framework of both short-term and medium-term economic policy be examined.

AGRICULTURAL POLICY

Commission proposals on the reform of agriculture in the Community

15. On 18 December 1968 the Commission submitted to the Council a number of closely related documents designed to bring about a reform in European agriculture during the period up to 1980 — the subject of M. S.L. Mansholt's statement to the Council on 10 December 1968.¹ The main document is the "Memorandum on the Reform of Agriculture in the European Economic Community".² Another document contains proposals for medium-term measures for various agricultural markets and another the Commission's proposals on prices for certain agricultural products in 1969/70. Then there are reports on the situation of agriculture and on the structure policies followed by Community countries.

¹ Bulletin 12-68, Ch. I.

² See feature by M. S.L. Mansholt in Bulletin 1-69 and the Supplement to Bulletin 1-69.

In the *Memorandum* the Commission explains the need for a reform to be made in the Community's farming industry by 1980 and describes the different steps to be taken, especially in the field of production structure; it recommends a series of measures to be introduced so as to give farmers a free choice with regard to their future.

The *medium-term measures* proposed by the Commission are designed to cope with the imbalance on certain markets resulting from the permanent surpluses now piling up. They relate to milk products (additional sales of butter, substantial cuts in butter prices, reduction of dairy herds, etc.), sugar (price measures, reduction of basic quotas), fruit and vegetables (limitation of quantities produced or marketed, measures to standardize the conditions of intervention, etc.) and oils and fats (conclusion of an international agreement on oleaginous products and the introduction of a tax on certain products).

The Commission's price *proposals* for 1969/70 include a reduction in the intervention prices of barley, rye and common wheat, a reduction in beetroot prices, changes for milk products and a reduction in the case of oilseeds.

The *Report concerning policies on the structures of agriculture followed by Community countries* described the structural situation and the member countries' policies, listing the measures already adopted; it also examines the nature, geographical distribution, volume and financing of these measures, their efficacy in relation to the aims of the common agricultural policy and the long-term marketing prospects, and information on the Community level co-ordination of agricultural structure policies.

Lastly, the "*Report on the situation of agriculture and agricultural markets*" contains information on the economic situation of agriculture and the trend on various agricultural markets, especially with regard to the yardsticks by which prices are fixed.

Common organization of agricultural markets

Cereals and rice

16. On 5 December 1968 the Commission adopted a regulation supplementing that of 21 August 1967 on import and export licences for cereals and rice;¹ this new regulation extends to maize the measures relating to export certificates currently applicable to common wheat and barley. It covers exports to state-trading countries and countries where cereal products are subject to special measures by the public authorities and is intended to take advantage of marketing opportunities for maize. Taking account of this change, the Commission adopted on 13 December 1968 a new regulation on the advance fixing of the export refund on cereals.² A further regulation issued by the Commission on 20 December 1968 fixed the procedures for granting production refunds on broken rice used in the manufacture of starch and in brewing and, in particular, the time to be taken into account in determining the amount of the refund and the control measures to be laid down.³

¹ Official gazette No. L 294, 6.12.1968.

² *Ibid.* No. L 300, 14.12.1968.

³ *Ibid.* No. L 307, 21.12.1968.

Beef and veal

17. To make allowance for developments on the market several texts have been adopted which alter the intervention measures in this sector. For instance, after the Commission had terminated intervention relating to "Ochsen A" (Grade A bullocks) in part of Germany on 20 November 1968,¹ it adopted a regulation extending intervention measures, again in Germany, in fixing the buying-in price for "Kühe B" (Grade B cows) in another area on 3 December.² A regulation which the Commission adopted on 27 November extended intervention measures to "vaches de deuxième qualité" (second-grade cows) in France.³ On 17 December 1968 the Commission fixed the refunds on beef and veal exports for the period beginning 1 January 1969.⁴ Most important of all, in conformity with two regulations adopted on 20 December 1968 and with particular reference to the rising price trend for mature cattle noted on representative Community markets, the Commission decided to terminate intervention measures in the beef and veal sector.⁵ Lastly on 20 December 1968 the Commission adopted a regulation modifying the special arrangements for imports of certain categories of frozen beef and veal.⁶

Pigmeat

18. On 6 December 1968 the Commission discontinued the supplementary amounts for pigmeat products;⁷ and on 10 December it adopted a regulation on the sale of certain pigmeat products that had been subject to intervention in Italy.⁸

Milk and milk products

19. In view of the problems confronting the Community as a result of surpluses of milk products, numerous measures intended to preserve market equilibrium are still being introduced. As far as milk is concerned, a regulation was adopted on 27 November 1968 adding to the list of approved warehouses for official stocks of skim milk powder in Germany during the 1968/69 milk year.⁹ On 29 November the Commission laid down rules on the sale of skim milk powder from official stocks under which the intervention agencies were to sell this product only at a price at least equal to their buying-in price plus 2 u.a./100 kg.) A Commission regulation dated 4 December extended until 31 March 1969 the procedures for granting aid for skim milk for feeding animals subject to administrative control.¹⁰ Another regulation, issued on 17 December, increased to five months the period of validity of export licences for concentrated milk,⁴ the two months originally specified for all milk products having proved to be too short a period. A Commission regulation dated 27 December⁶ extended until 31 March 1969 the authorization given to France to grant aid for skim milk powder for animal feed that had not been

¹ Official gazette No. L 286, 26.11.1968.

² *Ibid.* No. L 292, 4.12.1968.

³ *Ibid.* No. L 288, 28.11.1968.

⁴ *Ibid.* No. L 302, 18.12.1968.

⁵ *Ibid.* No. L 307, 21.12.1968.

⁶ *Ibid.* No. L 314, 31.12.1968.

⁷ *Ibid.* No. L 295, 7.12.1968.

⁸ *Ibid.* No. L 297, 11.12.1968.

⁹ *Ibid.* No. L 290, 30.11.1968.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* No. L 293, 5.12.1968.

denatured in accordance with Community processes (adjustment of the old denaturing process to the Community process requiring more time than originally expected). On the same date the Commission adopted a regulation designed to allow for the changes in turnover taxation introduced in the Netherlands on 1 January 1969 and to extend to that country the criteria used by Germany for fixing compensatory amounts.¹

As regards butter, the Commission amended on 4 December its regulation of 28 August 1968 on the sale of butter from public stocks.² The purpose of this amendment was to abolish the reduction that had been made in the minimum price at which butter from stocks had been sold, by the intervention agency in order to compensate for the difference in quality compared with that of fresh butter; to avoid disturbing the market, it is advisable that the price of butter which has been stocked for a limited period should not be lower than that of fresh butter. The following provisions have also been enacted as part of a series of general measures to facilitate the sale of butter.

(i) On 4 December 1968 the Commission issued a regulation on the sale at reduced price of butter from public stocks for processing;² the extension until 31 March 1969 of the authorization to sell butter from public stocks to exporters at reduced prices is designed to enable the Member States to exploit to the utmost the existing outlets for butter contained in processed products, particularly on the world market. In the same connection, the Commission adopted on 5 December a regulation intended to help absorb the large stocks of butter currently held in the EEC by selling butter to the armed forces of the six countries³ at the minimum reduced price of 25 u.a./100 kg.

(ii) A decision of 5 December authorized Germany to sell at reduced prices butter from public stocks for processing into concentrated butter for bulk users;⁴ this arrangement was to enable Germany to meet extra demand over the Christmas and New Year period. The decision was extended on 27 December, the period for which the initial authorization had been valid having proved to be too short.⁵

(iii) Three decisions dated 17 December authorized Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands to sell at reduced price butter from stocks that had been already processed or was intended for processing into concentrated butter. The object of these measures is to enable operations already under way in these countries to be continued while making changes in the general conditions in such a way as to bring the implementation of Community measures a step nearer.

(iv) A decision of 16 December authorized the Netherlands to sell at reduced price until 28 February 1969 butter from public stocks made up into small packets for direct consumption.⁶

(v) By a decision issued on 17 December,⁷ France and the Netherlands were authorized to sell at reduced price butter from public stocks to non-profit institutions and organizations which usually consume other fats.

¹ Official gazette No. L 314, 31.12.1968.

² *Ibid.* No. L 293, 5.12.1968.

³ *Ibid.* No. L 295, 7.12.1968.

⁴ *Ibid.* No. L 9, 15.1.1969.

⁵ *Ibid.* No. L 18, 24.1.1969.

⁶ *Ibid.* No. L 12, 17.1.1969.

⁷ *Ibid.* No. L 29, 5.2.1969.

(vi) Under a decision dated 27 December,¹ the French intervention agency had 10 000 metric tons of butter from private stocks placed on the market again to take advantage of market trends.

On several occasions the Member States invited tenders for the purchase of butter from stocks held by intervention agencies; regulations were issued concerning these tenders. On 20 December the Council also adopted a regulation on the Dutch intervention agency's buying-in price for butter to take into account,² in the determination of this price, the introduction in the Netherlands of the tax on value added (TVA) on 1 January 1969; otherwise, in view of the market situation, this tax reform would have led to a wholly undesirable increase in the price of butter. Following up this measure, the Council adopted on the same day another regulation concerning the compensatory amounts applied by the Netherlands in trade in certain milk products, the ultimate aim of which is to obviate certain distortions of competition.³

Lastly, on 2 December the Commission laid down the conditions for the sale of 4 000 metric tons of cheese from stocks held by the Dutch intervention agency;³ the minimum prices were fixed under a decision dated 19 December 1968.⁴

Oils and fats

20. On 9 December the Commission reduced to 2.5 u.a./100 kg the compensatory amount on imports of sunflower-seed oil originating in or coming from Bulgaria, Hungary, Rumania, the USSR or Yugoslavia.⁵ In a regulation issued on 11 December the Commission also specified the conditions of a call for tender for the purchase of sunflower seeds held by the French intervention agency:⁶ the stock consisted of 870 tons resulting from intervention pertaining to the 1967/68 marketing year held for sale on the Community market or for export. With regard to olive oil, the Commission had adopted on 27 November a regulation to simplify the procedures for the purchase of this product by the intervention agencies by raising the minimum quantities acceptable for intervention.⁷ On 9 December the Council fixed the monthly increases in the target market price, the intervention price and the threshold price for olive oil for the 1968/69 marketing year.⁸ With due regard for the price reductions it had decided on for 1968/69, the Council set the monthly increase at 0.62 u.a./100 kg of olive oil instead of the 0.64 u.a. stipulated for 1967/68. On 20 December the Council amended its regulation establishing a common organization of the market in oils and fats⁹ in order to align the procedure for fixing single prices on the procedure applying to the other commodities subject to common price arrangements. On the same date, the Council issued one regulation on the advance fixing of the refund on exports of olive oil¹⁰ and another on the fixing of the levy on imports of this product.¹⁰ Lastly, it should be mentioned that the Commission has submitted to the Council a proposal for a regulation on the manufacture and marketing of margarine¹¹ designed to establish common rules on the composition

¹ Official gazette No. L 29, 5.2.1969.

² *Ibid.* No. L 309, 24.12.1968.

³ *Ibid.* No. L 291, 3.12.1968.

⁴ *Ibid.* No. L 12, 17.1.1969.

⁵ *Ibid.* No. L 296, 10.12.1968.

⁶ No. L 298, 12.12.1968, and No. C 5, 18.1.1969.

⁷ *Ibid.* No. L 288, 28.11.1968.

⁸ *Ibid.* No. L 297, 11.12.1968.

⁹ *Ibid.* No. L 314, 31.12.1968.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* No. L 3, 7.1.1969.

¹¹ *Ibid.* No. C 137, 20.12.1968.

and labelling of this product, to specify the substances which may be added to it during manufacture and to obviate the risk of adulteration.

Sugar

21. The Council adopted on 20 December a regulation amending the regulation on the common organization of the markets in sugar;¹ the particular object of this amendment is to make provision for the grant of a refund on exports not only of mannitol and sorbitol, as hitherto, but for their derivatives as well. On the same date the Commission adopted a regulation on the denaturing of sugar for use in animal feed which, in particular, provides for the restriction of denaturing processes to those generally approved in all the Member States² and another regulation which fixes the maximum share of storage expenses which sugar manufacturers may charge to beet and cane producers in respect of stocks carried over to the following sugar year.³

Fruit and vegetables

22. On 29 November the Commission fixed the reference prices for several types of citrus fruit and the adjustment of coefficients applicable to the buying-in price specified for sweet oranges and mandarins and the adjustment coefficient for calculating the buying-in price of Imperatore apples.⁴ On 9 December the Council fixed the basic price and the buying-in price for cauliflowers for the period from 1 January to 30 April 1969.⁵ A Commission regulation of 13 December fixed the minimum prices for exports to non-member countries of certain flower bulbs and tubers.⁶ On 19 December Reggio Calabria was added to the list of representative producer markets for oranges.⁷ Lastly, the adjustment coefficients to be applied to the buying-in prices for pears, apples and cauliflowers were fixed by the Commission on 19 December.⁸

Wine

23. The Commission adopted a regulation on the declaration of areas used for the production of vine propagation materials.⁹ The register is kept up to date by annual declarations concerning the viticultural land planting and uprooting of vines specified by the Commission.

Since existing Community legislation made no provision for mother plantations and nurseries, which in this particular matter require special measures, the new regulation introduces the appropriate Community arrangements. On the analogy of the provisions for keeping the viticultural land register up to date, reports must be made on the mother plantations and nurseries in annual declarations by vineyards; these declarations are also to be used for control purposes. At its session of 9 December the Council had a general exchange of views on the proposed regulation laying down supplementary provisions for the common organization of the market in vine products. The Council's discussions centred on the basic principles of the controls to be envisaged. It was decided to study this question further at a later date.

¹ Official gazette No. L 309, 24.12.1968.

² *Ibid.* No. L 290, 30.11.1968.

³ *Ibid.* No. L 299, 13.12.1968.

⁴ *Ibid.* No. L 301, 17.12.1968.

⁵ *Ibid.* No. L 306, 20.12.1968.

⁶ *Ibid.* No. L 288, 28.11.1968.

Financing the common agricultural policy

EAGGF Guarantee Section

24. On 2 December the EAGGF Committee unanimously approved the twenty-seven lowest average refunds qualifying for aid from the Guarantee Section of the Fund over the period 1964/65; the Committee was also consulted with regard to six draft decisions. On 13 December¹ the Commission approved EAGGF aid totalling 159 863 966.52 u.a. (of which 77.6% was for France and 15.61% for the Netherlands). After the reduction of Italy's contribution to the Fund, as decided by the Council² on 9 December, the contributions made to the EAGGF during this period by the six Member States amounted to 214 171 165.52 u.a. On 17 December the Commission also fixed the payments on account for 1966/67³ from the Guarantee Section of the Fund at 277 785 000 u.a., broken down as follows:

	u.a.	%
Belgium	13 327 500	4.8
France	115 603 500	41.6
Germany	20 468 250	7.4
Italy	72 090 750	26.0
Luxembourg	85 500	0.03
Netherlands	56 209 500	20.2

EAGGF Guidance Section

25. On 9 December the Council adopted a regulation on assistance from the Guidance Section of the EAGGF for 1969.³ This regulation provides for postponement of the date of filing applications, permits, financing of schemes where no Community programme exists, distributes the available credits — with an allocation of 160 million u.a. (out of 285 million) for structural projects — and authorizes in certain cases assistance from the Fund to a maximum of 45% of the investment figure. Provision is made for part of the 160 million u.a. to be allotted in 1969 to programmes relating to olive growing in Italy; the Commission will give special attention to these schemes. On 18 December the Commission adopted 161 decisions for the grant of 34 114 667 u.a. as part of the first instalment of aid for 1968 — 36% of the credits available for the year. A decision on the second instalment may be taken in April. The following is the breakdown (in u.a.) of the schemes approved:

¹ Official gazette No. L 34, 11.2.1969.

² *Ibid.* No. L 297, 11.12.1968.

³ *Ibid.* No. L 299, 13.12.1968.

Belgium	2 486 811
France	7 693 521
Germany	8 001 685
Italy	12 905 910
Luxembourg	13 700
Netherlands	3 013 040

The main schemes financed are for irrigation or drainage works (34%), milk products (22%) and fruit and vegetables (10%). Finally, the Commission authorized 8 million u.a. to be set aside to finance a basic survey as part of a programme of surveys on farm structures.¹

Freedom of establishment

26. At its meeting of 20 December the Council endorsed a directive that will qualify farmers who are nationals of one Member State but are in business in another Member State for various forms of aid.² This directive allows nationals and companies of Community countries engaged in farming on their own account (e.g. farmers, whether owner-occupiers or tenants) or setting up in this business in a Member State other than their own to obtain, on the same terms as nationals of the host country, any form of financial assistance or aid in kind, especially subsidies, loan guarantees, interest rate "subsidies" (such as have not already been made available by the previous directive giving farmers access to various forms of credit) and tax exemption, but not of social security and state insurance benefits.

In accordance with the timetable set out in the General Programme for the removal of restrictions on freedom of establishment, this directive is not intended to introduce freedom of establishment in agriculture for new categories of beneficiaries; its sole purpose is to complete the freedom of establishment now enjoyed by nationals of other Member States who have already settled or are in the process of settling in a host State in pursuance of Council directives already approved or of bilateral agreements. The directive supplements that of 5 April 1968 on farmers' freedom of access to various forms of credit and is the latest in a series of measures to complete freedom of establishment in agriculture for the above-mentioned beneficiaries.

Approximation of legislation

27. On 28 November the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a regulation (the first of its kind) laying down the maximum permitted amounts of pesticide residues on and in fruit and vegetables.³ Farmers are increasingly employing pesticides, thereby obtaining considerably higher yields. Nevertheless, these useful agents are generally toxic as well. They constitute a health risk for

¹ Official gazette No. L 12, 17.1.1969.

² *Ibid.* No. L 308, 23.12.1968.

³ *Ibid.* No. C 139, 28.12.1968.

human beings and animals because residues of pesticides, their metabolized products or the products of their degradation remain in the plants treated or the produce yielded by them. Several countries, including certain Member States, have already enacted legal provisions prescribing the maximum permitted amounts of pesticide residues on and in food and animal feed. However, these amounts vary in many ways from one Community country to another, which constitutes a barrier to trade in fruit and vegetables. The purpose of the proposed regulation is to harmonize the national provisions. The regulation refers solely to fresh or frozen fruit or vegetables (excluding potatoes) and is limited in the first instance to pesticides on which adequate toxicological data are available.

Close co-operation between the Commission and the member governments will be ensured through a Standing Committee on Plant Protection to be set up under a proposal for a decision which the Commission has already laid before the Council.¹

Lastly, at its meeting on 20 December the Council adopted two directives on the approximation of legislation on colouring matters and preservatives approved for use in food, amending previous directives.²

SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND NUCLEAR POLICY

Coordination of national scientific policies

Council's decisions on scientific and technical research policy

28. At its meeting of 9-10 December 1968, the Council declared itself in favour of resumption of the work of the Working Party on Scientific and Technical Research Policy (called the Maréchal Group, after its former chairman); this work had been in abeyance since February 1968. The resolution³ adopted by the Council at its meeting also explicitly envisages the possibility of co-operating in this field with non-member European countries, more especially countries that have applied to join the European Communities. The procedure to be followed in this respect was specified by the Council, which likewise referred to the Resolution it adopted on 31 October 1967 at Luxembourg on co-operation in scientific and technical research, a resolution whose provisions, it decided, will be implemented before 1 July 1969 by the Council, the governments of the Member States, and the Commission.

In October 1967, the Council had instructed the Working Party to examine the possibilities of co-operation amongst the Member States in six fields (information science and telecommunications, development of new means of transport, oceanography, metallurgy, abatement of nuisances, and meteorology) and to see whether such co-operation could usefully be extended to other fields.⁴ The report drawn up by the Working Party, and not yet forwarded to the Council, must be submitted to it before 1 March 1969, under the terms of the Resolution adopted on 9-10 December 1968.

¹ Official gazette No. C 139, 28.12.1968.

² *Ibid.* No. L 309, 24.12.1968, and Bulletin 1-69, Ch. VI, sec. 29.

³ See Chapter VIII, sec. 79 of this Bulletin.

⁴ See Bulletin 12/67, Ch. VI.

Fields of research

Organization of research

29. General surveys are to be undertaken at the Commission's prompting on the organizing and programming of research in Belgium and in the Netherlands, and on the repercussions caused by the introduction of operations research into business management.

Technology and nuclear energy

30. The Commission decided to extend until 31 December 1973 its contract of participation in the ENEL (Italian Electricity Authority) Garigliano nuclear power plant. The power plant's commitments under the terms of the contract cover four main subjects — technical information, seconding of personnel, knowhow and patents. Elsewhere, the use of nuclear energy for gasifying hard coal and brown coal by means of nuclear heat is now under study, from the technological and certain economic standpoints. This is a question of developing certain technological refinements, with the object of directly applying the heat produced by a nuclear reactor and cutting out the stage of conversion into electrical energy.

Meteorology and telecommunications

31. In these two fields, directly referred to in the Resolution adopted by the Council on 31 October 1967, the Commission intends to examine the economic benefit of meteorology satellites and the long-term requirements as regards telecommunications, bearing in mind the opportunities offered by new techniques in these two sectors.

Oceanography

32. The Commission, as it stated in a reply to a written question from a member of the European Parliament,¹ "intends, at the right time, to make known its proposals concerning the development of European co-operation on an oceanography programme". In the Commission's opinion, and in keeping with the Council's Resolution of 31 October 1967, work in this field, owing to the magnitude and cost of research, ought to be coordinated to the maximum possible; it is, moreover, a sector "where decisions should be taken in the near future in order to reach a common policy".

Third-party liability and insurance in the nuclear field

33. Following the communication to UNICE and UNIPEDE of the draft skeleton policy for third-party liability with respect to the carriage of nuclear substances,² a meeting was held with the representatives of the Community Insurers' Pool to draw up the final text of this skeleton policy. The text has to be submitted for definitive approval by all the parties concerned at a new conference on nuclear insurance.

¹ See Official gazette No. C 130, 4.12.1968 (reply to written question from Mr Vredeling).

² See Bulletin 9-10/68, Ch. II, sec. 50.

Joint action in the nuclear field

Council meeting on Euratom's future activities

34. The meeting held by the Council on 20 December 1968 ended in a compromise agreement for a limited period, on Euratom's future activities. The outcome of the discussions between the Ministers was embodied in the following Resolution adopted by the Council at the end of its labours:

"1. THE COUNCIL

- hereby adopts a research and training programme consisting of a joint programme and of complementary programmes for a period of one year from 1 January 1969;
- will establish, before 1 July 1969, further research and training programmes covering a period of several years;
- will examine, before 1 July 1969, the criteria and principles necessary to obtain a coordinated industrial policy in the nuclear field;
- will in the spirit of the Resolution of 31 October 1967, supplemented by the Resolution of 10 December 1968 on technological co-operation, and in the spirit of the Resolution of 8 December 1967 on the future activities of Euratom, decide on further activities capable of being undertaken in the Joint Centre, and will lay down the procedures for putting them into operation.

2. THE COUNCIL confirms that the employment of present Community staff on the complementary programmes will not affect the Community's legal obligations in respect of such staff.

3. In the budget covering the 1969 programmes, the appropriations for expenditure for the second half of 1969 will be temporarily frozen pending the result of the studies defined by the Council under item 1 above."

"The joint programme, which accounts for a total of 24.03 million u.a., covers the following activities: fast reactors (indirect action); heavy-water reactors (Essor); high-temperature gas reactors (indirect action); plutonium and transplutonic elements; fusion — plasma physics; biology — health physics; nuclear measurements and standards; industrial applications (Eurisotop Office); dissemination of information; training and instruction; coordinating activities.

"The complementary programmes, accounting for a total of 24.20 million u.a., will be as follows: fast reactors (Ispra direct action); heavy-water reactors (multi-purpose research, light-water and heavy-water variants); high-temperature gas reactors (direct action); technological problems (a) plant safety, (b) determination of fissile content; plutonium and transplutonic elements; reactor physics, condensed state physics; nuclear materials; direct conversion of energy; biology — health physics (application to medicine, biology and agriculture); information science — CETIS; BR-2."

35. Before the Council meeting, the European Parliament,¹ in order to reaffirm its attitude, had held an extraordinary session on 13 December 1968 at Luxembourg, devoted to the problems raised by the Community's nuclear

¹ See "European Parliament" in this Bulletin and Official Gazette No. C 138, 21.12.1968.

policy and to the "grave crisis which threatens the existence of Euratom". The Resolution passed unanimously at the end of this session "declares that, in anticipation of a common research and investment programme covering several years, the future of the Communities in the world of research must not be jeopardized and therefore Euratom cannot at this time be deprived of its assets in the form of either qualified staff or technical installations". The Parliament "consequently requests that the Council take quickly, even if provisionally, the indispensable financial measures, followed by a transitional budget" and that the complementary projects to be undertaken "be defined in co-operation with the Commission, which must ensure that nuclear activities as a whole in the Community are better coordinated".

Activities of the Joint Research Centre

Fast reactors

36. The Heat Transfer Division carried out a theoretical study to determine the heat transfer between liquid metals and the pins that form the fuel element. By this method, detailed optimization studies can be made of the fuel element system for fast breeder reactors, and in particular for the SORA reactor. The teams engaged on breeder reactor design studies displayed interest in the results obtained.

Heavy-water reactors

37. "Essor". Thermal, epithermal and fast neutron flux measurements have begun in this reactor, using activation detectors. These measurements are being performed in order to determine the absolute value and the neutron flux distribution in certain core zones at different reactor power values, and to calibrate the measuring instruments.

High-temperature gas reactors

38. The programmes undertaken in Europe and the United States have brought high-temperature gas reactors up to a stage where their industrial use has become feasible. The next step, the construction of the first large power stations, can now be expected in the near future. But before that stage is reached, a series of studies will be needed to provide a better understanding of the behaviour of the reactor core materials under the effects of irradiation and corrosion. In this context, the Petten Establishment is studying the variations in the mechanical properties of different types of graphite (material used as moderator and reflector in this kind of reactor) at high temperatures and under corrosion due to the impurities in the helium (the coolant). The results already obtained were reported at the meeting of the Arbeitskreis Kohlenstoff der Deutschen Keramischen Gesellschaft held at Karlsruhe on 22 November 1968.

Professor Liebmann and other members of the Kernforschungsanlage, Institut für Reaktor-Werkstoffe, visited the Establishment, where they discussed the problems connected with high-temperature irradiation devices, and in particular the irradiation rig developed at Petten for use in the high-flux reactor (HFR).

Proven light-water reactors

- Plutonium recycling in thermal reactors

39. The study on the optimum strategy for plutonium recycling in the Franco-Belgian Ardennes power plant (SENA), which is being carried out by the CEN-Belgonucléaire Association under a shared-expenses contract, was continued and an information meeting on the subject was held on 3 December 1968, attended by Belgonucléaire, the Centre d'Etudes Nucléaires and SENA. Within the framework of the programmes carried out under contract, the ENEL (Ente Nazionale per l'Energia Elettrica) conducted a series of critical experiments on mixed configurations comprising both plutonium-containing and enriched uranium elements.

These experiments, the first of the kind in Europe, were actually performed inside the Garigliano reactor vessel; the results demonstrated the value of the computer codes developed under the contract.

- Light-water reactor technology

40. Two firms, AEG (Frankfurt) and SEEE (Paris), carried out under contract a study on development of the technology of prestressed concrete vessels for boiling-water reactors. The contract with AEG for the development of a steam separator for a boiling-water reactor was extended. The series of air/water loop tests already run will be rounded off with a test on the water/steam loop being constructed at Grosswetzheim.

Technological problems directly connected with reactor development

- Radioactive waste processing and storage

41. Research work on the processing of high-activity effluents has continued under four contracts, with the CNEN, UGINE Kuhlmann, Leybold and the CEN respectively; encouraging results have been obtained. The method of storing waste at ground level in a semi-arid region is being studied by the CNEN; the subsequent stages of the work will enable a choice to be made, in the near future, between the two sites adopted for the researches. The Gesellschaft für Strahlenforschung is studying the method of storage in salt domes; a site has been selected, but at the present time certain difficulties are preventing the research programme from proceeding on schedule. In the decontamination field, the design of the evaporator for high-activity effluents (substances used for separating radioactive elements) was completed and construction work began. As regards water decontamination, 25 m³ of radioactive water and 300 m³ of suspect water were processed.

Research on nuclear materials

42. The essential aim of these researches is the development of structural and fuel materials for use in the reactors of the future. From the economic angle, all progress on these reactors is closely bound up with the problem of materials; any prototype project may suffer a partial setback if the materials are not available on time.

In the field of analytical chemistry, methods for assaying impurities and alloy elements have been developed at Ispra. Optical spectrography is used to determine impurities in zirconium alloys and in graphite. Nickel determinations are carried

out by colorimetry. A project for building a complete set of direct-reading instruments for the isotopic analysis of uranium is under study. In organic chemistry, control analyses of organic coolants have been performed. As to high temperature chemistry, tests are in progress on the stripping of fuel elements by means of liquid metals. Concurrently, studies are being conducted on the mechanical properties of all the materials mentioned. In the refractory metals sector, the thermochemistry unit at Petten has recently been working on the thermodynamic and electrical properties of zirconium oxide stabilized with calcium oxide and on other related ceramic systems (temperature range 700-1400° K). Work is at present being done at higher temperatures. This zirconium compound has proved, after testing, that it has all the requisite characteristics for use in the manufacture of differential thermometers.

In the course of work conducted in co-operation with the University of Pavia on a sample of oils, four new substances (sesquiterpenes) were detected; their structure has not yet been determined. In one fraction separated, an alcohol fraction was identified.

Direct conversion

43. In the context of the development of out-of-core thermionic elements, research has been proceeding for some years on the heat pipe, a device by which the heat generated in the reactor core can be transferred straight to the converter. It can be used not only for thermionic reactors in space, but also for thermoelectric reactors on land and under the sea. As the work is done at high temperatures (1500-1600° C), specific heat problems arise; in consequence, a heat pipe thermostat has been developed which, under variable heating conditions, enables a constant temperature to be maintained without the use of electrical or mechanical means. An advantage is that it can be utilized in pile. As regards new technological development, made necessary by the converters' specific characteristics (high temperature, high mechanical precision, complex leaktight joints resistant to corrosion by caesium vapour) and by the use of refractory metals and ceramics, very promising results have been obtained in the improvement of joints.

Biology

44. A recently prepared report of major importance, which sums up the activities of the JRC in this field during the last three years, indicates that research has been directed more especially to radiobiology and related sectors, to the problems of protection against nuclear and ionizing radiations, and to the development of nuclear applications in agriculture, biology and medicine.

ENERGY POLICY

Formulation of a common energy policy

Communication from the Commission to the Council on the preliminary aims of a Community policy

45. On 18 December 1968, the Commission approved, and forwarded to the Council, a report on energy policy in the form of an outline of policy action fixing the general

aims and the instruments by which a Community policy can be established.¹ According to these proposals, energy policy must be based first and foremost on the interests of consumers, because of the importance of energy to the competitiveness of the industries which use it and of its influence on the cost of living. The supply of energy must therefore not only be secure; it must be available at relatively stable prices and these must be as low as possible. These two aims are not contradictory, in the Commission's opinion. It would not be satisfactory to have cheap energy today if the maintenance of good supply conditions could not be guaranteed in the long term. The interplay of supply and demand alone is no answer, since in the energy sector supply conditions, the structure of enterprises and the characteristics of the market often distort the conditions of competition, and correctives have to be applied.

The Commission considers, however, that in this sector competition should continue to be the basic guiding factor; only in this way can enterprises develop full competitive strength, since they are forced to adopt a progressive outlook, and the natural processes of substitution are encouraged. Intervention, when it cannot be avoided, should be such that market forces are not prevented from operating but are enabled to play their part effectively. Consequently, the proposals made by the Commission in its report give priority to the function of supervision, recourse being had to intervention only as a last resort; if market trends make it necessary, it should in the first instance take the form of recommendations. Similarly, action by the Community institutions is envisaged only if the object cannot be achieved by national measures forming part of the Community policy. The Commission's proposals fall into three categories — the fixing of a general outline of the action to be taken, measures for the establishment of a common market, and measures towards a cheap and reliable supply policy.

(i) *The outline of action* comprises the preparing of medium-term forecasts and policy lines and annual surveys of the economic situation. Its purpose is to ensure, in the light of the prevailing market conditions, the requisite consistency of energy policy measures. It must also provide the means of ascertaining that the energy sector is developing in harmony with the aims of the medium-term economic policy. A similar outline of action already exists in the form of the General Objectives specified by the ECSC Treaty for coal and in the Target Programmes of the Euratom Treaty for nuclear energy. It is proposed that medium-term policy lines be determined for the other forms of energy — oil, gas and electricity. The annual reports would contain an account of the situation supplemented by summary forecasts for the following year. In conclusion, the outline provides the preventive measures to meet any supply difficulties, namely, regular examination of supply conditions and implementation of a stockpiling policy.

(ii) *Establishment of the common market.* The Commission's proposals aim at ensuring that the Treaty provisions on free movement of goods, freedom of establishment, and application of the rules governing competition and indirect taxation are observed. Free movement of goods involves the removal of direct and indirect obstacles to trade within the Community. To facilitate adjustments of national policies, the Commission proposes practical Community measures on commercial and structural policy. Technical obstacles also will have to go, both those that affect actual energy products and those that concern equipment for their production, transport and use.

Freedom of establishment presupposes the effective abolition of discrimination between nationals of Member States engaging in activities in the energy sector.

¹ Text published in extenso as supplement to Bulletin 12/68.

Cases in point are the issue of prospecting licences and concessions, the permits necessary for operating refineries or building service stations, oil transport and the rules governing permits for the transport of oil or gas or the transmission of electricity, and the rules governing the award of contracts for the supply of equipment.

With regard to competition, there are four main problems: non-discriminatory access to sources of supply, surveillance of concentrations, establishment of a procedure to provide *a posteriori* information on actual market prices, and harmonization of price-controlling measures in the various countries.

On indirect taxation, the Commission proposes harmonized application of the tax on value added, harmonization coupled with gradual reduction of the specific duties on energy products where these duties are intended to protect other forms of energy, and harmonization of duties on hydrocarbon fuels.

(iii) *Measures to bring into effect a policy for cheap and reliable supply.* The Commission recommends action on commercial policy, on guidance of investments, on the structure of the industry and also steps to facilitate the financing of investment. In view of the importance of energy in economic activity, it seems obvious that the Community must have the means to regulate supplies in accordance with circumstances. To this end, the Commission proposes a co-ordinated policy for coal. For hydrocarbons and nuclear fuels, it suggests the establishment at Community level of a supply programme combining the various enterprises' supply programmes. This programme should make it possible to ascertain whether there is sufficient guarantee of the achievement of the energy policy's objectives; if not, the Commission should be in a position to formulate recommendations to the Member States. Should these not be followed up, it would propose suitable Community procedures.

For investments, too, the Commission proposes a number of levels at which intervention could be made. The first would be at an annual confrontation of investment policies and projects, with subsequent discussion; the Commission would be entitled to express opinions on the scope of the projects. If there were any danger of over-investment, the Commission should be able to address recommendations to the Member States; should these not be followed up, it would propose Community procedures for decisions.

The steps that could be taken to improve the structure of the energy industry vary from one sector to another. In the case of coal, the quantity mined would be adapted to marketing opportunities and production would be concentrated on the most productive mines, in order to improve the cost situation; the introduction of Community aid arrangements to permit the continued mining of the quantities necessary for supplying the Community is also envisaged, together with improved co-ordination of Community aid systems. In the case of hydrocarbons, the first task should be to eliminate the inequalities in the conditions, particularly the fiscal conditions, of competition between enterprises established in the Community and subsidiaries of foreign firms; the second task should be to take steps to facilitate the purchase by enterprises of their own crude oil resources. In order to carry out schemes of common interest in prospecting and production, the Commission suggests using as a pattern the provisions made for enterprises in the nuclear sector which enjoy the status of "joint enterprise". For nuclear fuels, the Commission stresses the importance of installing an isotope separation plant for Community needs, and it proposes amending the provisions of the Euratom Treaty chapter on nuclear fuel policy supply, to make it possible for nuclear fuels to be supplied according to the rules of the market.

For the financing of investments, consideration might be given to supplementing the facilities currently available under the Treaties with the provision of guarantees or of Community financing arrangements for the fulfilment of certain concrete investment projects of acknowledged importance to the Community.

The energy situation 1968-1969

46. A joint committee of Commission and Member States' experts met in Brussels on 18 December 1968 to examine a draft report on the energy situation in the Community. The report, which is a sequel to similar previous reviews, describes the pattern of the energy market situation in 1968 and outlines the trends predicted for 1969.

Surveys of the energy economy in the Community

47. Surveys are to be made of household consumption in France and Italy, to complete the set of such surveys already carried out in respect of the other Community countries. The household sector is a major consumer of energy; the pattern of its requirements depends on complex factors and is affected by unknowns which must be elucidated so that the future consumption trends can be ascertained.

Coal

48. Member States' aid to the coalmining industry for 1968

The Commission, after consulting the Council,¹ approved on 6 December 1968 four Decisions² formally authorizing Belgium, France, Germany and the Netherlands to grant their coalmining industry, for 1968, financial aid in virtue of the ECSC High Authority's Decision of 17 February 1965. The respective aids thus authorized amount to B.Fr. 3,860.9 million, F.Fr. 866.6 million, DM 508.9 million and Fl. 79.8 million. The governments concerned had received prior notification of the Commission's decisions, i.e., before these were published in the Official Gazette of the Communities.

One-year extension of support for Community cokes and coking coals

49. With the Council's endorsement, and after consulting the ECSC Consultative Committee, the Commission on 27 December 1968 adopted a Decision³ extending for one year, i.e., to 31 December 1969, the term of effectiveness of the High Authority's Decision 1/67 of 24 February 1967 concerning cokes and coking coal for the Community steel industry. The Commission had asked for a two-years

¹ See Bulletin 1-69, Ch. VI, sec. 50.

² See Official gazette No. L 298, 12.12.1968.

³ *Ibid.* No. L 315, 31.12.1968.

extension of this arrangement, so that it should coincide with the Community system of State aid for the coal industry, a system due to expire at the end of 1970,¹ but the Council was unable to agree unanimously on this point.

Hydrocarbons

Stocks of crude oil and petroleum products

50. On 9 December 1968, the Council adopted the directive proposed by the Commission, obliging EEC Member States to maintain minimum reserves of petroleum and petroleum products.² In particular, this directive requires the member countries to make the requisite arrangements to hold continuously at the disposal of their governments stocks amounting to not less than their average domestic consumption over 65 days of the previous calendar year. Moreover, as these stocks may be built up on the territory of one Member State on behalf of enterprises operating in another Member State, under individual intergovernmental agreements, the Council's complementary Decision lays down the procedure for concluding and carrying out such agreements.²

The adoption of these two texts shows the value attached by the Member States to dependability of petroleum supplies. The directive is a very important step towards implementation of an active energy policy within the meaning of the April 1964 Protocol on energy and the Council's Decision of July 1967 concerning a common policy on petroleum and natural gas.

Nuclear energy

Implementation of Chapter VI of the Euratom Treaty

51. The Commission, in a letter dated 21 December 1968, requested the Council to resume at the earliest possible date its examination of Chapter VI of the Euratom Treaty, which concerns nuclear fuel supply arrangements. This examination had been broken off at the end of 1967. The Commission considered that, in the context of the proposals it set out in "Initial Guidelines for a Community Energy Policy", it was imperative to draw up a new supply system.

Toll enrichment contracts

52. On 19 December 1968 the Euratom Supply Agency, which is responsible for ensuring supplies of nuclear fuels for Community consumers, signed in Brussels, on behalf of a number of operators of nuclear power plants in the Community, its first toll enrichment contracts with the United States Atomic Energy Commission. Under these contracts the USAEC undertakes to enrich the natural uranium provided by reactor operators in such a way that it can be used as nuclear fuel in their installations. The plants concerned are Obrigheim, Gundremmingen, Kahl and Niederaichbach in Germany, and Dodewaard, a Dutch station. The conclusion of the contracts will ensure fuel supplies for the plants until 1974, and for one of them,

¹ See Bulletin 11-68, Ch. IV, sec. 29.

² See Official gazette No. L 308, 23.12.1968, and Bulletin 1-69, Ch. VI, sec. 52.

indeed, until 1995. The total value of the deliveries will be about 110 million dollars. The USAEC will charge reactor operators in the Community the same rates for its enrichment services as it charges the American industry.

The Commission has agreed to the carrying-out of a study on the contribution of the thorium cycle to optimum management of nuclear fuels.

Electricity

53. With a view to updating details contained in the report on the prices to consumers of electricity, published by the EEC Commission in 1962,¹ the Commission considered it advisable to conduct a new survey of this object. At the same time, certain economic data on electricity, which it was not possible to study exhaustively in the first survey, will be examined more thoroughly.

TRANSPORT POLICY

Amendment to the German Federal Railways law

54. In accordance with the prior consultation procedure established by the Council Decision of 21 March 1962, the Commission examined a German bill to amend the Federal Railways law (sections 14 and 28(a)) as regards both the Minister of Transport's right of supervision and the indemnities granted the railways. On 20 December 1968 the Commission approved² the measures planned which would constitute a step towards independent management of the Deutsche Bundesbahn and clarify the financial relations between the State and the railways. The German Government's attention was, however, drawn to the fact that any indemnities it granted in pursuance of section 28(a) of the law on the Deutsche Bundesbahn were still subject to the provisions on aids in the EEC Treaty.

Work on infrastructure costs

55. The Committee of government experts assisting the Commission in the study of transport costs, set up by the Council on 6 December 1960, held its 21st meeting on 3 and 4 December 1968 in Brussels. It first examined the problems connected with the studies on the fixing of road infrastructure rates in urban areas envisaged in a proposal submitted by the Commission on 26 July 1968. Without prejudging the Council's decision on this proposal, the delegations of the five Member States concerned indicated the urban centres on which they were planning to make these studies. The Committee then examined the problems of framing the first joint measures to fix rates for inland waterways, the urgency of which had several times been stressed by the Commission. In view of the present low rate of tolls on inland waterways, or even their absence in many cases, all the delegations thought that these measures should cover not only the structure of the tariffs but also their level.

¹ The selling price of electricity in the EEC countries. Surveys, "Economy and Finance" series, No. 1 (1962).

² Official gazette No. L 12, 17.1.1969.

Apart from these two questions, the Committee's working programme for the months ahead covers:

- (i) The pursuit of the general study of the problems of rate-fixing for the use of infrastructures;
- (ii) The formulation of directives for the uniform application of the rules on infrastructure cost accounting;¹
- (iii) The possible introduction of selective rate-fixing measures for the use of road-transport infrastructures in the open country;
- (iv) The problems likely to arise in connection with the allocation of infrastructure costs as regards taxes on passenger cars.

The programme also instructs a panel of experts to prepare the list of statistical data on the use of infrastructures which the Commission must complete before 1 July 1969.

REGIONAL POLICY

Financing of industrial activities

56. In December 1968 the Commission took a decision approving in principle the grant of loans to finance four industrial conversion projects, one in Germany and three in the Netherlands. It also decided to grant from available loan funds industrial conversion loans to finance the establishment of industrialization areas in France, and took a formal decision to grant six industrial conversion loans which had been endorsed by the Council² to four firms in Germany, one in Italy and one in the Netherlands. Finally, the basic interest rate on industrial conversion loans was reduced from 7% to 6.75%.

Studies

57. A contract was concluded between the Commission and the Belgian Ministry of Economic Affairs under which Belgian research institutes will make a study — to be completed within two years — of the prospects of economic and social development in the South of Belgium. On 19 December 1968 the Commission approved the signing of the agreement pertaining to this study, in which the Belgian Government had requested its financial and technical participation.

At the request of the German Government the Commission has decided to finance an industrial conversion study in the Amberg region of Bavaria.

The Commission has asked an Italian specialist institute to complete the theoretical studies already made on the planning and layout of industrial sites by practical recommendations, based on lessons learned in the Community countries, on the creation and administration of industrial areas.

¹ Official gazette No. C 95, 21.9.1968.

² Bulletin 1-69, Ch. VI, sec. 57.

A first interim report has been submitted to the Commission on progress with the study on the Community's main points of entry and exit by sea (conventional ports and, where appropriate, bulk-breaking harbours) considered especially from the point of view of their effect on the economic structure¹ and the development of outlying regions.

Discussions on methods of regional programming have been held between officials of the competent Directorate-General in the Commission and of the "Centraal Planbureau" and the "Rijksplanologische Dienst" in The Hague.

SOCIAL POLICY

Vocational training

58. The sixth meeting of representatives of the member Governments and of the Commission to study the problems involved in implementing the first joint programme for the exchange of young workers in the Community was held in Brussels on 3 December 1968. The discussions revealed that the number of exchanges had not exceeded the limits laid down. However, the government representatives stated that the various measures being prepared pointed to some progress in the implementation of the joint programme in 1969.

Employment matters

59. On 9 December 1968, the Commission arranged a meeting of experts of labour organizations (ICFTU and IFCTU (WCL)) to investigate the techniques of forecasting labour requirements in the steel industry. The experts welcomed the possibility of forecasting, in particular by an econometric method, and emphasized the great importance their organizations attached to such surveys.

On 5 December 1968, M. Levi Sandri, Vice-President of the Commission, received a delegation of ICFTU steelworkers' unions in the Community who had come to submit to the Commission a "social plan for the protection of workers in the event of loss of employment and income". After a short discussion on the content and aims of this plan it was agreed that the representatives of the Free Trade Unions and the Commission would meet again shortly.

European Social Fund

60. In accordance with the opinions issued on 22 November 1968 by the European Social Fund Committee,² the Commission, on 19 December 1968 adopted nine decisions³ concerning contributions by the Fund towards the financing of occupational retraining and resettlement in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands. Credits amounting to 12 859 594.96 units of account were granted.

¹ Bulletin 1-69, Ch. VI, sec. 57.

² Bulletin 1-69, Ch. VI, sec. 63.

³ Official gazette No. L 24, 30.1.1969.

Readaptation

61. In December 1968, the Commission, acting under Article 56(2) of the ECSC Treaty, decided to contribute DM 195 000 (48 750 u.a.) towards the costs of retraining 249 workers affected by the closure of the small German mine "Schracht Hauptflöze" of the Bergbaubetriebe Bergmannstreue Company (DM 20 000) and by the definitive shutting down of a blast-furnace at Oberscheld belonging to the Hessische Berg- und Hüttenwerke, Wetzlar (DM 175 000). An Italian steel company, Acciaieria del Caleotto, Lecco, also had to cope with the problem of the permanent closure of some of its plant. This measure has affected 100 workers and the cost of readaptation to be borne by the Commission is estimated at Lit 45 000 000 (i.e. 72 000 u.a.). In all these cases the Governments make an equivalent contribution towards these readaptation costs.

On 5 December 1968 the Commission discussed with the ICFTU and IFCTU (WCL) workers' organizations represented on the Joint Committees — coal and steel — the way Article 56 of the Treaty of Paris was at present being applied. After being told of the readaptation aid work so far accomplished by the Commission, the workers' representatives expressed their concern about these matters. They referred to the various problems which have arisen in their respective countries as a result of the present structural trend in the steel and mining industries and urged particularly that the Commission continue the work begun by the ECSC High Authority to facilitate the readaptation of mine and steel workers.

Building of workers' dwellings

62. On 4 December 1968 the Commission approved the financing of schemes involving the construction of 747 dwellings for mine and steel workers in Germany (691 units: DM 4 076 000), France (48 units: FF 263 000) and Luxembourg (8 units: Lfrs. 2 790 000).

Industrial safety, health, medicine and health protection

63. The Fifth Report of the Mines Safety and Health Commission was forwarded to the Commission on 9 December 1968 and it is to be submitted to the Council. The Report reviews the activities of the working parties, gives the main accident statistics, and draws the relevant conclusions from them. It also describes how the Governments have acted on the proposals of the Safety and Health Commission. The Working Party on combined statistics of accidents in coal mines, set up by the Commission, met in Luxembourg on 11 December 1968. The experts compared the definitions of the concepts of accidents, fatal accidents, frequency rates, periods of disablement and the groups covered.

On 6 December 1968, the Steel Industry Safety Commission held its annual meeting in Luxembourg. This Commission, which consists of representatives of the trade associations and enterprises in the steel sector, compares practical experiences with industrial health and safety. It examined the studies undertaken in 1968 and expressed the hope that more effective machinery would be placed at its disposal. It recommended that some of the conclusions of the expert working parties it has set up be communicated to the general public.

Lastly, on 12 December, the Ergonomic Research Committee made an overall survey of the studies under the present programme, the prospects of making practical use of them and the approach to be adopted for future programmes.

In conformity with Article 33 of the Euratom Treaty, the Italian Government, in October 1968, communicated to the Commission two draft decrees pertaining to the protection of workers and the general population against the risk of ionizing radiation. In December 1968 the Commission expressed its opinion on these drafts in a letter to the Italian authorities. Furthermore, the Expert Group on basic standards (set up under Article 31 of the Euratom Treaty) met on 11 December 1968; it has continued work on its task of formulating, by the end of 1969, a proposal to amend the directives defining the basic standards for the protection of the health of workers and the general population against radiation hazards.

FINANCING ACTIVITIES

ECSC levy for 1969

64. A decision adopted by the Commission on 18 December 1968¹ fixed the ECSC levy at 0.30% for 1969. It thus remains unchanged. The competent Committees of the European Parliament were consulted in accordance with established tradition and approved the maintenance of this rate at a meeting held on 12 December 1968 in Luxembourg.

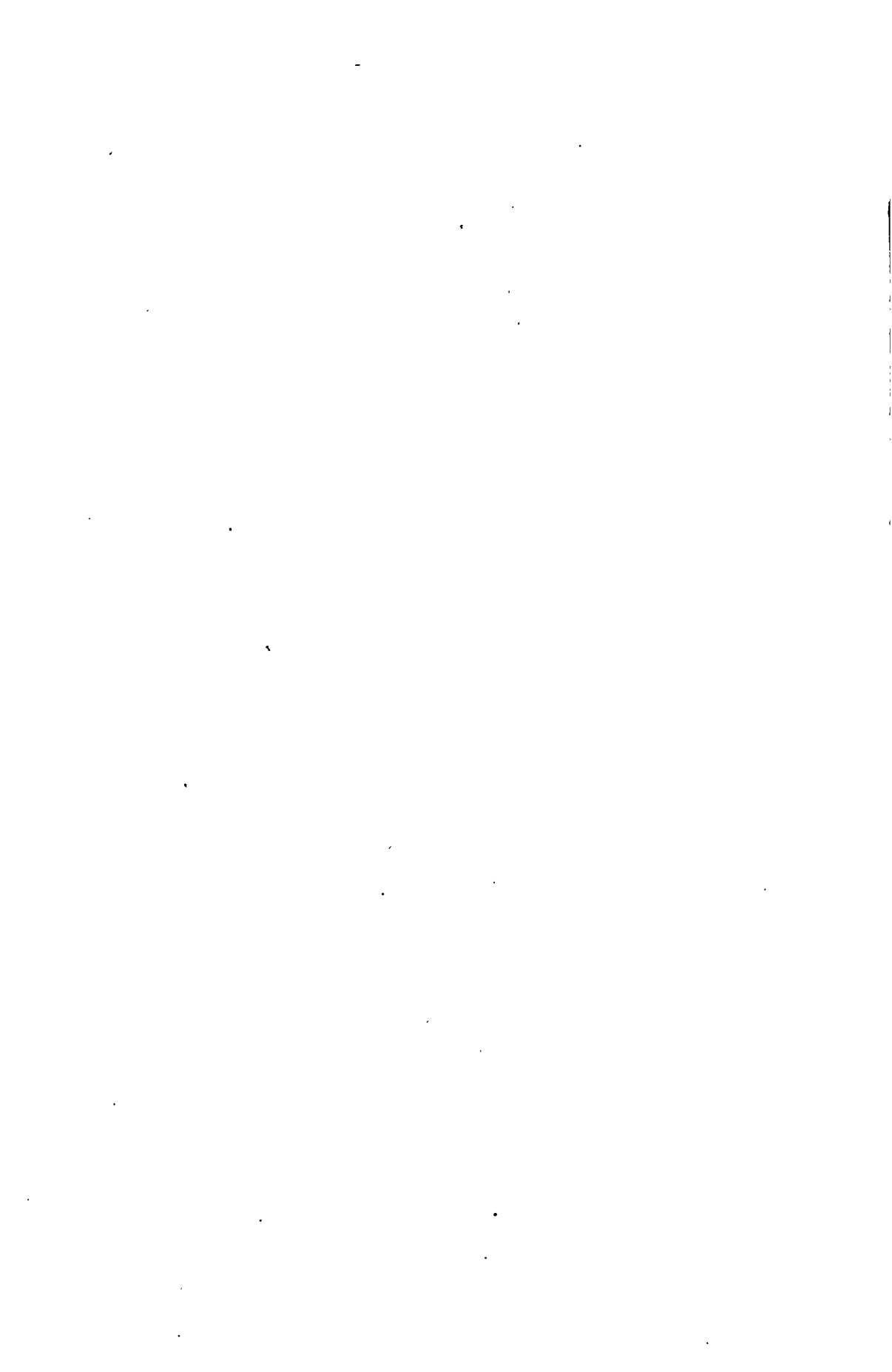
The resources anticipated from the 0.30% levy on the production of coal and steel are likely to amount to some 37 million units of account in 1969. Together with other receipts (particularly from interest on investments — 5 million u.a.) and the available reserves (9 million u.a.), these bring the estimated resources to 51 million u.a.

Expenditure (on which the Commission's decision concerning the levy is based) is broken down as follows: a contribution to the Community's administrative expenses, fixed by the Merger Treaty at 18 million u.a., readaptation grants (25 million u.a.), and expenses of technical and economic research relating to the production and promotion of coal and steel consumption, and to safety in the coal and steel industries (8 million u.a.).

Loans

65. The Commission granted industrial loans on the basis of ECSC Treaty Article 54 to four Community enterprises for a total equivalent to 20.8 million u.a. The loans were granted at the rate of 6.75% to three steel enterprises and one coal enterprise.

¹ Official gazette No. L 312, 28.12.1968.



VII. The Community and the Associated States

GREECE

Meeting of the EEC/Greece Association Council

66. The EEC/Greece Association Council held its 29th session on 3 December 1968 at ambassadorial level. It discussed problems of the accelerated alignment on the CCT of a heading in the Greek customs tariff (Article 20(3) of the Athens Agreement) and of the prolongation of the suspension of CCT duties on spirits of turpentine and rosin for 1969, the Association Council's assent being needed for such suspension.

TURKEY

Meeting of the EEC/Turkey Association Council

67. The EEC/Turkey Association Council held its 9th session at ministerial level under the chairmanship of M. Medici, President in office of the Council, on 9 December 1968. The Turkish delegation was led by M. Çağlayangil, Foreign Minister, and the Commission was represented by M. Rey and M. Martino. The Council adopted a resolution expressing its agreement that negotiations should be begun without delay on the changeover to the transitional stage of the Ankara Agreement and the establishment of a new financial protocol. It was agreed that a report would be submitted to the Council by the second half of April 1969.

Tariff quotas

68. Acting on Commission proposals, the Council, on 20 December 1968, adopted three regulations¹ concerning the opening and allocation of certain Community tariff quotas for Turkey in 1969. These concern imports of certain fruits: 18 900 tons of dried figs at 4.7% duty (14 175 tons being distributed among the Member States and the balance held in reserve), 38 570 tons of raisins duty-free (of which 28 930 tons distributed) and 18 700 tons of hazel-nuts (14 025 tons distributed) at 2.5%. They also cover 17 615 tons of raw tobacco and tobacco refuse (of which 4 400 tons held in reserve) duty-free, and various textile products: a total of 180 tons of cotton fabrics and 60 tons of other articles (tariff headings 60.05 and 62.05), some 80% of which are for distribution and on which duty equal to half the CCT duties applicable at the time of import are to be levied.

Import arrangements for certain products

69. At its session of 20 December 1968 the Council, acting on a Commission proposal, extended to 30 June 1969 the detailed arrangements it established on 29 February 1968 for the implementation of the import system for citrus fruits originating in

¹ Official gazette No. L 311, 28.12.1968.

and coming from Turkey. These arrangements, which had expired on 31 December 1968, accord preferential treatment to imports into the Community of certain Turkish citrus fruits. The Council also decided to extend its decision of 21 December 1967 relating to quality wines from Turkey.

AFRICAN STATES AND MADAGASCAR, AND OVERSEAS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Renewal of the Yaoundé Convention : Ministerial session of the Contracting Parties to the Convention

70. As agreed at the sixth session of the Association Council held in Kinshasa on 23 July 1968, the first ministerial meeting of representatives of the 18 Associated African States and Madagascar and of the six Community States was held in Brussels on 19 December 1968, a few days only after the deadline (15 December) originally established by the Association Council.

This meeting led to an agreement on certain points concerning, in particular, the principle of renewing the association, the creation of a third European Development Fund, and the levels at which the negotiations would be held. The Contracting Parties had an initial exchange of views on the positions reached respectively by the Community and by the Associated States on various fundamental problems, among them trade and financial and technical co-operation. Certain guidelines have already emerged. For example the Contracting Parties declared themselves in favour of concluding a new convention prolonging the association for a period to be determined. The decision to establish a third European Development Fund was also taken. The Contracting Parties agreed on certain of the practical arrangements to be made so that negotiations might begin in the most favourable conditions, with a view, in particular, to their being completed by 31 May 1969. Under this heading they were in favour of negotiations at three levels: ministers, ambassadors and experts. It was also decided that a second session at ministerial level should be summoned before 31 March 1969. In the meantime the Contracting Parties would endeavour to settle jointly the majority of outstanding problems; the points remaining would be submitted to the ministerial session.

The meeting of 19 December was prepared by a session of the Contracting Parties at ambassadorial level on 11 December and the problems of the renewal of the Yaoundé Convention were discussed at the Council session of 9-10 December 1968 and at a ministerial meeting of the Member States on 19 December 1968 before the session of the Contracting Parties. It should be recalled that the Commission for its part had forwarded to the Council on 3 April 1968 a memorandum on the detailed arrangements for the renewal of the Convention, in which it set out its own viewpoint. M. Rochereau, the Commission member with special responsibilities for development aid, had had a number of talks with the Governments of the Six. Lastly, there had been several preparatory meetings between the representatives of the African countries, and M. Hamani Diori had expounded the views of the AASM in the six capitals and to the Commission. The points he made had, moreover, been commented on by the Commission in memoranda to the Council.

Extraordinary session of the Association Council

71. An extraordinary session of the Association Council was held on 19 December 1968 at the conclusion of the ministerial meeting. The Council heard two reports from the Associated States: one on the measures the European Economic Community intends to take regarding vegetable oils in the context of its common agricultural policy, and the other on the arrangements for imports into the Community of manioc starch originating in the AASM.

Association Committee

72. The Association Committee had held its 23rd meeting on 11 December 1968 under the chairmanship of M. Nzabi, representative of Congo (Kinshasa) with the EEC. It extended until 31 May 1969 the transitional arrangements for "products originating in ..." contained in postal consignments. It also examined the arrangements for exports to the Community of manioc starch originating in the AASM.

European Development Fund

New financing decisions

73. On 10 December 1968 the Commission took nine new financing decisions involving aid from the second European Development Fund to a total of 13 017 855 units of account. Of this amount, 12 791 000 u.a. were in the form of grants, and 226 855 u.a. (one project) in the form of a loan on special terms. The projects concerned had been endorsed by the EDF Committee at its 37th meeting on 26 November 1968.

1. New airport at Bamako, Mali: Frs. M 3 650 000 000, or about 7 393 000 u.a. The site is about 14 km from Bamako, since the old Bamako city airport cannot be extended owing to natural obstacles.

2. Repair of damage caused in January 1968 by the cyclone "Georgette" to the Andapa-East Coast road, Madagascar: Frs. Mg 250 000 000, or about 1 013 000 u.a. The cyclone caused considerable damage to crops, buildings, the economic infrastructure, and more especially, the road in question, which was being built with credits from the first and second EDF and was near completion.

3. Creation of an industrial estate at Kigali, Rwanda: Frs. Rw 133 040 000, or about 1 330 000 u.a. The project will meet the growing need for industrial sites at Kigali, where the country's industrial production is concentrated.

4. Planting of 100 hectares of pepper plants, Central African Republic: Frs. CFA 56 000 000, or 226 855 u.a. in the form of a loan on special terms. Provision is made for clearing, planting and tending 50 ha, constructing buildings and installing fittings and equipment, and for running the whole plantation.

5. Training of women, Niger: Frs. CFA 69 053 000, or about 280 000 u.a. The two-year operation is part of a general mass training scheme for peasants and will mainly concern methods of production, marketing and management of the family budget.

6. Teacher training programme for audio-visual education, Rwanda: Frs. Rw 5 567 000, or about 56 000 u.a. The teachers are to serve some 10 000 families settled in the Mayaga region with the help of Community aid and Belgian bilateral aid.

7. Fifth and last annual instalment of the production aid programme, Cameroon: Frs. CFA 249 000 000, or about 1 009 000 u.a. This instalment will be used for price support for groundnuts (Frs. CFA 15 million) and structural improvement for groundnuts, cotton and coffee.

8. Third annual instalment of the production aid programme, Togo: Frs. CFA 422 000 000, or about 1 710 000 u.a. The programme comprises price support for groundnuts and cotton (Frs. CFA 90.5 million) and structural improvement for these two products and also for coffee and the coconut palm.

9. Reallocation of funds committed for the Lomé-Tsevié and Lomé-Palimé roads, Togo. The object is to deduct Frs. CFA 107 000 000 (or about 434 000 u.a.) from the Lomé-Palimé road project and to increase the commitment for the Lomé-Tsevié road by the same amount.

With these new decisions, the total commitments of the second European Development Fund to date amount to approximately 581 159 000 units of account for 288 financing decisions. These figures do not include advances to stabilization funds financed from EDF sources under Article 20 of the Yaoundé Convention, expenses incurred in supervising execution of the schemes, or the financial and administrative expenditure of the EDF itself.

Meetings and visits

74. On 17 December 1968 an Ivory Coast delegation discussed at the EDF the final touches to schemes still to be financed as part of diversification aid. A working meeting was held on 18 December 1968 with an Upper Volta delegation led by M. P.C. Damiba, Minister of Planning and Works; the meeting decided what schemes could still be financed under the second EDF. On the same day the EDF Directorate had discussions with M. J.M. Kone, Mali Minister of Planning, on schemes still to be financed under the second EDF and on certain projects being carried out.

From 11 to 17 December 1968, M. Ferrandi, Director of the EDF, visited Senegal at the invitation of President Senghor. Discussions during his trip dealt mainly with schemes still to be financed in Senegal and on various aspects of the renewal of the Yaoundé Convention.

Inauguration of EDF projects

75. Between 12 and 16 November 1968 four hospitals and one dispensary in the north of Cameroon were inaugurated in the presence of M. S.P. Tchoungui, Prime Minister of East Cameroon, and senior officials. The hospitals and the dispensary were financed under the first EDF at a cost of some 2 500 000 u.a.; they will help to extend the country's public health infrastructure.

On 11 December 1968 the campaign to protect seed and crops, financed under the second EDF at a cost of 1 041 000 u.a., was declared officially opened at Ouagadougou by M. Dacouré, Minister of Agriculture, in the presence of the President of the Upper Volta Republic and a representative of the EDF Directorate.

Promotion of AASM trade

76. A meeting of Commission and AASM representatives has been held to establish a balance-sheet of the 1968 programme of AASM participation in trade fairs and exhibitions in Member States, to prepare for participation in events planned for the first half of 1969, and to examine the possibility of pursuing the Community programme beyond the expiry date of the Yaoundé Convention. This first balance-sheet shows the success of AASM stands in the various fairs and exhibitions; more than 4 million people visited them during the year and over 1 000 exploitable trade contacts were made. For the first half of 1969 there will be joint participation of various Associated States in the Milan, Brussels and Paris fairs in April and May. In the longer term, the Associated States considered that the programme must be continued so that the benefits of past achievements should not be wasted.

Programme of scholarships, in-service training and seminars

77. During the 1968/69 academic year 2 176 scholarships were granted: 2 056 to AASM nationals and 120 to OCT nationals, as against 1 892 and 124 respectively in the preceding year. Of these 2 009 are studying at schools or universities, and 167 doing further training courses. The number of scholarship-holders training in establishments located in the AASM showed a further increase: 42.7% against 36% in the 1967/68 academic year. 56.8% of the scholarship-holders are taking courses in the Member States and 0.5% in Israel. In addition, 313 scholarships (as against 182 the year before) have been given to craftsmen and small entrepreneurs for local management and organization courses. These courses are given in Cameroon, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Kinshasa), Gabon and Madagascar.

Under the programme of in-service training for AASM nationals, 11 trainees made a study trip to Italy from 8 to 15 December 1968. In December two seminars were held in Europe, one in Bruges and the other in Bari, with an attendance of 51. In Africa three seminars, attended by 360 persons, were held in the Congo at Kinshasa and Kisangani.

AASM representatives to the European Communities

78. On 9 December 1968 the President of the Commission, M. Jean Rey, received His Excellency M. Jean Davin, who presented his letters of credence as Head of the Gabon Mission to the European Coal and Steel Community. On 10 December 1968 the President of the Council, M. Giuseppe Medici, and the President of the Commission, M. Jean Rey, each received His Excellency M. Jean Davin in his capacity as representative of the Republic of Gabon to the European Economic Community. On the same occasion the ambassador presented his letters of credence as Head of the Gabon Mission to the European Atomic Energy Community.

VIII. The Community, non-member countries and international organizations

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

79. At the close of the Council session of 9-10 December 1968, the following communiqué was published:

"In connection with the applications of the Governments of the United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark and Norway, and the letter from the Swedish Government, the Council had an exchange of views on the question of trade arrangements.

At the end of its discussion, the Council instructed the Committee of Permanent Representatives to pursue the current studies in close co-operation with the Commission, in the light of the statements, requests and contributions made by the various delegations in the course of the session".

The Council then continued its work on co-operation in scientific and technical research, and adopted the following resolution:

"(1) The Council, the Governments of the Member States, and the Commission will, by 1 July 1969, put into effect the provisions of the resolution adopted at the Council meeting held at Luxembourg on 31 October 1967 on co-operation in scientific and technical research.

(2) To this end the Working Party on "Scientific and Technical Research Policy" of the Medium-term Economic Policy Committee will submit, by 1 March 1969, in the way laid down in this resolution, the report which it was instructed to prepare and which will take into consideration the opportunities for co-operation with European non-member countries, in conformity with the mandate given to it on 31 October 1967.

(3) The Council will examine the report from the Working Party on scientific and technical research policy and will draw its initial conclusions concerning the action to be undertaken. In the light of these conclusions, it will forward proposals for co-operation to the European countries concerned, of which it will draw up a list, and in particular to those that have applied to become members of the European Communities, and will annex the Working Party's report to the proposals.

(4) The Council will, by appropriate channels, obtain the opinions of the non-member countries in question on the proposals which it has communicated to them. The Council will discuss the replies received and also any suggestions put forward by the non-member countries. The Council and the non-member countries in question will convoke meetings of experts with a view to examining the technical, financial, and other problems raised by the problems involved in undertaking the selected activities. Experts from the Commission will take part in these meetings.

(5) The object of this examination will be to prepare for discussions among the Ministers responsible for technology in the Six and in the other countries in question with representatives of the Commission, with a view to making the necessary decisions on the various activities that are to be undertaken.

BILATERAL RELATIONS

United Kingdom

80. An agreement has been reached between the Community and the United Kingdom on the renegotiation of tariff concessions made under GATT Article XXVIII; the results of the negotiations on this matter were approved by a Council decision of 20 December 1968.¹ This agreement concerns a change in a tariff concession for certain food preparations containing cocoa, granted by the EEC at the 1960-1961 multilateral negotiations (Dillon Round).

Morocco and Tunisia

81. A Community delegation again met the delegations of the Tunisian and Moroccan Governments on 13 and 18 December 1968 respectively. The discussions dealt mainly with the concessions to be granted the Community. At the same time the Commission delegation, with the delegations of the two countries and with the representatives of the Member States, continued to work on draft agreements that it hopes to submit to the Council by January 1969. At its session of 9-10 December 1968, the Council gave the Commission all the necessary instructions "for the final stage of these negotiations".

Israel

82. At the same session the Dutch delegation requested that the Council's studies on relations between the Community and Israel be continued and intensified. The examination of the Commission's memorandum on the subject has begun.

Malta

83. Following the exploratory talks with Malta in October 1968, a report has just been completed and will be submitted by the Commission to the Council early in 1969.

Spain

84. A new negotiating mandate based on the Commission's report on the first round of negotiations is being drafted by the responsible departments of the Council.

Yugoslavia

85. At its session of 9-10 December 1968, the Council had a further exchange of views on points relating to the EEC/Yugoslavia trade negotiations, in particular the proposals made the previous month by the Commission. It "recognized the

¹ See official gazette No. L 311, 28.12.1968.

advisability of finding a rapid solution to the problems arising, and emphasized the importance it attaches to the satisfactory conclusion of these negotiations". For this purpose the examination of the suggestions put forward by the Commission will be pursued actively.

From 16 to 19 December 1968, M. Deniau, member of the Commission with special responsibility for external trade, paid an official visit to Yugoslavia at the invitation of the Government. He had discussions with M. Gligorov, Vice-President, and M. Thoma Granfil, member of the Federal Executive Council; he also met M. Bole, President of the Economic Chamber. Before leaving Belgrade, M. Deniau stated: "Our conversations dealt with the problems facing Yugoslavia in its relations with the EEC. They enabled us to assess in more concrete fashion the issues confronting Yugoslavia and to explain the machinery of the Community".

Austria

86. The negotiations between the Community and Austria "cannot be resumed by the Commission until the Council has adopted a new mandate". The last session, which ended on 2 February 1967, exhausted the previous terms of reference issued by the Council in December 1966. This is the Commission's reply to a written question asked by M. Lenz (Christian Democrat, Germany).¹ It recalls that in its reports submitted to the Council in 1967 it set out "the different problems encountered during the negotiations and all the proposals it thought appropriate for the pursuit of the latter". The Commission declared itself "always ready to examine in a spirit of co-operation and goodwill the problems arising in economic relations between Austria and the Community with a view to seeking solutions which do not prejudice the satisfactory working of the customs union or the agricultural market organizations". It pointed out that, for example, it had followed up an Austrian request for an increase in the percentage of Austrian beef quotations used for weighting the prices taken into account in fixing the price of mature cattle imported into the Community.² The Commission said that other problems raised by the Austrian Government in the same sector were being studied.

Canada

87. On 12 December 1968 the Council took a decision concluding an agreement negotiated between the Community and Canada on the basis of Article XXVIII of GATT.³ As in the United Kingdom case referred to above, this is a renegotiated agreement, for Canada requested that the rates of concession granted to the EEC for chemicals and plastics in the Kennedy Round negotiations should take effect from 31 December instead of 1 July 1968. As *quid pro quo*, Canada offered temporary concessions which have been accepted by the Community.

Latin America

88. The Commission has studied the various aspects of the problems raised by the recent Italian memorandum⁴ concerning relations between the EEC and Latin America and action that could be undertaken in this field by the Community.

¹ Official gazette No. C 134, 10.12.1968.

² Official gazette No. L 174, 22.7.1968.

³ Official gazette No. L 300, 14.12.1968.

⁴ Bulletin No. 1-69, Ch. VIII, sec. 89.

M. J. Peirano-Facio, Uruguayan Minister of Industry and Trade, accompanied by M. J. Barreiro, Head of Uruguay's Mission to the European Communities, and other personalities, visited the Commission from 9 to 11 December 1968. M. J. Peirano-Facio discussed with M. Rey, President, and M. Martino and M. Deniau, members of the Commission, EEC-Uruguay trade relations, with particular reference to Community imports of beef.

Missions of non-member countries

89. On 10 December 1968, the President in office of the Council, M. Giuseppe Medici, and the President of the Commission, M. Jean Rey, received H.E. Mr. Riaz Piracha, Head of the Pakistani Mission to the European Communities, H.E. M. Aly Hamdy Hussein, Head of the United Arab Republic Mission to the European Communities, and H.E. Mr. Kenichi Otabe, Head of the Japanese Mission to the European Communities, who presented their letters of credence.

COMMERCIAL POLICY

Establishment of the common commercial policy

90. On 10 December 1968 the Council, acting on Commission proposals, adopted three regulations¹ concerning the implementation of the common commercial policy provided for by the EEC Treaty.

The first concerns the establishment of a joint liberalization list for imports into the EEC from non-member countries. The annex to this regulation contains a list of products the liberalization of which is already bound at Community level and a list of the countries to which the liberalization applies. These two lists can be amended in future only by Community procedures.

The second regulation provides for the gradual establishment of a common procedure for administering quantitative quotas for imports into the Community. It applies to quotas which may be opened by the Community either by virtue of commitments contracted towards non-member countries or autonomously. Basically, it does no more than determine how the Community quotas adopted by the Council are to be apportioned between the Member States and establish certain standard rules to be used as a guide by each Member State in the administration of its own allocation. It should represent a first step towards the implementation of definitive procedures for administering Community quotas and ensuring that all Community importers have equal chances in current import business.

The third regulation concerns the introduction of a special procedure for importing certain products from some non-member countries. It will help solve the special problems which may arise with certain products not subject to quantitative import restrictions. To this end, it makes possible the introduction of a Community supervisory procedure, incorporating the right to intervene to prevent serious market disturbances in the Community. However, at the present stage the regu-

¹ Bulletin 1-69, Ch. IV, and official gazette No. L 303, 18.12.1968.

lation is merely an outline, and it will be up to the Council to decide, in specific cases and according to requirements, on the application of the procedure to given products of certain non-member countries.

Generally speaking, these regulations are part of the gradual harmonization of Member States' commercial policies and should facilitate the establishment in due course of a common policy in accordance with the Treaty. It should be noted that three other regulations adopted on the same date by the Council extend the application of the measures to the French Overseas Departments.¹ i.e. Guadeloupe, Martinique, French Guiana and Réunion, which are included among the Overseas Countries and Territories associated with the Community.

Specific commercial policy matters

91. At its session of 9/10 December 1968, the Council approved a one-year extension of the period specified for the entry into force of the additional protocol on chemical products agreed in the Kennedy Round.

The press release issued on the matter by the Secretariat of the Council states: "The Council noted that the Agreement on chemical products, which constitutes an important part of the results of the GATT multilateral trade negotiations, cannot enter into force within the time limit laid down, which expires on 1 January next, because the US Congress has not yet taken a decision on the abolition of the American Selling Price. Under these conditions, and taking into account the guidelines worked out on this subject at Geneva, at the 25th meeting of the Contracting Parties to GATT, the Council decided that the Community will be able to accept an extension of the above time-limit until 1 January 1970".

On 6 December 1968 the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal to authorize the tacit renewal beyond the transitional period of certain trade agreements concluded by Member States with non-member countries. A strict application of the decision adopted by the Council on 9 October 1961 (on standardization of the duration of trade agreements) would tend to prohibit systematically any renewal of these agreements beyond 31 December 1969, and this might raise some difficulties.

The matter of credit insurance and export guarantees was also debated in the Council, which, on 9/10 December 1968, approved certain guidelines designed to give a fresh impetus to the work of the group of experts studying the co-ordination of credit insurance, guarantees and financial credits. It also decided on a further extension of certain provisions adopted on 15 June 1965 concerning subcontracting operations in the field of export guarantees and finance.²

Finally, on 11 and 17 December 1968, the Commission decided to put in hand a number of studies on the Community's external trade. These will principally concern the following matters: (i) development of the Community's trade with non-member countries up to 1975; (ii) trend in the external trade pattern of the six Community countries; (iii) potential and limits of development of trade relations between the state-trading countries and the European Communities; (iv) pattern, development and problems of commercial and economic relations between the United States and the European Communities; (v) probable trend of the Community's balance of trade and its repercussions on Member States' payment balances.

¹ Official gazette No. L 303, 18.12.1968.

² Official gazette No. L 300, 14.12.1968.

Commercial policy in the steel industry

92. As is done every year before 31 December, a number of decisions have been adopted in this field, either by the Commission or by the representatives of the Member States meeting in the Council. On 18 December 1968 the Commission approved the wording of a recommendation to the Member States for a two-year extension, i.e. until 31 December 1970,¹ of the specific duty of \$ 5 per ton on foundry pig, a protective duty introduced by ECSC High Authority Recommendation No. 2/64 and since extended several times. At the same time the Commission adopted a waiver¹ to this recommendation to permit the import in 1969, at the normal 4.6% duty, under tariff quota arrangements, of certain grades of special foundry pig containing manganese (for the production of spheroidal graphite castings). These tariff quotas total 78 000 tons.

A number of decisions on tariff quotas were adopted by the representatives of the ECSC Member States meeting in the Council and by the Commission. On 28 November 1968 the representatives of the six Governments approved Germany's application for the second half of 1968 and decided unanimously to increase the zero-duty tariff quotas previously granted for two steel products of a rather special type. The quotas concerned are for special wire rod for the tyre industry (increased from 200 to 1 200 tons) and special wire rod for the manufacture of springs and "piano wire" (increased from 5 300 to 6 100 tons). To make this measure possible, the Commission adopted on 9 December 1968 a decision² authorizing Germany to modify the tonnages specified earlier under the six-monthly tariff measures applicable in the second half of 1968, because these measures constituted a waiver with respect to the peripheral protection of the steel market introduced by ECSC High Authority Recommendation No. 1/64 of 15 January 1964.

In addition, tariff measures for the first half of 1969 were agreed on 28 November 1968 by the representatives of the Governments meeting in the Council; since the opening of the common market in steel, these measures have consisted either of reduction and temporary suspension of duties or of grants of tariff quotas at reduced or zero duty for products not manufactured in the Community or manufactured there in insufficient quantities. The tariff duties to be levied on imports from non-member countries during the first half of 1969 are 1% for pig iron and cast iron containing titanium and vanadium, and 6% for used rails; there are no duties on the other products: special wire rod, special steel coils, or used rails intended for re-rolling. In this case too, a waiver with the respect to the obligations arising from Recommendation No. 1/64 was granted by the Commission in a decision dated 12 December 1968.³

For 1969, as in previous years, and in view of certain commercial policy requirements — more particularly the existence of structural links between suppliers in non-member countries and Community customers — the Commission opened tariff quotas for the Member States of a similar volume to those of 1968. By far the most important item is coils (307 000 tons at 5%). This decision³ is in the form of a further waiver to the ECSC High Authority Recommendation of 15 January 1964.

In connection with the special problem of imports of iron and steel products from state-trading countries and territories, on 9/10 December 1968, the representatives of the Member States extended for one year the measures restricting such imports

¹ Official gazette No. L 6, 10.1.1969.

² Official gazette No. L 298, 12.12.1968.

³ Official gazette No. L 304, 19.12.1968.

which, apart from a few amendments, have remained substantially in force since 1963. In accordance with a confirmatory opinion from the Council, the Commission also extended until the end of 1969 ECSC High Authority Decision No. 1/64 forbidding Community enterprises to align their prices on lower offers made for the same products by such countries.¹ The two measures together constitute a whole.

THE COMMUNITY AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

United Nations Conference on Trade Development

93. *The Special Committee on Preferences* which it was decided to set up at the second session of the UN Conference on Trade and Development held its first session in Geneva from 29 November to 6 December 1968, with the Community taking part as an observer. The business of the meeting was to examine the progress made by the advanced countries in working out and defining the essential components of a general system of preferences. The western countries reported on the studies on this matter undertaken in their respective capitals and in OECD, and the programme of work established in that organization. The Commission representative pointed out that the Community had every intention of observing the deadlines fixed at OECD and UNCTAD for finishing the work on preferences. The Committee reached an agreement on the programme of work to be done in the UNCTAD context before the 9th session of the Trade and Development Board, which begins on 26 August 1969.

Food Aid

94. At its session of 9-10 December 1968 the Council adopted a number of provisions on how cereals for food aid from the Community would be made available. It is probable that the Community will be in a position at the beginning of 1969 to finalize plans for the first year of implementation of its aid programme under the food aid Convention. By this Convention the Community undertook, in 1967, to provide 1 035 000 tons of cereals per year as aid to the developing countries for three years, i.e. from 1968/69 to 1970/71.

Since the Convention came into force, on 1 July 1968, six developing countries, India, Pakistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Indonesia and the United Arab Republic, have applied to the Community for cereals aid under the Programme for 1968/69. The total amount applied for exceeds that of the EEC's food aid commitments since it comes to 1.9 million tons.

The Council has decided that the cereals should normally be procured either by purchases on the domestic market or by using stocks held by the intervention agencies. It has also laid down the criteria for procurement within the Community. As regards allocation to applicant countries, it has been agreed that the Council should establish an annual programme of Community food aid which could embrace both measures taken by the Community as such and aid granted indi-

¹ Official gazette No. L 315, 31.12.1968.

vidually by Member States. A fraction amounting to some 15% of the total volume will be held in reserve to meet emergencies. In view of the complexity of the subject, it was agreed that these provisions should take effect for one year, as improvements might become necessary in the light of experience.

One problem remains to be settled: how to finance Community aid measures under this heading. The Commission has forwarded a draft regulation on this point to the Council.¹

RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

95. Meeting in Geneva from 11-13 December 1968 the GATT group on milk products examined the problems of implementing a potential international arrangement on these products. This first phase of the negotiations, in which the Community took part, revealed the existence of a number of difficulties. These related in particular to the reservations expressed by practically all importing countries as regards the commitment to observe minimum prices and thus ensure that the agreement effectively helped to counter the dangers of imports from certain countries at lower prices. The group decided to meet again at or after mid-February 1969.

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

96. On 2 December 1968 the Commission informed the Council of proposals received from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) concerning the harmonization of customs documents at European level. In its letter to the Commission, the ECE emphasized the importance of the problem and of the work it had undertaken in this field. This work produced a pro forma that was already being used by a large number of countries.

Nevertheless the ECE pointed to the important contribution the six States of the Community could make towards the simplification and standardization of customs documents. It considered that its departments and those of the Commission should get together to co-ordinate work and avoid any duplication of efforts.

Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine

97. Following approaches by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine, which wished that a common solution should be sought to the problems of the regulation of competition for all Rhine shipping, the Council has informed the Central Commission of the Community's point of view. The gist of the Council's reply is that the Member States of the Community which belong to the Central

¹ See official gazette No. C 5, 18.1.1969.

Commission should examine, in the setting of the Commission and jointly with its other members, whether the application to Rhine shipping of the Community regulation of 19 July 1968 (on the rules of competition applicable to the various modes of transport) was likely to clash with the obligations deriving from the revised Mannheim Convention.

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD

Euratom/United Kingdom relations

98. At its session of 20 December 1968, the Council gave the Commission directives to negotiate with the British Government on the extension, for a period of two years, of the Euratom/U.K. agreement for co-operation on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, concluded on 4 February 1959 for an initial period of ten years. The Council invited the Commission to inform it in due course of the results of the negotiations so that it may take a final decision on this matter before 3 February 1969, the date on which the current agreement is due to expire.



IX. Institutions and organs

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The European Parliament met in extraordinary session on 13 December 1968 in Luxembourg to express its attitude to nuclear matters and to what is known as the "Euratom crisis". Its intention was to make a statement soon enough for the Council, convened to discuss the matter on 20 December 1968, to be clear about the position of the Members from the six countries.

The discussion was based on a proposed resolution submitted by the various Committees concerned and by the Christian Democrat, Socialist, and Liberal Groups. It very quickly took a political turn, with most of the speakers stressing the fact that, over and above nuclear and technological matters, it was the very concept of Community action and equilibrium which was in jeopardy. A different view was expressed by the UDE Group, in whose opinion Euratom had so far lacked efficiency; hence the need to change the *status quo*. On the other hand, all the speakers expressed satisfaction at the resumption of the Maréchal Group's work on scientific and technical policy, decided by the Council at its session of 9/10 December 1968.

Opening the debate in his capacity as chairman of the Parliament's Committee on Energy, Research and Atomic Problems, M. Scarascia-Mugnozza (Christian Democrat, Italy) said that any setback to Community action in the nuclear sector would mean a setback to the building of Europe, and Europe's subjection to the super powers. He considered that it was necessary on the contrary to give Euratom a fresh start by entrusting it with further work on research and technology, even outside the nuclear sector. The speaker called for guarantees for the future of personnel of the Joint Research Centre and the adoption by the Council of the necessary financial measures, even if only on a transitional basis.

M. Bersani (Italy), spokesman for the Christian Democrat Group, also stressed the danger to the institutional structure of the Communities if Euratom ceased to exist or were radically changed. There was, he said, a contradiction between the Council decision to relaunch the European scientific research policy and a possible break-up of the Joint Nuclear Research Centre. Like the chairman of the Committee on Energy, he considered it essential that the basic function of Euratom should be preserved by developing its activity in research. The Supplementary Programmes envisaged should follow logically from the Joint Programme.

On behalf of the Socialists, M. Oele (Netherlands) said that, although the will existed in some member countries to see Euratom continue its activities, there was no reason to think that the French Government would accept even a minimum joint programme. Unanimous agreement being necessary, the speaker was rather pessimistic as to the chances of solving the current Euratom crisis which, he said, was attributable to outmoded nationalism. M. Oele compared the high cost of an agricultural policy engendering surpluses with the refusal to spend a few million units of account in a sector essential for Europe's future. He warned against the liquidation of Euratom which would result from adopting too limited a programme, leading to large-scale dismissal of scientific personnel. In conclusion he appealed to the Commission to shoulder its responsibilities and show firmness.

On behalf of the Liberals, M. Armengaud (France) said that recriminations would serve no useful purpose and that the existing situation (however troubling) had to be accepted as the starting point in establishing a concerted programme of action. Efforts should be concentrated on certain essential tasks which could not be carried out at national level: fast and heavy-water reactors, the Orgel programme, high-temperature gas reactors, studies on plutonium and transplutonium elements. M. Armengaud emphasized that co-ordination of European and national work was essential and he deplored the fact that two Community countries had recently concluded an agreement with a non-member country — on the isotope separation process for uranium by ultra-centrifuging — without consulting Euratom. In conclusion he recommended concerted efforts to arrive at a common source of supply which could compete at world level.

The UDE spokesman M. de la Malène (France) considered the balance-sheet of Euratom's ten-years activity as very meagre, though Euratom had initially raised great hopes. He said that a true Community objective concentrated on a few crucial activities had always been wanting; all that had been done was to add together the national programmes. Similarly, no common policy had been instituted in the supply field. A change of approach was necessary, said M. de la Malène; we should not seek at all costs to preserve the Joint Research Centre but to come to an agreement, in conjunction with the industry, on effective action of common interest. The gist of his conclusions was that, rather than trying to preserve at all costs what already existed, Euratom should now be assigned specific objectives and well-defined activities.

After several other speeches, M. Hellwig, Vice-President of the Commission, emphasized that the real problem was now to find out whether the Six were still capable of reaching an agreement on a joint programme. He said that the total amounts spent by the Member States on nuclear research (750 million units of account in 1967) were roughly equivalent to the sums spent by the Community to support the milk and milk products market. M. Hellwig recalled the Commission's efforts to institute research programmes for Euratom; he noted that the most promising and profitable projects had been dealt with chiefly at national level and that nuclear research was at a critical stage. New approaches were necessary and M. Hellwig wondered what part Euratom would play in establishing and implementing them; he deplored that no dialogue had begun between the Commission and the Council, noting that the fault was not the Commission's. The Commission was not opposed to the existence of supplementary programmes, he said, provided that there was an adequate joint programme, in the absence of which there might well be a new retreat to bilateral or multilateral co-operation. M. Hellwig mentioned the problem of the Joint Research Centre's personnel and stressed the serious consequences which were bound to result from any large-scale dismissals.

M. Jean Rey, President of the Commission, spoke of the absence of co-ordination between national policies. In substance, he asked how it was conceivable that at a time when Europe was becoming aware of the effort it had to make in science and technology the Joint Research Centre was being allowed to become debilitated. He considered that the solution lay in a reorientation of the JRC's activities and that such a changeover would take six months to one year. M. Rey appealed to the UDE Group to withdraw its draft amendments to the proposed resolution submitted by the other political groups because these jeopardized the Commission's authority by weakening its powers, which did not seem the best way to arrive at a Community research programme.

M. René Pléven (France), chairman of the Liberal Group, also asked the Parliament to take a unanimous stand on this fundamental matter. And, in fact, it did

prove possible to find a compromise solution during a recess, when the Christian Democrat, Socialist and Liberal Groups agreed to amend the text of the first paragraph of the resolution, and the UDE to withdraw its amendments. In submitting the agreed text, M. Pléven stressed the importance of the unanimity thus reached in favour of maintaining the Community activities of Euratom, parallel, however, with certain reforms to allow it to assume its functions fully.

M. de la Malène (UDE, France) confirmed the attitude of his group by stating that responsibilities were divided between the Commission and the Council and that, in the eyes of his political friends, the Joint Research Centre could not be considered as an end in itself but as a means of serving European research and industry, more particularly in "pace-making" techniques; the UDE was in favour of retaining the Centre in so far as it followed these lines. In view of this new attitude, M. René Pléven expressed his conviction that a genuine fresh start for Euratom would result from this crisis and emphasized that if Europe dissipated its efforts it was bound to open its doors wide to American technological supremacy.

In its unanimous resolution, the Parliament "reaffirms that European autonomy in the nuclear sector, as in most other pace-making sectors of scientific research, requires the maintenance of Euratom's Community activity, not with the *status quo* which has hitherto impeded its efficiency, but in the spirit of a new European take-off in all branches of technology". In this connection the Parliament emphasized that, "since the Member States could not progress individually in this field at a suitable rate, a European Community which failed to produce a common policy would mean the definitive condemnation of free Europe to a state of permanent economic and political inferiority to the rest of the world". The resolution stressed the idea that "until such time as a joint research and investment programme covering a number of years could be decided on, the future of the Communities in the nuclear field should not be compromised", and for the same reasons it emphasized the essential necessity of secure employment for the personnel of the Joint Research Centre.

On the practical side, the Parliament asked the Council to adopt the essential financial measures as soon as possible, even if they were only provisional, and noted that "the Council's decision on programmes will be the expression of its will not only to pursue a Community nuclear policy but also to develop a Community research policy for technology in the growth industries just as in the traditional industries". It also asked that the additional activities to be undertaken should be defined in conjunction with the Commission, "which should see to it that all nuclear activities in the Community are better co-ordinated". The Parliament recalled the respective powers of the Commission and the Council, and on this point the resolution accordingly stressed that the Commission should play "the pre-eminent part incumbent upon it in the conduct of these studies and the preparation of the measures arising from them".

Two other points were mentioned during this "nuclear" session. First, the Parliament adopted without debate a report by M. Kriedemann (Socialist, Germany) on a proposal to modify the buying-in price for butter applied by the Netherlands intervention agency. Secondly, M. Triboulet (UDE, France) objected to the publication of the Commission draft on the reform of agriculture which, he said, should first have been passed to the European Parliament for discussion. The President of the Parliament, M. Alain Poher, said that M. Triboulet's oral question on this matter would be included in the agenda of the following session.

COUNCIL

The Council of the European Communities held four sessions in December, each devoted to a particular subject, the last being on the future activities of Euratom.

54th session - External relations (9 and 10 December 1968)

With M. Giuseppe Medici, Italian Foreign Minister in the chair, the meeting was attended by the Ministers responsible for foreign policy in the six countries and resulted in a number of important decisions.

In connection with the requests for accession to the Community of several non-member countries, the Council had further discussions, which are to be continued. They concerned in particular the question of trade arrangements, but it was on co-operation in scientific and technical research that the more concrete position was reached. The concluding resolution adopted by the Ministers explicitly provides for the possibility of co-operation in this field with European non-member countries, in the light of the conclusions to the report of the Maréchal Group, which is to resume work and will communicate its conclusions not later than 1 March 1969.¹

The Ministers also discussed three negotiations in progress. The conclusion of a partial agreement with Morocco, to be completed later, appeared to be well on the way, and the Council gave the Commission the necessary instructions for the final phase of the negotiations. On Yugoslavia, the Ministers discussed the proposals previously made by the Commission with a view to concluding an agreement to which the Ministers attach special importance. The renewal of the Yaoundé Convention, which expires on 31 May 1969, was also discussed. The Council determined the attitude which the Community should adopt concerning the conditions of renewal, the principle of which is accepted; it also asked the Commission to report back to it on the complementary decision concerning the association of the Overseas Countries and Territories, which expires on the same date.

Discussions took place in the Council on other matters concerning trade relations with certain countries or of a more general nature. The Netherlands delegation asked for work on relations with Israel to be speeded up. The Council approved the extension for one year of the period for the entry into force of the agreement on chemical products annexed to the Geneva protocol implementing the results of the Kennedy Round (no decision having yet been made by the United States concerning the abolition of the American Selling Price). The representatives of the six Governments meeting in the Council also extended for a further year the measures to restrict imports of ECSC iron and steel products from certain state-trading countries. The Council further adopted the three regulations on the common commercial policy which had been the subject of much controversy before agreement was reached on their terms. In a related field, the Council dealt with credit insurance and export finance. In conclusion, the Ministers reached agreement on the procedures for fulfilling commitments undertaken by the Community on food aid to the developing countries.

In conjunction with the matters raised by the requests for accession to the Community by certain non-member countries, the Council discussed the strengthening of the Community. It confirmed "its political will to continue its work on the internal

¹ See Ch. VI, sec. 28 in this Bulletin.

development of the Communities", according to the terms of the communiqué published at the conclusion of the session. These "internal" matters were also frequently mentioned during this session, beginning with the agricultural policy, which was the subject of a detailed account by M. S.L. Mansholt on the reform of agriculture in the Community (price policy, medium-term measures for marketing surpluses, long-term structural reforms) even before the Commission had finally adopted and passed to the Governments the corresponding texts. The harmonization of customs legislation was also on the agenda (the Council having noted that an agreement of principle existed on five proposed directives, although it was not possible to proceed to their formal adoption) together with energy policy, for which there was also an agreement of principle concerning the obligation of the Member States to hold a minimum level of stocks of crude petroleum and petroleum products, and a confirmatory opinion on the extension of the aid arrangements applicable to coking coal and to coke for the steel industry.¹ Finally, in addition to the important decision taken in the technology sector — with the resumption of the work of the Maréchal Group — the Council definitely adopted the budget of the Communities for 1969, paying special attention to the comments made by the European Parliament when it was consulted.

55th session - Agriculture (9 December 1968)

With M. Giacomo Sedati, the Italian Minister of Agriculture in the chair and the Commission represented by M. S.L. Mansholt, this session was exclusively devoted to agricultural matters. A number of regulations were adopted on the common organization of existing markets, concerning: the marketing of the Netherlands butter surplus, the price for olive oil for the 1968/69 marketing year, the prices of certain vegetables during the first quarter of 1969, and additional provisions in the vine products sector. The situation in the tobacco market was raised at the request of the Italian delegation. There were two regulations on the financing of the common agricultural policy, one concerning the 1964/65 marketing period and the other assistance from the Guidance Section of the EAGGF for 1969.

56th session - Economic, monetary and financial matters (12 December 1968)

This session with M. Antoine Wehenkel, Luxembourg Minister of Economic Affairs in the chair, was mainly devoted to economic and, more particularly, monetary questions.² M. Jean Rey, President, M. Barre, Vice-President, and M. von der Groeben, member of the Commission, were present together with the chairmen of the Short-term Economic Policy Committee, the Medium-term Economic Policy Committee and the Monetary Committee. Following a debate opened by speeches from M. Barre and the chairmen of the three Committees, the Council recognized the need for an increasing convergence of economic policies within the Community; ways and means of achieving this are to be examined. It also approved the second Medium-term Economic Policy programme and noted an opinion of the Budget Policy Committee on the flexibility of state expenditure. On other matters, it approved the conclusion of a renegotiation agreement with Canada, in GATT, and a regulation on the tariff description of starches imported from the AASM and the OCT.

¹ On these two points, formal decisions were taken by the Council at its session of 20.12.1968.

² See Ch. VI, sec. 14 of this Bulletin.

57th session (20 December 1968)

The salient topic of this Council session was the expected decisions on the future activities of Euratom. M. Vito Lattanzio, Deputy Under Secretary at the Italian Ministry of Industry, was in the chair and M. Jean Rey, President, and the Vice-Presidents and members of the Commission were present.

In the nuclear policy field, the Council arrived at a compromise determining a Joint Programme for the six countries and Supplementary Programmes in which five of them are to participate.¹ The Council also gave directives to the Commission to negotiate the extension for two years (instead of the ten years proposed by the Commission) of the Euratom/UK Agreement and approved an amendment to the statutes of the nuclear joint enterprise at Lingen in Germany.

In external relations and commercial policy, the Council approved the conclusion of an agreement for renegotiation with the United Kingdom, in GATT, endorsed the extension of the ECSC High Authority decision banning price alignments on offers of iron and steel products from certain state-trading countries, and adopted a number of regulations or decisions in connection with the EEC-Turkey Association Agreement.

A number of regulations and decisions were also adopted on tariff quotas for various products, amendments to the common customs tariff and suspensions or reductions of CCT duties.²

In agricultural policy, the Council also adopted some ten regulations on the regular administration of the common organizations of the markets and an additional regulation on freedom of establishment in agriculture. In conclusion, it took a decision defining the rules of administration of the Publishing Services of the Communities in Luxembourg.³ This decision was taken jointly with the Parliament, the Commission, the Court of Justice and the Economic and Social Committee. The merger Treaty of 8 April 1965 had provided for the installation in Luxembourg of this publishing office, to which a sales agency is attached.

THE COMMISSION

Budget of the Communities for 1969

At its session of 9-10 December 1968 the Council, having regard to the resolution adopted by the European Parliament on 28 November 1968 and to the revised draft budget, definitively adopted the European Communities budget for the 1969 financial year, that is for the period from 1 January to 31 December 1969. This second single budget of the European Communities covers total receipts and expenditure to the amount of 2 701 456 707 u.a.

¹ See Ch. VI, sec. 34 of this Bulletin.

² See Ch. V, sec. 1, 2 and 3 of this Bulletin.

³ Official gazette No. L 13, 18.1.1969.

A breakdown by institution and a comparison with the credits authorized for 1968 provide the following picture (in u.a.).

	1969	1968	Percentage increase
European Parliament	8 942 960	8 242 040	+ 8.50
Council	9 919 879	9 299 472	+ 6.67
Commission	2 680 624 188	2 157 460 029	+ 24.24
Court of Justice	1 969 680	1 916 130	+ 2.79
	2 701 456 707	2 176 917 671	+ 24.09

The amount of 2 680 624 188 u.a. representing the Commission's expenditure can be broken down as follows:

	1969	1968	Percentage increase
a) Administrative running expenses	97 711 027	87 779 040	+ 11.31
b) European Social Fund	33 445 637	24 550 989	+ 36.22
c) European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF)	2 549 467 524	2 045 130 000	+ 24.66
	2 680 624 188	2 157 460 029	+ 24.24

Honorary rank conferred

The Commission has conferred, with effect from 1 October 1968, the title of Honorary Director-General on M. Frank Van der Valk, former Director of the Security Office, who has left the Commission's service.

THE COURT OF JUSTICE

New case

Case 28/68 — Caisse régionale de sécurité sociale du Nord de la France v. M. Achille Torrekens, *et al.*¹

¹ Official gazette No. C 136, 19.12.1968.

On 3 December 1968 the Court advised the Commission of a request for a preliminary ruling from the French Cour de Cassation concerning the interpretation of Council Regulation No. 3 on social security for migrant workers, in particular Article 27 and Annexes B and D.

Case 29/68 — Milch-, Fett- und Eier-Kontor GmbH v. Hauptzollamt Saarbrücken.¹

On 10 December 1968 the Court received a request for a preliminary ruling from the Saar Finanzgericht concerning the interpretation of Article 97 of the EEC Treaty, in particular regarding the establishing of average rates for products or groups of products.

Case 30/68 — Official v. Commission of the European Communities.²

This case, the object of which is the partial cancellation of a Commission decision, was filed with the Court on 12 December 1968.

Case 31/68 — Chanel S.A. v. Cepeha Handelmaatschappij N.V.²

This is a request for a preliminary ruling submitted to the Court on 13 December 1968 by the Rotterdam District Bank concerning the interpretation of Article 85 of the EEC Treaty and implementing regulations thereto in respect of a sales contract with conditions amounting to a ban on exports.

Case 32/68 — Official v. Commission of the European Communities.²

This case, which was filed with the Court on 16 December 1968, concerns the cancellation of an administrative decision following termination of the plaintiff's service with the Commission.

Case 33/68 — Official v. Commission of the European Communities.²

The object of this suit, which was filed with the Court on 24 December 1968, is the cancellation of an administrative decision.

Rulings

Case 7/68 — Commission of the European Communities v. Italian Republic.³

By its judgment of 10 December 1968, the Court decided in favour of the suit filed (under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty) by the Commission against the Italian Republic, recognizing that the latter had failed to comply with one of the obligations incumbent upon it by virtue of the EEC Treaty in that after 1 January 1962 it continued to levy on objects of an artistic, historical, archeological or ethnographical interest exported to other Member States the progressive tax on value established by a law of 1 June 1939.

In its judgment, the Court considered that the value of goods of an artistic, historical, archeological or ethnographical interest, whatever their particular quality and characteristics, can be expressed in money terms and that they may therefore be the

¹ Official gazette No. C 3, 11.1.1969.

² *Ibid.* No. C 6, 18.1.1969.

³ *Ibid.* No. C 3, 11.1.1969.

subject of commercial transactions; consequently they come under the provisions of the Treaty relating to the free movement of goods. The tax levied on these goods on their export from Italy increases their price and therefore has the same restrictive effect on their free movement in the Community as a customs duty; whatever may be the purpose for which it is levied, whether fiscal or otherwise, this tax is forbidden by Article 16 of the Treaty.

As the Italian Government had invoked Article 36, which authorizes the maintenance of export prohibitions or restrictions justified on the grounds of protection of national treasures possessing artistic value, the Court held that exceptions to the fundamental rule of elimination of all obstacles to the free movement of goods must be interpreted strictly and that, in view of the difference in nature between the customs duties referred to in Article 16 and the quantitative restrictions in Article 36, the exemption provided for in the latter article could not be applied by analogy to customs duties or taxes having equivalent effect.

Case 13/68 — S.p.A. Salgoil v. Italian Ministry of Trade¹

In connection with a dispute between S.p.A. Salgoil, Milan and the Italian Ministry of Trade, the Rome Court of Appeal — before which the case is pending — applied to the Court of Justice of the European Communities for an interpretation of Article 30 et seq. of the European Treaty. The two questions put related, firstly, to the direct applicability of the articles mentioned and in particular of Article 31 and, secondly, to the concept of “individual rights to be upheld by domestic courts or tribunals”. In a judgment handed down on 19 December 1968, the Court of Justice gave replies to these questions endorsing the arguments put forward by the Commission in its observations.

The Court found that Articles 31 and 32, first paragraph, were directly applicable, observing that “Community law must obtain with the same force in all the Member States”; it added that these articles “require the authorities, and in particular the competent courts and tribunals of the Member States, to safeguard the interests of those amenable to their jurisdiction... by granting them direct and immediate protection... no matter what the relationship under municipal law between these interests and the public interest...”.

The Court also pointed out that “it is for the domestic legal order to determine which courts or tribunals must provide such protection and to decide to this effect how the individual position protected in this way is to be designated”.

Case 19/68 — De Cicco v. Landesversicherungsanstalt Schwaben (Sozialgericht Augsburg)¹

In a judgment of 19 December 1968 the Court gave an affirmative reply to the question whether the periods during which social insurance contributions have been paid by a worker under Italian legislation on disablement insurance for craft workers may be considered insurance periods within the meaning of Regulations Nos. 3 and 4.

THE ECSC CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The 123rd session of the Consultative Committee was held in Luxembourg on 13 December 1968 with M. Jacques Ferry in the chair; the Commission was represented by M. Haferkamp.

¹ Official gazette No. C 3, 11.1.1969.

Points on the agenda were: The Commission's quarterly accounts of the ECSC's activities, examination of the Guidance programmes for coal and steel¹ for the first quarter of 1969, and a consultation in pursuance of Article 95, first paragraph, of the ECSC Treaty on the advisability of a further extension until 31 December 1969 of the High Authority's Decision No. 1/64 prohibiting alignment on offers of iron and steel products and pig-iron from state-trading countries or territories.

In his account M. Haferkamp expressed the hope that, despite certain objections, a solution could be found by the end of the year to the problems arising from the prolongation of the High Authority's Decision No. 1/67 concerning coking coal and coke for the Community's steel industry.²

Presenting the programme with forecasts for coal, M. Haferkamp gave a brief survey of the trend of the coal situation in 1968 and the prospects for the first quarter of 1969. He pointed out that the consumption of solid fuels had been higher in 1968 than in 1967 and that coal output had gone down. Therefore stocks had consequently diminished by 5 million tons for coal and by 2 million tons for coke. The forecasts take into account weather conditions, the effects of the organization of the Ruhr joint coal-mining company and the implementation of the industrial conversion law in Germany. It is expected that coal sales will increase by 2.6 million tons in the first quarter of 1969 by comparison with the final three months of 1968. The requirements of thermal stations are likely to be 6% higher than in the first quarter of 1968, whereas those of the domestic sector will probably go down by 6%. As a whole the trend of trade with the non-member countries as within the Community is expected to remain unchanged. Stocks will probably stand at 32 million tons at the end of the first quarter of 1969, as against 44 million tons at 31 March 1968. Several members of the Committee expressed their concern at the over-rapid reduction of coke stocks, which could lead to some shortage because of reduced supply.

Presenting the programme for steel, M. Haferkamp pointed out that the steel market situation had improved considerably in the Community in 1968. The crude steel output for 1968 of 97.8 million tons is an increase of 8 million tons in relation to 1967, and this led to a growth of stocks. The increase in consumption expected in 1969 is put by the Commission at 4 million tons. Speaking of the prospects for the first quarter of 1969, M. Haferkamp forecast: an increase of stocks, uncertainty as to the trend of exports to non-member countries (mainly because of US policy and recent British measures), and an increase in supply because of the 5 million ton growth in the production capacity of the mills.

In the ensuing discussion several members of the Committee considered that the current boom would certainly be followed by a falling off, hence the need, in their opinion, to influence supply in order to maintain market equilibrium. Another member of the Committee, M. Conrot, stressed the grave consequences that an increase in the price of scrap could have for the steel industry.

M. Haferkamp then presented the Commission's proposals regarding a further extension of Decision No. 1/64. The Committee voted in favour of the extension, with 34 "ayes" and 6 abstentions. During the debate preceding the vote the coal producers' representatives made the point that the reasons for which the High Authority had forbidden Community firms to align their prices on offers from state-trading countries were also valid for coal. They were astonished that the Com-

¹ See official gazette No. C 140, 30.12.1968.

² The decision on this prolongation was in fact taken on 27.12.1968, but for one year only: see Ch. VI, sec. 49 in this Bulletin.

mission had not taken steps to extend this measure to coal, or at least indicated for what reasons such an extension was deemed inappropriate. (M. Gardant, M. Peeters, M. Van Berk).

At the end of the meeting the Consultative Committee decided in principle to hold an extraordinary session at which priority would be given to a discussion on the merger of the Treaties and energy policy.



X. European Investment Bank

Bond issue

Italy

The European Investment Bank has placed a bond issue in Italy totalling Lit. 15 000 million. The bonds were offered to the public from 16 December 1968 onward, by a consortium of Italian banks headed by Mediobanca. They bear interest at 6% per annum and were offered at 96.5%. The 20-year bonds are redeemable at par from 1 December 1972 in 17 annuities. The Bank will, however have the option of redeeming in advance all or part of the loan, at par, from 1 December 1977. This is the Bank's fifth public issue in Italy; the proceeds will be used by the Bank for its general lending operations.

Loans granted

Belgium

On 9 December 1968, the European Investment Bank concluded with the Fonds des Routes, a public institution under Belgian law, a loan agreement worth Bfrs. 500 million (10 million u.a.) for ten years at the rate of 6 7/8% per annum for building a motorway to link Antwerp with the Dutch border in the vicinity of Meer.

The motorway is a section of the international route crossing Belgium from the Dutch to the French borders via Brussels. It is one of the major routes between the Community countries, construction of which was recommended as early as 1953 by the European Conference of Ministers of Transport. The 32-km Belgian section, constituting three-quarters of the Antwerp-Breda motorway, will link up with the 9-km Dutch section, which is to be built at the same time, and will be opened for traffic in 1971.

At regional level the construction of the Antwerp-Dutch border motorway will mean a considerable improvement in short-distance runs, which at present are difficult and dangerous because of the heavy traffic, especially lorries. At European level it will create a direct link between the big urban centres of Belgium and the Netherlands and will be a further step in building up the network of international trunk roads which will shortly provide direct communications between the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and France.

France

On 12 December 1968 the European Investment Bank granted the Mines de Potasse d'Alsace (MDPA) a loan worth FF 75 million (12.2 million u.a.) for the modernization of the potash mines of the Mulhouse basin in the Haut-Rhin department (France).

This project, which was drawn up by the MDPA in collaboration with the public authorities, involves the progressive concentration of operations on the three best mines and on three processing plants. At the same time the units being maintained in operation will be modernized and upgraded. Production will be kept at its present level of 1.8 million tons of potash per annum and the reduction of the number of workers will have to be undertaken progressively without resort to dismissals.

The rationalization and modernization of the mines in the Mulhouse basin, which account for all French potash production and play an important social and economic role at regional level, are aimed at appreciably reducing the firm's costs so that it can continue to compete on the world market. The method chosen to execute the project will enable this to be done while limiting repercussions on the labour market in the area. The loan is for 15 years at the rate of 6 7/8% per annum and is guaranteed by the *Entreprise Minière et Chimique*, a state-owned enterprise.

Turkey

In pursuance of the outline financing contract signed with Turkey on 15 October 1968, reserving until 30 June 1969 a total of 7.5 million u.a. for the financing of private industrial projects submitted by the *Türkiye Sınal Kalkinma Bankasi* (Turkish Industrial Development Bank), the European Investment Bank has decided to allocate the equivalent of 1.35 million u.a. for the construction in Izmit of a factory producing certain types of cardboard, in particular coated chromo paperboard and possibly wrapping paper (imitation kraft paper). The fixed investments under the project are estimated at £ 33.8 million (3.72 million u.a.). The annual production capacity of the factory will be 9 100 tons.

The Bank is carrying out this operation in pursuance of the mandate given it to implement the financial protocol annexed to the EEC-Turkey Association Agreement.

Italy

On 18 December 1968 the European Investment Bank concluded with the *Società Autostrade Romane e Abruzzesi (SARA)* a loan contract amounting to Lit. 15 000 million (24 million u.a.) to finance the construction of the Gran Sasso motorway from L'Aquila to Villa Vomano. This new road, about 51 km long, prolongs the Rome-L'Aquila motorway, which is under construction. Once a double tunnel 10 km long has been pierced through the Gran Sasso range, the motorway will connect Rome and the Tyrrhenian seaboard with the Adriatic. It will facilitate movement through the Abruzzi considerably and will help to put an end to the isolation of the area. The cost of building the Gran Sasso motorway is estimated at present to be about Lit. 62 000 million (99 million u.a.). The loan is granted for a period of twenty years at 6 7/8% per annum. It is guaranteed by the Italian Republic.

On the same day the Bank granted the *Istituto Mobiliare Italiano (IMI)* a loan to finance improvement of the production potential and laboratories of *ATES — Componenti elettronici*, a company which has its headquarters in Catania and forms part of the *STET (Società Finanziaria Telefonica)* group. The execution of this project in one of the most advanced growth industries will involve capital investments of about Lit. 5 300 million (8.5 million u.a.). The Bank will participate in IMI's financing of the *ATES* company with a loan amounting to Lit. 2 500 million (4 million u.a.), granted for ten years at an interest rate of 6.5% per annum.

Miscellaneous

M. Colonna di Paliano: Enlargement of the European Community and supranationality

Two problems seem destined to dominate the life of the Community: its enlargement, i.e. to include Great Britain and the other applicant countries; and its institutional development. This was the substance of an address given by M. Colonna di Paliano, member of the Commission, to the Hanover Chamber of Commerce on 10 January 1969.

As regards the first problem, all that could be said at present was that the atmosphere between the Six, which had been very highly charged, seemed to have cleared a little towards the end of the year. Today it was possible to imagine that within a few months a compromise solution might be found by establishing provisional links between the Community and the applicants for membership pending the opening of negotiations in the true sense.

As regards the second problem, it had to be recognized that supranationality was not a fetish but a method. There was the inter-governmental method and there was the Community method. The Community could not function by using the inter-governmental method. It was simply impossible to implement and pursue common policies without using the European institutional machinery, M. Colonna di Paliano said. Was a Community without a common law conceivable? But common laws had to be the result of co-operation between Commission, Council and Parliament, with each institution playing its proper part in a dynamic equilibrium. This was why the Treaties provided that the Parliament's role would one day go beyond mere consultation. Furthermore, it was not in conformity with the Treaty for the Council to avoid taking majority decisions in cases where this procedure was applicable. As for the Commission, its independent role in promoting common legislation, implementing joint measures and supervising the observance of the common rules was the very essence of the Community system in the absence of a central political authority. If it were refused this role, the whole system would be called into question.

The force which had brought the Community venture so far was the universal conviction that there was no valid alternative to the process of European unification. Whereas if Europe remained divided it would be condemned to irremediable decline, united it could envisage its future with confidence and with the prospect of prosperity, freedom, independence and peace.

M. Mansholt and M. Colonna di Paliano review the wood industry with specialists

The supply prospects for wood in the Community pulp and paper industry were the subject of talks on 19 December 1968 between M. S.L. Mansholt, Vice-President of the Commission; M. Colonna di Paliano, member of the Commission; and a delegation of the European Confederation of the Pulp, Paper and Fibreboard Industry, headed by its chairman M. K.E. Scheufelen and consisting of representatives of the industry from five member countries. The pulp and paper industry is

likely to meet with growing difficulties in the future for importation of raw materials, and would like its needs to be taken into account by the introduction of an active policy of reforestation which would aim at reducing the chronic shortage of wood in the Community while, at the same time, helping to reform the structure of agriculture by planting timber on abandoned farmland.

The European League for Economic Co-operation confronts the strengthening and enlargement of the Community

The European League for Economic Co-operation (ELEC) passed a resolution stating that it considered equally urgent both the internal strengthening of the Community and its enlargement to include other European countries. On the first point the League called for speedy integration of the monetary systems of the six Member States, involving a fixed rate of exchange between their currencies, for lack of which the customs union itself is likely to be endangered. Furthermore, it asked the Governments and the Community institutions to begin at once to study procedures for "mutual aid" in the monetary field, pending the pooling of some of the Member States' reserves, and the creation of a European monetary unit. The resolution urged, moreover, that vital measures should be taken without delay for the completion or introduction of the common policies for agriculture, transport, energy, and commerce. Finally, the ELEC advocated the adoption of "trade arrangements", a provisional step on the road to membership by the applicant countries, as well as the establishment of regular contacts or consultations with the European countries concerned.

Union of Industries of the Community favours a reorientation of the Joint Nuclear Research Centre

The Union of Industries of the European Communities (UNICE) adopted a memorandum in which it declared that the role performed by the Joint Nuclear Research Centre of Euratom should be fundamentally "rethought" without hesitating to modify its purpose and its organization. Considering that the JRC's potentialities are only being partly used, UNICE emphasized the need to assign new tasks to it in areas where the Community lags behind the other great powers. The Union of Industries of the Community called for among other things, a special effort in the technological field; better co-ordination of research, taking into account the methods and needs of industry; permanent co-operation between research organizations and industry; and finally, the creation of a European centre for documentation and information which might be operated by the JRC.

Proposals from the European Centre of Publicly-owned Undertakings

In a document whose conclusions have been published, the European Centre of Publicly-owned Undertakings proposes guidelines for a common energy policy. According to the Centre it is necessary within the Community to organize control of the supply policy; form security stocks; develop and improve the conditions of use of Community energy resources; co-ordinate research, particularly in the nuclear field; encourage the creation of a Community nuclear industry; gradually harmonize

investment programmes; and help the Governments to resolve the problems created by the decline of coal. As regards external relations, the Centre's suggestions favour diversification of sources of supply of imported petroleum and natural gas, as well as harmonization of projects to guarantee external sources of supply, by collective negotiations and the creation of interdependent links with the non-member countries concerned. On the other hand, the Centre advocates measures to support Community undertakings by facilitating the marketing of production and making this production competitive, if need be by granting direct financial aid. In the case of nuclear energy, the Centre recommends co-operation with other European countries, where necessary, in the creation of a fissile material extraction industry at European level, both inside and outside the Community; the production of enriched uranium; and the organization of co-operation between the industries producing nuclear equipment.

Plenary assembly of the permanent Conference of the EEC Chambers of Commerce and Industry

The 24th plenary assembly of the permanent Conference of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the EEC was held in Brussels on 6 December 1968, under the chairmanship of M. Courbot. The Conference discussed in detail several problems concerning the life of the Community. In particular, on the question of the second Medium-term Economic Policy Programme it emphasized the importance of a Community regional policy which should tend to reduce disparities between regions in a flexible and effective manner and at the same time respect the freedom of initiative of heads of firms. The representatives of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry approved the principle of the directive concerning the system of mergers of enterprises; considered the rapid institution of a system of European patents to be essential; and expressed a wish for adoption, within the time-limits laid down by the Commission, of the General Programme to eliminate Technical Obstacles to Trade. On the other hand, the Conference expressed more than a little reserve regarding the introduction of a fiscal tax on oils and fats of vegetable origin.

M. Manuel Perez Guerrero, new Secretary-General of UNCTAD

The United Nations General Assembly has approved the nomination of M. Manuel Perez Guerrero as Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), in succession to M. Raul Prebisch.

General meeting of Communities personnel to safeguard Euratom activities

As a result of the standpoint regarding nuclear research taken by the Council on 28 November 1968, an extraordinary general meeting of Communities personnel was held in Brussels on 17 December 1968, which was attended by representatives of the various Community institutions. M. Fritz Hellwig, Vice-President of the Commission, was himself present at the meeting (during which he also took the floor), as well as members of the European Parliament and representatives of trade

unions. Many prominent European figures had sent messages of solidarity and support to the meeting. In a motion passed unanimously the assembly emphasized "the threat of dismantling which hangs over the European Communities and constitutes a deliberate violation of the letter and spirit of the Treaties of Paris and Rome"; considered that "the absence of a common and co-ordinated effort in the field of research and technology marks the end of all prospects of progress for Europe"; and feared that such an attitude "may be the prelude to total destruction of the European Community in a short time".

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Question écrite n° 194/68 de M. Vredeling à la Commission des Communautés européennes. Objet : Arrangement international relatif à l'exportation de lait entier en poudre (No. 194/68 by M. Vredeling to the Commission: International arrangement on the export of whole milk powder)

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Question écrite n° 195/68 de M. Vredeling à la Commission des Communautés européennes. Objet : Participation de la C.E.F. à la foire internationale d'Izmir (No. 195/68 by M. Vredeling to the Commission: Participation of the EEC in the Izmir International Fair)

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Question écrite n° 197/68 de M. Vredeling à la Commission des Communautés européennes. Objet : Charges spéciales sur les produits agricoles relevant de l'organisation commune des marchés (No. 197/68 by M. Vredeling to the Commission: Special charges on agricultural products subject to the common organization of markets)

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- Règlement (CEE) n° 1956/68 de la Commission, du 4 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1956/68 of 4 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 293, 5.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1957/68 de la Commission, du 4 décembre 1968, modifiant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1957/68 of 4 December 1968 modifying the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 293, 5.12.1968

- Règlement (CEE) n° 1958/68 de la Commission, du 4 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1958/68 of 4 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 293, 5.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1959/68 de la Commission, du 4 décembre 1968, fixant le prélèvement à l'importation pour la mélasse (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1959/68 of 4 December 1968 fixing the levy on imports of molasses) No. L 293, 5.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1960/68 de la Commission, du 4 décembre 1968, portant modification du règlement (CEE) n° 1105/68 en ce qui concerne les modalités d'octroi des aides pour le lait écrémé destiné à l'alimentation des animaux soumis à un contrôle administratif (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1960/68 of 4 December 1968 amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1105/68 on procedures for granting aid for skim milk for feeding animals subject to administrative control) No. L 293, 5.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1961/68 de la Commission, du 4 décembre 1968, modifiant le règlement (CEE) n° 1306/68 relatif à la vente du beurre de stock public (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1961/68 of 4 December 1968 amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1306/68 on the sale of butter from public stocks) No. L 293, 5.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1962/68 de la Commission, du 4 décembre 1968, modifiant le règlement (CEE) n° 1354/68 relatif à la vente à prix réduit de beurre de stock public à des industries transformatrices (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1962/68 of 4 December 1968 amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1354/68 on the sale at reduced price of butter from public stocks to the processing industries) No. L 293, 5.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1963/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables aux céréales et aux farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1963/68 of 5 December 1968 fixing the levies on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 294, 6.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1964/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1964/68 of 5 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 294, 6.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1965/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, fixant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1965/68 of 5 December 1968 fixing the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 294, 6.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1966/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, fixant les restitutions pour les céréales et les farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1966/68 of 5 December 1968 fixing the refunds on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 294, 6.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1967/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables au riz et aux brisures (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1967/68 of 5 December 1968 fixing the levies on rice and broken rice) No. L 294, 6.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1968/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, portant fixation des restitutions pour le riz et les brisures (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1968/68 of 5 December 1968 fixing the refunds on rice and broken rice) No. L 294, 6.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1969/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, fixant les primes aux prélèvements pour le riz et les brisures (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1969/68 of 5 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on rice and broken rice) No. L 294, 6.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 1970/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, fixant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour le riz et les brisures (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1970/68 of 5 December 1968 fixing the corrective factor applicable to the refund on rice and broken rice) No. L 294, 6.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 1971/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1971/68 of 5 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 294, 6.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 1972/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation de veaux et de gros bovins, ainsi que de viandes bovines autres que les viandes congelées (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1972/68 of 5 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of calves and mature cattle, and of beef and veal other than frozen) No. L 294, 6.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 1973/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, fixant les restitutions à l'exportation de certains produits laitiers (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1973/68 of 5 December 1968 fixing the refunds on exports of certain milk products) No. L 294, 6.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 1974/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, complétant le règlement n° 473/67/CEE relatif aux certificats d'importation et d'exportation dans le secteur des céréales et du riz (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1974/68 of 5 December 1968 supplementing Regulation No. 473/67/CEE on import and export licences in the cereals and rice sector) No. L 294, 6.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 1975/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, relatif à une adjudication pour l'écoulement de beurre de stock détenu par l'organisme d'intervention français (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1975/68 of 5 December 1968 on a call for tender for the purchase of butter from stocks held by the French intervention agency) No. L 294, 6.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 1976/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, modifiant les prélèvements applicables aux produits transformés à base de céréales et de riz (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1976/68 of 5 December 1968 modifying the levies on products processed from cereals and rice) No. L 294, 6.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 1977/68 de la Commission, du 5 décembre 1968, relatif à la vente à l'armée et aux unités assimilées de beurre à prix réduit (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1977/68 of 5 December 1968 on the sale of butter at reduced price to the army and paramilitary forces) No. L 295, 7.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 1978/68 de la Commission, du 6 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables aux céréales et aux farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1978/68 of 6 December 1968 fixing the levies on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 295, 7.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 1979/68 de la Commission, du 6 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1979/68 of 6 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 295, 7.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 1980/68 de la Commission, du 6 décembre 1968, modifiant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1980/68 of 6 December 1968 modifying the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 295, 7.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 1981/68 de la Commission, du 6 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1981/68 of 6 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 295, 7.12.1968

- Règlement (CEE) n° 1982/68 de la Commission, du 6 décembre 1968, portant fixation du montant de l'aide dans le secteur des graines oléagineuses (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1982/68 of 6 December 1968 fixing the amount of aid in the oilseeds sector) No. L 295, 7.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1983/68 de la Commission, du 6 décembre 1968, abrogeant les montants supplémentaires pour les produits du secteur de la viande de porc (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1983/68 of 6 December 1968 abrogating the supplementary amounts for products in the pigmeat sector) No. L 295, 7.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1984/68 de la Commission, du 9 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables aux céréales et aux farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1984/68 of 9 December 1968 fixing the levies on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 296, 10.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1985/68 de la Commission, du 9 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1985/68 of 9 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 296, 10.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1986/68 de la Commission, du 9 décembre 1968, modifiant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1986/68 of 9 December 1968 modifying the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 296, 10.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1987/68 de la Commission, du 9 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1987/68 of 9 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 296, 10.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1988/68 de la Commission, du 9 décembre 1968, diminuant le montant compensatoire à l'importation des huiles de tournesol, originaires ou en provenance de Bulgarie, de Hongrie, de Roumanie, de l'U.R.S.S. et de Yougoslavie (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1988/68 of 9 December 1968 reducing the compensatory amount on imports of sunflower seed oil originating in or coming from Bulgaria, Hungary, Rumania, the USSR and Yugoslavia) No. L 296, 10.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1989/68 du Conseil, du 9 décembre 1968, relatif à l'exécution de l'article 7 paragraphe 1 du règlement n° 25 relatif au financement de la politique agricole commune pour la période de comptabilisation 1964/65 (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1989/68 of 9 December 1968 on the implementation of Article 7 (1) of Regulation No. 25 on the financing of the common agricultural policy, in respect of the 1964/1965 accounting period) No. L 297, 11.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1990/68 du Conseil, du 9 décembre 1968, fixant les majorations mensuelles du prix indicatif de marché, du prix d'intervention et du prix de seuil de l'huile d'olive pour la campagne de commercialisation 1968/1969 (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1990/68 of 9 December 1968 fixing the monthly increases in the target market price, the intervention price and the threshold price for olive oil for the 1968/1969 marketing year) No. L 297, 11.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1996/68 de la Commission, du 10 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables aux céréales et aux farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1996/68 of 10 December 1968 fixing the levies on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 297, 11.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1997/68 de la Commission, du 10 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1997/68 of 10 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 297, 11.12.1968

- Règlement (CEE) n° 1998/68 de la Commission, du 10 décembre 1968, modifiant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1998/68 of 10 December 1968 modifying the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 297, 11.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 1999/68 de la Commission, du 10 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1999/68 of 10 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 297, 11.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2000/68 de la Commission, du 10 décembre 1968, fixant les restitutions à l'exportation dans le secteur de la viande de porc pour la période débutant le 23 décembre 1968 (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2000/68 of 10 December 1968 fixing the refunds on exports in the pigmeat sector for the period beginning 23 December 1968) No. L 297, 11.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2001/68 de la Commission, du 10 décembre 1968, relatif à la vente de certains produits ayant fait l'objet de mesures d'intervention dans le secteur de la viande de porc (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2001/68 of 10 December 1968 on the sale of certain products subject to intervention measures in the pigmeat sector) No. L 297, 11 12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2002/68 de la Commission, du 10 décembre 1968, portant modification du montant de l'aide dans le secteur des graines oléagineuses (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2002/68 of 10 December 1968 modifying the amount of aid in the oilseeds sector) No. L 297, 11.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2003/68 de la Commission, du 11 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables aux céréales et aux farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2003/68 of 11 December 1968 fixing the levies on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 298, 12.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2004/68 de la Commission, du 11 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2004/68 of 11 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 298, 12.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2005/68 de la Commission, du 11 décembre 1968, modifiant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2005/68 of 11 December 1968 modifying the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 298, 12.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2006/68 de la Commission, du 11 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2006/68 of 11 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 298, 12.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2007/68 de la Commission, du 11 décembre 1968, fixant le prélèvement à l'importation pour la mélasse (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2007/68 of 11 December 1968 fixing the levy on imports of molasses) No. L 298, 12.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2008/68 de la Commission, du 11 décembre 1968, fixant les restitutions à l'exportation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut en l'état (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2008/68 of 11 December 1968 fixing the refunds on exports of white sugar and raw sugar in the natural state) No. L 298, 12.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2009/68 de la Commission, du 11 décembre 1968, fixant les conditions d'une adjudication pour la vente de graines de tournesol détenues par l'organisme d'intervention français (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2009/68 of 11 December 1968 fixing the conditions of a call for tender for the purchase of sunflower seeds held by the French intervention agency) No. L 298, 12.12.1968

- Règlement (CEE) n° 2010/68 du Conseil, du 9 décembre 1968, relatif au concours du F.E.O.G.A., section orientation, pour l'année 1969 (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2010/68 of 9 December 1968 on assistance from the Guidance Section of the FAGGF for 1969) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2011/68 du Conseil, du 9 décembre 1968, fixant le prix de base et le prix d'achat pour les choux-fleurs pour la période du 1^{er} janvier au 30 avril 1969 (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2011/68 of 9 December 1968 fixing the basic price and the buying-in price for cauliflowers for the period from 1 January to 30 April 1969) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2012/68 du Conseil, du 10 décembre 1968, portant ouverture, répartition et mode de gestion d'un contingent tarifaire communautaire supplémentaire pour l'année 1968 de papier journal de la position 48.01 A du tarif douanier commun (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2012/68 of 10 December 1968 opening, apportioning, and laying down the procedure for administering an additional Community tariff quota for 1968 for newsprint of common customs tariff heading 48.01 A) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2013/68 du Conseil, du 12 décembre 1968, modifiant le règlement (CEE) n° 800/68 en ce qui concerne la désignation tarifaire des féculs importées des États africains et malgache associés ou des pays et territoires d'outre-mer (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2013/68 of 12 December 1968 amending Regulation (EEC) No. 800/68 as regards the tariff description of starches imported from the AASM and the OCT) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2014/68 de la Commission, du 12 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables aux céréales et aux farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2014/68 of 12 December 1968 fixing the levies on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2015/68 de la Commission, du 12 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2015/68 of 12 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2016/68 de la Commission, du 12 décembre 1968, fixant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2016/68 of 12 December 1968 fixing the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2017/68 de la Commission, du 12 décembre 1968, fixant les restitutions pour les céréales et les farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2017/68 of 12 December 1968 fixing the refunds on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2018/68 de la Commission, du 12 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables au riz et aux brisures (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2018/68 of 12 December 1968 fixing the levies on rice and broken rice) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2019/68 de la Commission, du 12 décembre 1968, portant fixation des restitutions pour le riz et les brisures (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2019/68 of 12 December 1968 fixing the refunds on rice and broken rice) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2020/68 de la Commission, du 12 décembre 1968, fixant les primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour le riz et les brisures (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2020/68 of 12 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on rice and broken rice) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2021/68 de la Commission, du 12 décembre 1968, fixant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour le riz et les brisures (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2021/68 of 12 December 1968 fixing the corrective factor applicable to the refund on rice and broken rice) No. L 299, 13.12.1968

- Règlement (CEE) n° 2022/68 de la Commission, du 12 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2022/68 of 12 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2023/68 de la Commission, du 12 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation de veaux et de gros bovins, ainsi que de viandes bovines autres que les viandes congelées (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2023/68 of 12 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of calves and mature cattle, and of beef and veal other than frozen) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2024/68 de la Commission, du 12 décembre 1968, fixant les restitutions à l'exportation de certains produits laitiers (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2024/68 of 12 December 1968 fixing the refunds on exports of certain milk products) No. L 299, 13.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2027/68 de la Commission, du 13 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables aux céréales et aux farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2027/68 of 13 December 1968 fixing the levies on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 300, 14.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2028/68 de la Commission, du 13 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2028/68 of 13 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 300, 14.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2029/68 de la Commission, du 13 décembre 1968, modifiant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2029/68 of 13 December 1968 modifying the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 300, 14.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2030/68 de la Commission, du 13 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2030/68 of 13 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 300, 14.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2031/68 de la Commission, du 13 décembre 1968, portant fixation du montant de l'aide dans le secteur des graines oléagineuses (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2031/68 of 13 December 1968 fixing the amount of aid in the oilseed sector) No. L 300, 14.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2032/68 de la Commission, du 13 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements dans le secteur de l'huile d'olive (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2032/68 of 13 December 1968 fixing the levies in the olive oil sector) No. L 300, 14.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2033/68 de la Commission, du 13 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation dans le secteur du lait et des produits laitiers (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2033/68 of 13 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports in the milk and milk products sector) No. L 300, 14.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2034/68 de la Commission, du 13 décembre 1968, complétant le règlement n° 633/67/CEE relatif à la préfixation de la restitution à l'exportation des céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2034/68 of 13 December 1968 supplementing Regulation No. 633/67/CEE on the advance fixing of the export refund on cereals) No. L 300, 14.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2035/68 de la Commission, du 13 décembre 1968, modifiant les prélèvements applicables aux produits transformés à base de céréales et de riz (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2035/68 of 13 December 1968 modifying the levies on products processed from cereals and rice) No. L 300, 14.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2036/68 de la Commission, du 16 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables aux céréales et aux farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2036/68 of 16 December 1968 fixing the levies on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 301, 17.12.1968

- Règlement (CEE) n° 2037/68 de la Commission, du 16 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2037/68 of 16 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 301, 17.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2038/68 de la Commission, du 16 décembre 1968, modifiant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2038/68 of 16 December 1968 modifying the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 301, 17.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2039/68 de la Commission, du 16 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2039/68 of 16 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 301, 17.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2040/68 de la Commission, du 13 décembre 1968, fixant les prix minima à l'exportation vers les pays tiers de certains bulbes, oignons et tubercules à fleurs (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2040/68 of 13 December 1968 fixing the minimum prices for exports to non-member countries of certain flower bulbs and tubers) No. L 301, 17.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2047/68 de la Commission, du 17 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables aux céréales et aux farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2047/68 of 17 December 1968 fixing the levies on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 302, 18.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2048/68 de la Commission, du 17 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2048/68 of 17 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 302, 18.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2049/68 de la Commission, du 17 décembre 1968, modifiant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2049/68 of 17 December 1968 modifying the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 302, 18.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2050/68 de la Commission, du 17 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2050/68 of 17 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 302, 18.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2051/68 de la Commission, du 17 décembre 1968, modifiant le règlement (CEE) n° 1100/68 en ce qui concerne la durée de validité des certificats d'exportation pour les laits concentrés (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2051/68 of 17 December 1968 amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1100/68 in respect of the period of validity of export licences for concentrated milk) No. L 302, 18.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2052/68 de la Commission, du 17 décembre 1968, fixant les restitutions à l'exportation dans le secteur de la viande bovine pour la période débutant le 1^{er} janvier 1969 (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2052/68 of 17 December 1968 fixing the refunds on exports in the beef and veal sector for the period beginning 1 January 1969) No. L 302, 18.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2041/68 du Conseil, du 10 décembre 1968, portant établissement d'une liste commune de libération des importations dans la Communauté à l'égard des pays tiers (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2041/68 of 10 December 1968 establishing a joint liberalization list vis-à-vis non-member countries in respect of imports into the EEC) No. L 303, 18.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2042/68 du Conseil, du 10 décembre 1968, relatif à l'application aux départements français d'outre-mer du règlement (CEE) n° 2041/68 portant établissement d'une liste commune de libération des importations dans la Communauté à l'égard des pays tiers (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2042/68 of 10 December 1968 on the application to the French Overseas Departments of Regulation (EEC) No. 2041/68 establishing a joint liberalization list vis-à-vis non-member countries in respect of imports into the EEC) No. L 303, 18.12.1968

- Règlement (CEE) n° 2043/68 du Conseil, du 10 décembre 1968, portant établissement graduel d'une procédure commune de gestion des contingents quantitatifs à l'importation dans la Communauté (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2043/68 of 10 December 1968 concerning the progressive establishment of a common procedure for administering quantitative quotas for imports into the Community) No. L 303, 18.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2044/68 du Conseil, du 10 décembre 1968, relatif à l'application aux départements français d'outre-mer du règlement (CEE) n° 2043/68 portant établissement graduel d'une procédure commune de gestion des contingents quantitatifs à l'importation dans la Communauté (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2044/68 of 10 December 1968 on the application to the French Overseas Departments of Regulation (EEC) No. 2043/68 concerning the progressive establishment of a common procedure for administering quantitative quotas for imports into the Community) No. L 303, 18.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2045/68 du Conseil, du 10 décembre 1968, instaurant une procédure spéciale pour l'importation de certains produits de certains pays tiers (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2045/68 of 10 December 1968 introducing a special procedure for the importation of certain products from some non-member countries) No. L 303, 18.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2046/68 du Conseil, du 10 décembre 1968, relatif à l'application aux départements français d'outre-mer du règlement (CEE) n° 2045/68 instaurant une procédure spéciale pour l'importation de certains produits de certains pays tiers (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2046/68 of 10 December 1968 on the application to the French Overseas Departments of Regulation (EEC) No. 2045/68 introducing a special procedure for the importation of certain products from some non-member countries) No. L 303, 18.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2053/68 de la Commission, du 18 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables aux céréales et aux farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2053/68 of 18 December 1968 fixing the levies on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 304, 19.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2054/68 de la Commission, du 18 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2054/68 of 18 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 304, 19.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2055/68 de la Commission, du 18 décembre 1968, modifiant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2055/68 of 18 December 1968 modifying the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 304, 19.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2056/68 de la Commission, du 18 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2056/68 of 18 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 304, 19.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2057/68 de la Commission, du 18 décembre 1968, fixant le prélèvement à l'importation pour la mélasse (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2057/68 of 18 December 1968 fixing the levy on imports of molasses) No. L 304, 19.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2058/68 de la Commission, du 18 décembre 1968, fixant des montants supplémentaires pour les produits d'œufs (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2058/68 of 18 December 1968 fixing the supplementary amounts for egg products) No. L 304, 19.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2059/68 de la Commission, du 18 décembre 1968, modifiant les prélèvements applicables à l'importation des produits transformés à base de céréales et de riz (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2059/68 of 18 December 1968 modifying the levies on imports of products processed from cereals and rice) No. L 304, 19.12.1968

- Règlement (CEE) n° 2062/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables aux céréales et aux farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2062/68 of 19 December 1968 fixing the levies on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 305, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2063/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2063/68 of 19 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 305, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2064/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, fixant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2064/68 of 19 December 1968 fixing the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 306, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2065/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, fixant les restitutions pour les céréales et les farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2065/68 of 19 December 1968 fixing the refunds on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 306, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2066/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables au riz et aux brisures (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2066/68 of 19 December 1968 fixing the levies on rice and broken rice) No. L 306, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2067/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, portant fixation des restitutions pour le riz et les brisures (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2067/68 of 19 December 1968 fixing the refunds on rice and broken rice) No. L 306, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2068/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, fixant les primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour le riz et les brisures (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2068/68 of 19 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on rice and broken rice) No. L 306, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2069/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, fixant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour le riz et les brisures (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2069/68 of 19 December 1968 fixing the corrective factor applicable to the refund on rice and broken rice) No. L 306, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2070/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2070/68 of 19 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 306, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2071/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, fixant les restitutions dans le secteur du lait et des produits laitiers pour les produits exportés en l'état (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2071/68 of 19 December 1968 fixing the refunds in the milk and milk products sector for products exported in the natural state) No. L 306, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2072/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation de veaux et de gros bovins, ainsi que de viandes bovines autres que les viandes congelées (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2072/68 of 19 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of calves and mature cattle, and of beef and veal other than frozen) No. L 306, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2074/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, complétant la liste des marchés représentatifs à la production pour les oranges (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2074/68 of 19 December 1968 supplementing the list of representative producer markets for oranges) No. L 306, 20.12.1968

- Règlement (CEE) n° 2075/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, modifiant le règlement (CEE) n° 1033/68 de la Commission relatif aux coefficients d'adaptation à l'appliquer au prix d'achat pour les poires (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2075/68 of 19 December 1968 amending Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1033/68 on the adjustment coefficients to be applied to the buying-in price for pears) No. L 306, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2076/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, modifiant le règlement (CEE) n° 1164/68 de la Commission, relatif aux coefficients d'adaptation à appliquer aux prix d'achat pour les pommes (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2076/68 of 19 December 1968 amending Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1164/68 on the adjustment coefficients to be applied to the buying-in prices for apples) No. L 306, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2077/68 de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1968, fixant le coefficient d'adaptation à appliquer au prix d'achat prévu pour les choux-fleurs par le règlement (CEE) n° 2011/68 du Conseil (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2077/68 of 19 December 1968 fixing the adjustment coefficient to be applied to the buying-in price specified for cauliflowers by Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2011/68) No. L 306, 20.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2073/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, relatif à l'octroi à la république fédérale d'Allemagne d'un contingent tarifaire supplémentaire dans le cadre d'un contingent communautaire prévu par le règlement (CEE) n° 91/68 (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2073/68 of 20 December 1968 granting Germany a tariff quota additional to the Community quota provided for by Regulation (EEC) No. 91/68) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2079/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables aux céréales et aux farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2079/68 of 20 December 1968 fixing the levies on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2080/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2080/68 of 20 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2081/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, modifiant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2081/68 of 20 December 1968 modifying the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2082/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2082/68 of 20 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2083/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, portant fixation du montant de l'aide dans le secteur des graines oléagineuses (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2083/68 of 20 December 1968 fixing the amount of aid in the oilseeds sector) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2084/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation de viandes bovines congelées (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2084/68 of 20 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of frozen beef and veal) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2085/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, relatif à certaines modalités d'octroi de la restitution à la production pour les brisures de riz (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2085/68 of 20 December 1968 on certain procedures for granting production refunds on broken rice) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2086/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, modifiant les règlements (CEE) n° 956/68 et (CEE) n° 957/68 relatifs à la dénaturation du froment tendre (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2086/68 of 20 December 1968 amending Regulations (EEC) No. 956/68 and (EEC) No. 957/68 on the denaturing of wheat other than durum) No. L 307, 21.12.1968

- Règlement (CEE) n° 2087/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, fixant les restitutions à la production pour le sucre blanc utilisé dans l'industrie chimique (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2087/68 of 20 December 1968 fixing the production refunds on white sugar used in the chemical industry) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2088/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, relatif à une adjudication pour l'écoulement du beurre de stock détenu par l'organisme d'intervention néerlandais (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2088/68 of 20 December 1968 concerning a call for tender for the purchase of butter from stocks held by the Netherlands intervention agency) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2089/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, relatif à une adjudication pour l'écoulement du beurre de stock détenu par l'organisme d'intervention allemand (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2089/68 of 20 December 1968 concerning a call for tender for the purchase of butter from stocks held by the German intervention agency) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2090/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, relatif à une adjudication pour l'écoulement du beurre de stock détenu par l'organisme d'intervention français (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2090/68 of 20 December 1968 concerning a call for tender for the purchase of butter from stocks held by the French intervention agency) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2091/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, abrogeant le règlement (CEE) n° 1741/68 arrêtant des mesures d'intervention pour l'ensemble de la Communauté dans le secteur de la viande bovine (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2091/68 of 20 December 1968 abrogating Regulation (EEC) No. 1741/68 adopting intervention measures for the Community as a whole in the beef and veal sector) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2092/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, relatif à la fin des mesures d'intervention en France dans le secteur de la viande bovine (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2092/68 of 20 December 1968 on the termination of intervention measures in France in the beef and veal sector) No. L 307, 21.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2093/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, portant suspension temporaire des droits autonomes du tarif douanier commun sur un certain nombre de produits (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2093/68 of 20 December 1968 temporarily suspending or reducing the autonomous CCT duties on a number of products) No. L 308, 23.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2094/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, portant modification du règlement (CEE) n° 950/68 du Conseil, du 28 juin 1968, relatif au tarif douanier commun (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2094/68 of 20 December 1968 amending Council Regulation (EEC) No. 950/68 of 28 June 1968 on the Common Customs Tariff) No. L 308, 23.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2095/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, portant modification du règlement (CEE) n° 950/68 du Conseil, du 28 juin 1968, relatif au tarif douanier commun (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2095/68 of 20 December 1968 amending Council Regulation (EEC) No. 950/68 of 28 June 1968 on the Common Customs Tariff) No. L 308, 23.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2096/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, modifiant le règlement n° 172/67/CEE relatif aux règles générales régissant la dénaturation du blé et du seigle panifiable (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2096/68 of 20 December 1968 amending Regulation No. 172/67/CEE on the general rules governing the denaturing of wheat and rye suitable for bread-making) No. L 308, 23.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2097/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, modifiant le règlement (CEE) n° 886/68 en ce qui concerne le prix d'achat du beurre appliqué par l'organisme d'intervention néerlandais (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2097/68 of 20 December 1968 amending Regulation (EEC) No. 886/68 as regards the buying-in price of butter applied by the Netherlands intervention agency) No. L 309, 24.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 2098/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, modifiant le règlement (CEE) n° 1043/68 en ce qui concerne les montants compensatoires appliqués par les Pays-Bas dans les échanges de certains produits laitiers (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2098/68 of 20 December 1968 amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1043/68 as regards the compensatory amounts applied by the Netherlands in trade in certain milk products) No. L 309, 24.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 2099/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, modifiant l'article 17 ter du règlement n° 160/66/EEC en ce qui concerne les montants compensatoires appliqués pour certaines marchandises relevant de ce règlement dans les échanges avec les Pays-Bas (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2099/68 of 20 December 1968 amending Article 17 ter of Regulation No. 160/66/CEE as regards the compensatory amounts applied in respect of certain goods falling under this regulation in trade with the Netherlands) No. L 309, 24.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 2100/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, modifiant le règlement n° 1009/67/CEE portant organisation commune des marchés dans le secteur du sucre (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2100/68 of 20 December 1968 amending Regulation No. 1009/67/CEE on the common organization of the market in sugar) No. L 309, 24.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 2101/68 de la Commission, du 18 décembre 1968, fixant la restitution pour les œufs en coquille exportés sous la forme de marchandises ne relevant pas de l'annexe II du traité (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2101/68 of 18 December 1968 fixing the refunds on eggs in shell exported in the form of goods not included in Annex II of the Treaty) No. L 309, 24.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 2102/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, fixant les restitutions pour certains produits laitiers exportés sous la forme de marchandises ne relevant pas de l'annexe II du traité (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2102/68 of 20 December 1968 fixing the refunds on certain milk products exported in the form of goods not included in Annex II of the Treaty) No. L 309, 24.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 2103/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, modifiant le règlement (CEE) n° 833/68 établissant les modalités d'application concernant la dénaturation du sucre en vue de l'alimentation animale (Commission Regulation (EEC) 2103/68 of 20 December 1968 amending Regulation (EEC) No. 833/68 laying down the implementing procedures for the denaturing of sugar for use in animal feeds) No. L 309, 24.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 2104/68 de la Commission, du 20 décembre 1968, fixant le montant maximum pour la participation aux frais de stockage que les fabricants de sucre peuvent, en cas de report, exiger des producteurs de betteraves et de cannes (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2104/68 of 20 December 1968 fixing the maximum share of storage expenses which sugar manufacturers may charge beet and cane producers if storage is carried over to the following sugar year) No. L 309, 24.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 2105/68 de la Commission, du 23 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements applicables aux céréales et aux farines, gruaux et semoules de blé ou de seigle (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2105/68 of 23 December 1968 fixing the levies on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal) No. L 309, 24.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 2106/68 de la Commission, du 23 décembre 1968, portant fixation des primes s'ajoutant aux prélèvements pour les céréales et le malt (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2106/68 of 23 December 1968 fixing the premiums to be added to the levies on cereals and malt) No. L 309, 24.12.1968

Règlement (CEE) n° 2107/68 de la Commission, du 23 décembre 1968, modifiant le correctif applicable à la restitution pour les céréales (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2107/68 of 23 December 1968 modifying the corrective factor applicable to the refund on cereals) No. L 309, 24.12.1968

- Règlement (CEE) n° 2108/68 de la Commission, du 23 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2108/68 of 23 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 309, 24.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2109/68 de la Commission, du 23 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour la mélasse (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2109/68 of 23 December 1968 fixing the levies on import of molasses) No. L 309, 24.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2110/68 de la Commission, du 23 décembre 1968, portant modification des restitutions à l'exportation de certains produits laitiers (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2110/68 of 23 December 1968 modifying the refunds on exports of certain milk products) No. L 309, 24.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2111/68 de la Commission, du 23 décembre 1968, fixant les restitutions à l'exportation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut en l'état (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2111/68 of 23 December 1968 fixing the refunds on exports of white sugar and raw sugar in the natural state) No. L 309, 24.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2112/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, portant ouverture, répartition et mode de gestion du contingent tarifaire communautaire d'extraits tannants d'eucalyptus de la position ex 32.01 D du tarif douanier commun (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2112/68 of 20 December 1968 opening, apportioning and laying down the procedure for administering the Community tariff quota for eucalyptus tanning extracts of CCT heading ex 32.01 D) No. L 310, 27.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2113/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, portant ouverture, répartition et mode de gestion du contingent tarifaire communautaire de papier journal de la position 48.01 A du tarif douanier commun (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2113/68 of 20 December 1968 opening, apportioning and laying down the procedure for administering the Community tariff quota for newsprint of CCT heading 48.01 A) No. L 310, 27.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2114/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, portant ouverture, répartition et mode de gestion du contingent tarifaire communautaire de fils de lin écrus (à l'exclusion des fils d'étoupe) mesurant au kilogramme 30.000 mètres ou moins, destinés à la fabrication de fils retors ou câblés pour l'industrie de la chaussure et pour ligaturer les câbles de la position ex 54.03 B I a) du tarif douanier commun (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2114/68 of 20 December 1968 opening, apportioning and laying down the procedure for administering the Community tariff quota for unbleached flax yarn (excluding tow) measuring not more than 30 000 m/kg and intended for the manufacture of multiple or cabled yarn for the footwear industry and for binding cabled yarn from CCT heading ex 54.03 B I a) No. L 310, 27.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2115/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, portant ouverture, répartition et mode de gestion du contingent tarifaire communautaire pour le ferro-silicium de la position 73.02 C du tarif douanier commun (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2115/68 of 20 December 1968 opening, apportioning and laying down the procedure for administering the Community tariff quota for ferro-silicon from CCT heading 73.02 C) No. L 310, 27.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2116/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, portant ouverture, répartition et mode de gestion du contingent tarifaire communautaire de ferro-silico-manganèse de la position 73.02 D du tarif douanier commun (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2116/68 of 20 December 1968 opening, apportioning and laying down the procedure for administering the Community tariff quota for ferro-silico-manganese from CCT heading 73.02 D) No. L 310, 27.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2117/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, portant ouverture, répartition et mode de gestion du contingent tarifaire communautaire de ferro-chrome contenant en poids 0,10 % ou moins de carbone et plus de 30 % jusqu'à 90 % inclus de chrome (ferro-chrome surraffiné) de la position ex 73.02 E I du tarif douanier commun

- (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2117/68 of 20 December 1968 opening, apportioning and laying down the procedure for administering the Community tariff quota for ferro-chromium containing by weight not more than 0.10% carbon and between 30% and 90% chromium (over-refined ferro-chromium) from CCT heading ex 73.02 E I) No. L 310, 27.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2118/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, portant ouverture, répartition et mode de gestion du contingent tarifaire communautaire d'aluminium brut de la position 76.01 A du tarif douanier commun (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2118/68 of 20 December 1968 opening, apportioning and laying down the procedure for administering the Community tariff quota for crude aluminium from CCT heading 76.01 A) No. L 310, 27.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2119/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, portant ouverture, répartition et mode de gestion du contingent tarifaire communautaire de magnésium brut de la position 77.01 A du tarif douanier commun (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2119/68 of 20 December 1968 opening, apportioning and laying down the procedure for administering the Community tariff quota for crude magnesium from CCT heading 77.01 A) No. L 310, 27.12.1968
- Règlement (CEE) n° 2120/68 du Conseil, du 20 décembre 1968, portant ouverture, répartition et mode de gestion des contingents tarifaires communautaires de tissus de soie ou de bourre de soie (schappe) et de tissus de coton, tissés sur métiers à main, des positions ex 50.09 et ex 55.09 du tarif douanier commun (Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2120/68 of 20 December 1968 opening, apportioning and laying down the procedure for administering the Community tariff quotas for certain woven fabrics of silk or of waste silk other than noil and of cotton, woven on handlooms, from CCT headings ex 50.09 and ex 55.09) No. L 310, 27.12.1968
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- Règlement (CEE) n° 2137/68 de la Commission, du 27 décembre 1968, fixant les prélèvements à l'importation pour le sucre blanc et le sucre brut (Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2137/68 of 27 December 1968 fixing the levies on imports of white sugar and raw sugar) No. L 312, 28.12.1968
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(List of recent additions)

Monthly. No. 11-1968 (d/f/i/n). Limited distribution

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(Selected articles)

Fortnightly. No. 22/24-1968 and 1-1969 (d/f/i/n). Limited distribution

Relevé bibliographique mensuel

Monthly report on publications of the European Communities

Monthly. Nos. 11/12-1968 (d,f). Limited distribution

Information Bulletins

Publications by offices in capital cities

London: European Community

Monthly. No. 12, December 1968 and No. 1, January 1969 (e). Free

Washington: European Community

Monthly. No. 118, November 1968 (e). Free

Bonn: Europäische Gemeinschaft

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The Hague: Europese Gemeenschap

Monthly. No. 109, December 1968 (n). Free

Paris: Communauté européenne

Monthly. No. 127, February 1969 (f).

Per issue: FF 1

Annual subscription: FF 10

Rome: Comunità europea

Monthly. No. 12, December 1968 (i). Free

also Spanish edition: Comunidad europea

Monthly. No. 43, January 1969. Free

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

4570 — Second General Report on the Activities of the Communities — 1968

Brussels/Luxembourg, February 1969, 500 pages (French, German, Italian, Dutch; English text later)

Price: £1.13.0., \$4, Bfrs. 200,

For the second time since the implementation of the merger treaty, the Commission of the European Communities has issued an annual General Report.

This time the Report covers the activities of the three Communities — ECSC, EEC, Euratom — for the calendar year 1968; it gives a comprehensive account of the various aspects of Community activity for the full year, and in this differs from the Report for 1967, which had been a sort of transitional year. The structure of this second Report brings out more clearly the greater integration of the Communities, the activities of all three being more logically grouped despite the continued existence of the three Treaties. When reference is still made to the activities of some particular Community, this is due to the existence of the three Treaties side by side; such references will continue to occur until the same rules are applicable to all three Communities. A case in point is the application of the special ECSC Treaty provisions on competition, industrial policy, social policy, financial policy and commercial policy, in fields such as research, energy, transport and external relations. The same applies to the implementation of the Euratom Treaty in a number of sectors: industrial policy, research, energy, health protection, and external relations. These features inherited from an earlier situation must not be allowed to overshadow the aspect of general integration which, as the several parts and chapters of the General Report show, is increasingly evident in the Community.

In the introduction to the Report, which is more political in character, the Commission, though frankly stating the reasons for concern that are apparent in Community affairs, stresses the reasons for satisfaction, which are too often overlooked.

The second General Report published by the single Commission of the European Communities is more condensed than that of 1967. In addition to the introduction, it contains the following six chapters (instead of the eight of the previous year): Establishment and functioning of the common market (free movement of goods, difficulties arising from the economic situation in France, competition policy, taxation policy, freedom of establishment and freedom to supply services, approximation of legislation and creation of European law by conventions, effects of the common market on consumers), General economic policy (interpenetration of markets, short-term economic analysis and policy, medium-term economic policy, monetary, financial and budget policy, European Investment Bank), Creating an economic union (common agricultural policy, policy of industrial structures, scientific, technical and nuclear research policy, energy policy, transport policy, regional policy, social policy, ECSC financing activities), External relations (enlargement of the Community, association of European countries, relations with the Mediterranean countries, association of African States and Madagascar and association of Overseas Countries and Territories, association agreements with countries having a production and structure comparable with those of the AASM, trade relations with non-member countries and the common commercial policy, relations with the developing countries, nuclear co-operation, the Community and the international organizations, diplomatic relations of the Communities), Institutions and organs of the Community (European Parliament, Council, Court of Justice, Community organs, Commission) and Community law.

